

# Huron Park Public School

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Vice Principal: Heidi Cameron Armstrong

[hcameronarmstrong@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:hcameronarmstrong@scdsb.on.ca)

Senior Administrative Support: Heather Barr



## Upcoming Events

### March 12

March Break begins

### March 23

Pita Orders Due

### March 24

Talent Show

### March 25

Easter Weekend—four-day weekend

### March 30

Pita Day

- You can subscribe to our school's website by visiting the 'What's New' section at <http://hur.scdsb.on.ca>. You can sign up to receive emails about school news updates and information during emergency situations. It's easy to subscribe – visit our website and click the 'Subscribe' link at the very top of the page. When you fill out your email and click Subscribe, an email will be sent to your inbox with a link to click to confirm that you want to subscribe. You can unsubscribe at any time using the link at the bottom of each email.
- For Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) media releases and event information, visit the 'News' section under 'About Us' at the SCDSB's website: [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca). The SCDSB Education Centre can be reached at 705-734-6363.
- Follow the SCDSB on Twitter (@SCDSB\_Schools), Facebook ([facebook.com/SCDSB](https://www.facebook.com/SCDSB)) and Instagram ([instagram.com/scdsb](https://www.instagram.com/scdsb))
- Follow Huron Park on Twitter (@hpprincipal1), Facebook ([facebook.com/huronparkmidland](https://www.facebook.com/huronparkmidland))
- Through SCDSB's *Sharing Simcoe* blog ([www.sharingsimcoe.com](http://www.sharingsimcoe.com)), we share stories of some of the amazing people involved in our schools. The blog features stories and tips from our own in-house experts and experts we work with in the community, as well as good news stories about our schools.

**New Safe Schools tool to report bullying, drug use or vandalism**  
The SCDSB has developed a new online Safe Schools Reporting Tool, which is available on our school website homepage, <http://hur.scdsb.on.ca>, as a Quick Access button. Students and parents can use this tool to submit a report online if they witness a student engaged in inappropriate behaviour such as bullying, drug use or vandalism. Students are still encouraged to speak to a trusted adult at school or home if they have any concerns. This form isn't a substitute for having a discussion with your teacher or principal. Student safety and well-being is always our top priority. For more information, please contact the school or visit <http://scdsb.on.ca/ReportAnIncident>.

For school bus transportation information, visit the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium's website at: <http://main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca>. And remember to bookmark the school bus information page at: [simcoecountyschoolbus.ca](http://simcoecountyschoolbus.ca) for bus delay and cancellation information on inclement weather days.

### **Free parenting programs this spring**

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB)'s Learning Centres offer parenting programs to all parents who currently have a child in school. The spring schedule begins in April. These free 'Parents as Partners' programs help parents develop understanding, knowledge, skills and specific techniques that can be used at home to support and encourage the healthy development of their child. For more information and to register, contact Sue Learmonth at 705-325-9279 x45632.

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### **Ensure your child's immunization record is up to date**

All families are required to provide the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) with a record of their child's immunization information. This is required by law under the Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA). The SMDHU can suspend students whose immunization records are not up to date.

You can update your child's immunization record in one of the following ways:

- Online at: [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/immsonline](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/immsonline)
- Fax: 705-726-3962
- Call: 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 ext. 8807

The health unit hours of operation are Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### **Student Film Festival - Students invited to submit films by April 13**

The SCDSB is holding its first-ever student Film Festival. Students from Kindergarten to Grade 12 are asked to submit short videos around the theme "What does belonging look like?" by April 13. Visit [www.scdsbfilmfest.blogspot.ca/](http://www.scdsbfilmfest.blogspot.ca/) for more information and to submit your film! Artists and their families will be invited to view the Film Festival submissions on the evening of May 17 at the SCDSB Education Centre.

### **Reminder: Safe Arrival on bus cancellations days**

With the recent inclement weather days that have taken place over the past few weeks, we wanted to take a moment to remind you of a couple of processes with our Safe Arrival phone system:

- On days when buses are cancelled due to inclement weather, calls are NOT made to families whose children ride school transportation.
- Families of walking students should call the school if their children are not attending on an inclement weather day.

### **Pay for field trips, lunch days, etc. with SchoolCash Online**

The SchoolCash Online program is available at our school. Parents have the option to pay online for lunch days and other items. Parents who sign up will receive a notification when a new item becomes available for purchase. Items are personalized to each student. Parents use a secure online account to make payments, and can either make a one-time payment for each item as it occurs, or load money to carry a balance in the online account to make payments in the future. To create an online account, go to <https://simcoecounty.schoolcashionline.com/>. Please contact the school office with any questions.

### **Reminder: School playground safety in the spring**

The sun is warming things up, days are getting longer and many students are itching to get back on the school playground equipment. While it's hard to say 'no' to those eager faces, it's important to make sure the equipment is safe and ready to be played on.

Over the winter, school play structures have to be closed. The closure is for many reasons. The main reason is that snow and ice change the surface of the ground surrounding the play structure, packing the sand/gravel/mulch into a hard, packed surface, which can be a significant fall hazard. Inspections are done on equipment daily by the school principal or designate during the school year starting on April 1 and ending on October 31. These inspections are to ensure that there are no obvious hazards, broken equipment, vandalism, graffiti, litter, dangerous items or play items left behind. There is also an annually inspection by a professional company employing Canadian Certified Playground Inspectors (CCPI).

Each spring, a designated contractor travels to all schools with playground equipment to till the surface to ensure that the sand is no longer compacted before opening the equipment for student use. In some cases, the wear and tear, rain or winter may have washed some sand away and it will need to be replaced.

Playgrounds can be fun learning opportunities for students, so let's all make them safe spaces – we look forward to spring and getting students back on our school playground structures soon!

### 7 street proofing tips to keep kids safe

With warmer weather on the way and more of our students walking and biking to school soon, we'd like to remind parents to review safety tips with their kids:

- If your child walks to school or to the bus stop, try to arrange a walking buddy or group.
- If your child walks to school, make sure they go along main routes that are well-travelled, rather than taking shortcuts through deserted areas.
- Develop a "what if" game for your child to get them thinking about how they would respond if they felt threatened or afraid.
- Know who your child plays with and where they go. This includes keeping a list of their friend's addresses and phone numbers.
- Do not leave your child in unsupervised locations, such as cars, parks, public washrooms, arenas, malls and plazas, etc.
- Teach your children where and how to get help. Go with them on their regularly travelled routes and identify safe places to go for help.
- Teach your child to talk to you immediately when someone does anything that makes them feel strange or uncomfortable. Listen when your child is trying to tell you about something that bothers them and provide them with support and understanding.

### Message from the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit: Building resiliency

Every child needs skills and supportive people in their lives to help them deal with life's challenges. Resilience is the ability to adapt to life's difficulties and be able to move forward with hope and optimism.

Here are some tips on how to raise resilient children:

- Treat them with warmth, care and sensitivity
- Expose them to a wide variety of learning environments
- Talk about how family members feel
- Help them manage difficult emotions
- Let them know they are loved and appreciated
- Teach them to have more positive thoughts about themselves
- Encourage positive peer relationships
- Teach them to be flexible, how to make decisions, solve problems, set appropriate goals and work to attain them

For more information, call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 and speak with a public health nurse or visit the health unit's website at [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org). For information and tips on parenting, visit [www.tripleontario.ca](http://www.tripleontario.ca).

### Message from the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit: School lunch ideas

Are your children tired of the traditional bread sandwich? Stock up on a variety of whole wheat and multi-grain wraps, pitas or tortilla shells – then let your imagination go! Tasty fillings include:

- Beans, salsa and shredded mozzarella cheese
- Hummus and grated carrot
- Egg salad made with chopped celery and green onion
- Salmon salad topped with shredded lettuce
- Sliced turkey with honey mustard
- Chopped chicken salad made with grated apple

For more information, call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-5720 and speak with a public health nurse or visit [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org).

A green rectangular graphic with white text that reads "WELCOME SPRING! WE'VE BEEN WAITING!". The text is in a bold, sans-serif font and is centered within the green box.