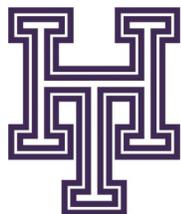


Harriett Todd Public School



11 George Street
Orillia, Ontario, L3V 2V1
705-325-9388

NEWSLETTER

har.scdsb.on.ca/

Principal: Jennifer Cornick
Vice Principal: Andrea Newburn

Message from Our Administrative Team

Hello Harriett Todd Community!

It is wonderful to have students back in the school!

Here are a few reminders and requests:

- Everyone must wear a mask on school property. This includes outside at arrival and dismissal times. Thank you for keeping our students and staff safe by wearing masks at all times.
- As it warms up the yard will become wet and muddy. Students should keep extra clothing in their backpacks in case they get wet at recess
- The Covid 19 screening must be completed for each student each morning. The link can be found here: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>
- Students who develop symptoms at school will be sent home. They are able to return after a negative Covid Test and are symptom free for 24 hours, or they receive an alternate diagnosis from a physician, or they have a period of 10 days of isolation at home and are symptom free
- This is a reminder that students are not to arrive at school before 9:10am. When they arrive, students need to go directly to their class area.

Follow us on social media! We are on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Harriett-Todd-Public-School-105020711167926/> and Twitter @Harriett_Todd Thank you for your continued partnership,

Jennifer Cornick

School Playground Structures are Closed for the Winter Every Winter

School playground structures are closed. Students are made aware of this during school hours through announcements and staff reminders during breaks. This may not be well known throughout the community, despite signs indicating that playground structures are a winter hazard and are closed.

The Canadian Standards Association regulations make recommendations for the depth of ground cover required to minimize injuries (e.g. sand, pea gravel or wood chips). These surfaces cannot be maintained when the ground freezes. Injuries from falling would be more significant on frozen ground. We strongly recommend that you do not allow your children to play on any structures while the ground is frozen.

Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) to deliver first-ever student census in April 2021

At the SCDSB we are committed to identifying and removing barriers within our system that impact equity, achievement and well-being of students, and to ensuring that all students are offered supportive, inclusive and respectful learning environments. To support these efforts, we must learn more about our students.

In April 2021, the SCDSB will hold its first student census. The confidential SCDSB Student Census 2020-2021 will be used to collect identity-based student data so that systemic barriers can be identified. The results will guide our focus on programs, supports and resources to address inequities within our system.

Between April 1 and 30, 2021 students in Grade 7 to 12 and parents/guardians of students in Kindergarten to Grade 6 will be invited to participate in the SCDSB Student Census 2020-2021. To support the delivery of the SCDSB student census, the SCDSB is hosting information sessions in March. Details regarding the information sessions, including how to register, will be available on the SCDSB website.

For further information regarding the SCDSB Student Census 2020-2021, visit the SCDSB website or contact Lisa Newton, Manager of Research and Decision Support, at census@scdsb.on.ca or 705-734-6363 x11731.

Character Attribute for the month of March

Integrity - we act justly and honourably in all that we do.

More information about Character Education can be found here: www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character_education

Kindergarten registration for September 2021 is open!

Kindergarten is the beginning of a wonderful journey of learning and we want your child to begin their journey in a SCDSB school! Do you have a child who is turning four in 2021? If so, we invite you to register your child for kindergarten. To register online or for more information visit: www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/kindergarten.

Inclement weather and bus cancellation information reminder

All information regarding cancelled buses in Simcoe County is posted on the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC)'s bus information website at <https://simcoecountyschoolbus.ca>. Our school is in the North zone.

The Consortium and bus operators try to make the decision to cancel school buses before 6 a.m. and make every effort to post announcements before 7 a.m. Inclement weather cancellations are effective for the whole day and buses cancelled in the morning will not run at the end of the day. You can follow the Consortium on Twitter [@SCSTC_SchoolBus](https://twitter.com/SCSTC_SchoolBus) for bus cancellations and other information. You can also subscribe to receive bus delay notifications here: <https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions/Login.aspx>

When buses are cancelled, schools remain open for student learning, as in previous years. It is always a family decision whether or not it is safe for your child(ren) to leave for school under severe weather conditions.

This year, please note that students who are unable to attend school due to bus cancellations will be able to access learning materials on the digital Google Classroom.

Students in the Learn@Home program will continue with regular programming as scheduled.

Making 'cents' of money matters

All students need the skills and knowledge to take responsibility for managing their personal financial well-being with confidence, competence and a critical and compassionate awareness of the world around them. In the 2020 math curriculum there is focus on financial literacy learning in Grades 1 to 8, including understanding the value and use of money over time, how to manage financial well-being and the value of budgeting.

Students build their skills and knowledge about the value and use of money, how decisions impact personal finances, as well as develop consumer and civic awareness.

Students will:

- Learn how to manage finances responsibly, such as creating a budget to help save enough money to buy something they want such as a book, toy or a video game.

Begin to develop a greater awareness as consumers and contributors in the local and broader economic system.

Wondering how you can support the development of your child's financial literacy skills at home? Check out some of these great tips and resources!

Tips:

- Find daily, real-world opportunities to talk about money in the contexts of earning, saving, spending and giving.
- Consider the financial habits you want to instill in your child and talk about them.

Involve your child in making decisions about purchases for household items and compare the costs of different items. (e.g. We need to save money to repave the driveway, so we're going to cut down on spending. Do you have any ideas?)

Resources:

A Parent's Guide to Financial Literacy http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/financial_guide.html

Peter Pig's Money Counter <https://practicalmoneyskills.ca/games/peterpigs/>

Help Your Kids Understand Money: A Parent's Guide

<http://www.themint.org/parents/parenting-guide.html>

Mental health and well-being resource hub

COVID-19 has, and will, impact the mental health of people everywhere. Kids Help Phone has seen an unprecedented surge of young people feeling more stressed than usual reaching out during this global pandemic. Finding accurate information and appropriate resources can be hard. [Jack.org](#), [School Mental Health Ontario](#) and [Kids Help Phone](#) have partnered to bring you all the information needed in one easy-to-access hub so that youth mental health remains top of mind, and our communities are able to easily access the education, tools, support and reliable information they need. Please share widely with the young people in your life.

Jack.org is a Canadian non-profit organization focused on helping youth understand how to take care of their mental health and look out for others.

Screen-free activities to keep kids active

Finding ways to break up your daily schedule with active play will pay off in the long term, and encourages creative thinking, problem solving and so much more. Here are some ideas for screen-free activities to keep kids active while having fun:

Enjoy the great outdoors

Breathe in some fresh winter air as you explore your local trails, parks and toboggan hills or have a family snowman-building contest to see who can make the most creative snow sculpture!

Get creative with indoor games

If it's too cold to explore the outdoors, there's plenty of fun indoor activities that use common items from around the house. Try playing a game of 'bedsheet parachute' – grab a twin-sized or smaller bedsheet or blanket to make a DIY parachute. Then get the kids (or even you!) to hold onto each end of the bedsheet and work together to try to shake a small stuffed animal or ball off the parachute!

Lead your family in a group workout

When you're active with your kids, it sends them an important message about healthy living. Try leading your family in a group workout from the comfort of your home. If you're looking for ideas and inspiration for family-friendly workouts, visit [YMCA at Home](#) where you can find activities for all ages and fitness levels. Once you learn the basic movements of the workout, gather your family and exercise together. It's always more fun to exercise with a buddy!

Information provided by the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka

Nutrition and self-regulation

Self-regulation is the ability to manage your own energy states, emotions, behaviours and attention in ways that are socially acceptable and help achieve positive goals such as learning at school, having good relationships and being well. Healthy eating may improve your child's ability to self-regulate.

Eat more:

Plant-based foods: colourful vegetables, fruits, whole grains

Healthy proteins: nuts, seeds, legumes, fish, seafood

Eat less:

Sugar and sodium

Highly processed, refined foods

Focus on:

Water or milk to drink

More than one type of food at every meal or snack

Eating regularly

Creating a calm, relaxing environment where you can enjoy your food and not feel rushed

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit