



APRIL NEWS

Holly Meadows School Website and Twitter.

Holly Meadows is working at becoming green.

We continuously add important information on our school website. Visit <http://hol.scdsb.on.ca/> to view upcoming current events, newsletters, school council information, classroom blogs, Team and Club information, etc. Milk, Sub and Yearbook order forms are found on our website under the parent section.

We currently have many subscribers to our website. ***Our goal is to have 70% of our school community members' as followers by the end of the school year. Help us meet this challenge!***

Hard copies of newsletters and other information will only be distributed if there is no email address on file at the office or if you are not subscribed to our website. If you wish to add an email address to the list, please contact the school office. To subscribe to our website click on the word subscribe at the top of our home page.

We also encourage you to follow us on **Twitter @medows_es**.

Holly Meadows Staff 2015-2016

We welcome Mrs. McAlendin to our office staff and Mrs. Araujo as our DECE in our FDK program.

Mark Your Calendar

April 2	World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD)
April 4	Student Participation in Autism Awareness Activities School Council Meeting 7-9 pm
April 4, 11, 18, 25	Mr. Warman and Mrs. McDiarmid's classes; swimming
April 6, 13, 20, 27	Mrs. Young and Mrs. Sugg's classes; swimming
April 6	Grade 1; Travelling Sparky Presentation
April 7, 14, 21, 28	Mr. Stone and Mrs. Semsch's classes; swimming
April 7	Push For Change; Joe Roberts Presentation 2pm for grades 6-8, 7pm for Community Members
April 8	Grades 7 & 8; Fitness Activities @ Holly Rec. Centre Grades 4-8; Jug a Lug Assembly
April 15	PA Day (no school for students)
April 19	Grades 3-6; Author, Natasha Dean's Visit Grades K-5; NED show Brain Injury Survivor-Forrest Willett Presentation; SCDSB Education Centre 5-7pm
April 20-26	Spring Book Fair
April 22	Movie Night, Inside Out, for community members 7-9pm Last day for Yearbook orders
April 25-28	French classes; Chef à l'école
April 25	Rainbows Celebration 3:30-5pm
April 28	Sports Day
April 29	Star Student Assembly; Int. 9:30, Prim. 11:35, Jr. 2pm

Library News

Mrs. O.C. (Teacher- Librarian) has kindly requested, that due to the wet weather that is occurring and coming our way, all kindergarten students will need to have a plastic bag at school on their library day in order to take home a library book.

Plastic library bags purchased at the beginning of the year, plastic library bags from previous years or a sturdy plastic bag of any kind (large sealable freezer bags) may be used to transport books safely to and from school.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and care of our Holly Meadows' library books.

Push For Change- Special Presentation April 7 @ HMES Joe Roberts aka Skid Row CEO

Join in welcoming Joe Roberts on April 7 between 7 and 9 pm at Holly Meadows. This dynamic speaker will motivate, inspire and challenge you to look beyond your roadblocks and see what's truly possible.

Joe Roberts, former homeless youth turned successful entrepreneur is paying it forward by pushing a shopping cart 9,000 km across Canada to help prevent youth homelessness, beginning May 1, 2016 in St. John's Newfoundland and ending 517 days later in Vancouver, B.C. ***The Push for Change is a national awareness campaign that will have over 400 community and school events.*** Joe Roberts will share his experiences through the streets of East Vancouver in the 1980's He will share the depths and degradation of a former homeless derelict, to the heights and triumph of a successful entrepreneur and philanthropist. Joe's unique style of inspiration combined with his legendary dark humour will have you shed a tear while making you laugh 'til it hurt'.

Participants will leave with:

- The possibility that lives inside each human being vs. the "probability"
- A deep feeling of inspiration- Making Canada a better place
- A connection to a cause and solution- Social Justice
- A call to action- JOIN US!

Attention Crafty Parents of HMES

Our Spring Fair is fast approaching on June 8th. This year we are adding something new: a Vender Fair. If you are crafty or have your own home business and would like to have the opportunity to sell your wares at the fair please consider this event. Spots will be sold for \$25. You bring the table and your sellables and we will supply the space. Do you knit scarves? Do you paint pottery? Do you sell candles or oils or something different all together? Contact CouncilChairhol@scdsb.on.ca to reserve your spot and to arrange payment today. Spots will be allotted on a first serve basis.

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://hol.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>.



Reminder about Our School Parking Lot

Please make sure that you are using the designated spots in our parking lot for pick up and drop off. There are far too many vehicles moving for students to walk through the lot to get to a car. If your child is meeting you at the Holly Recreation parking lot, they are to walk behind the pylons and the school yard fence as this is a no drive zone at the end of the day.

Designated **bus loading zones are out-of-bounds** during arrival and dismissal times, with the only exception being Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium buses. Private childcare providers will be asked not to use these areas. Parents are also not allowed to drop off or pick up in the bus zones. Traffic must be in constant flow in this area at all times, meaning no parked vehicles are permitted in this area.

Full STEAM Ahead!

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics) Integrated Learning

The goal of STEAM education is to give students an opportunity to build skills across subject areas while applying those skills to authentic tasks. Students at Holly Meadows will have several opportunities to engage in STEAM initiatives that are creative, innovative, and unique learning activities. STEAM supports inquiry-based hands-on learning that builds students' competence and confidence in the creative process, technological problem solving and scientific inquiry.

We are in need of different items for our STEAM initiative. We welcome donations such as puzzles, old board games, and building blocks (Lego, Duplo, Zacks, Meccano, Megabloks). If you have incomplete sets that you are looking to get rid of please send them to our school. Located outside of the library is a bin for our collection of donations. We are also collecting Rubbermaid bins with lids for storing these items.

We thank you in advance for your generous donations and your support in making a difference for students at Holly Meadows.

SCHOOL PREVENTIVE DENTAL CLINICS – free of charge

The Oral Health team of the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit was at your school recently. **Check your child's backpack or agenda!** A **yellow** consent form was sent home (and attached to a Healthy Smiles Ontario (HSO-PSO) application) with children whose oral health would greatly benefit from the **preventive service(s) offered – FREE of charge**. PARENTS, please complete, sign/date and return the consent form to the Health Unit by **mail** (postage paid envelope was attached) or **fax**. These services will be completed in the spring, pending a sufficient response to hold the preventive clinic at the school. Should you have any questions, or require further information, call 705-721-7520, ext. 8804, or toll free 1-877-721-7520.

April 19 event with brain injury survivor Forrest Willett: "The Journey from Hopelessness to Happiness"

Forrest Willett is a SCDSB Learning Centre graduate, author and brain injury survivor. All parents and students are invited to attend this event to hear Forrest's inspirational story, and learn more about assistive technology tools in our classrooms. It takes place on April 19 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the SCDSB Education Centre, located at 1170 Highway 26 in Midhurst. You can also view the event from home via livestream at: <http://scdsblive.ca/>. This event has been made possible by a Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grant from the Government of Ontario.

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

The SCDSB is holding a Simcoe County 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/ 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.

Inside Inside Out: Nurturing children's emotional resilience – Parent Forum on April 26

Seasons Centre for Grieving Children is presenting an education forum for parents inspired by Disney Pixar's animated film *Inside Out*. This educational event, free for all parents, will explore how service providers, parents and caregivers can nurture emotional intelligence in children and in themselves. The event takes place on April 26 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Liberty North Events Facility (100 Caplan Ave. in Barrie). For details, visit <http://www.grievingchildren.com/events/other-events/>.

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
- 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.

Message from the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit: Free Dental Services

Taking care of your child's teeth is an important way to keep them healthy. All it takes is a pea-sized amount of fluoridated tooth paste and helping your child brush for two minutes, twice a day. If you don't brush your child's teeth regularly, bacteria can build up to form a clear sticky film on teeth called plaque. Brushing your child's teeth regularly helps to remove plaque and prevent it from forming.

Another important part of taking care of your child's teeth is visiting a dentist. If you cannot afford to take your child to the dentist there is a FREE program for dental visits called Healthy Smiles Ontario. If your family qualifies, your child(ren) will receive regular dental services at no cost. Children do not need to have an urgent dental condition to qualify. To find out more or to book an appointment, call the Health Unit's Oral Health team at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 x8818 (Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.).