



# April 2018 News

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## From the Desk of Mrs Golding

It's exciting to see the signs of Spring outside and the new energy that brings as the days begin to get longer!



Looking ahead at our calendar, we are fortunate to have lots going on at HMES! As dates are quickly filling up with activities for the remainder of the year, we wanted to provide advance notice of a few upcoming dates so that families can mark their calendars for these after school events. As each event gets closer, information will be sent home.

- ★ May 9- Intergenerational Arts Night
- ★ May 14- Neema Children's Choir performance
- ★ May 23- Buffalo Wild Wing fundraiser
- ★ May 31- Welcome to Kindergarten (for incoming Year 1 students)
- ★ June 14- Spring BBQ and Fun Fair
- ★ June 26- Grade 8 Graduation

## From the Desk of Mr Dobson

As the warm weather approaches, I am happy to see more and more students **walking** to school. Please try to make this a daily routine as it encourages our students to form healthy habits as they develop. If you need to drive your child to school, please remember the following:

- Use the Kiss and Ride by entering to the right of the parking lot and follow around the perimeter of the lot to the pylons
- Do not get out of your vehicle. Ensure that your child exits/enters the vehicle on the school-side of the car
- Do not cut through the centre aisles of the parking lot (form a single-file line around the perimeter of the lot)
- Proceed slowly through the kiss-and-ride
- Do not drop off and pick up in front of the school (fire /no-parking zones)
- Smile and breathe

(If you need to drive and park, please use Holly Rec Centre Parking lot and use the sidewalk to make your way to the school)

**Thank you for making a SAFETY a PRIORITY!**

## Important Dates

- April 3- World Autism Awareness Day, school bus evacuation training, dental clinic
- April 5- Excellence Assemblies
- April 9- School council- 6pm (library) - new participants always welcome
- April 11- International Day of Pink
- April 12- Gr 1 swimming
- April 17-24- Spring Book fair
- April 18-19- Jack Grunsky performing with Gr 1-3
- April 19- Gr 1 swimming
- April 19- 6:30pm- Jack Grunsky concert for families (more info to follow)
- April 20- Earth Day Community Clean Up, Jump Rope for Heart Kickoff assembly
- April 25- Administrative professionals day...be sure to thank the ladies in the office!
- April 26- Grade 1 swimming, tentative movie night (pending screen installation in gym...more info to follow)
- April 27- PA Day



## Read and Feed

Thank you to all of the families and staff who came out to our “Read and Feed” at Wendy’s and Chapters. We fundraised \$525 from Chapters plus books that families purchased and donated. Our total from Wendy’s was also \$500. This is a fantastic fundraiser that brings together the community and supports literacy at HMES. Thanks again, it was a fantastic night!

## Register now for summer child care

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) supports your child care needs by offering full day child care programs in select schools across Simcoe County. Twenty schools offer child care programs for children from Junior Kindergarten age to 12 years of age. Registration in advance is required. Please contact the child care operator directly to register. More information can be found on our website at [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca) – click on ‘Schools’ then ‘Before & After School Care.’

## Parents invited to information session about special education

The SCDSB is hosting a series of information sessions for parents/guardians to learn about special education in the SCDSB, and how to support students with special education needs. The last session takes place this month:

**April 16-** Understanding Alternative/Non-Academic IEP Goals- The event takes place from 6 to 7 p.m. at the SCDSB Education Centre, located at 1170 Highway 26 in Midhurst. No registration required.

## School bus evacuation training takes place April 3 to 6

The Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC), in partnership with school bus operators, is offering school bus evacuation training to all home-to-school transported students the week of April 3 to 6. During this week, school bus drivers will educate students on how to evacuate a school bus safely in an emergency. The SCSTC would like to remind all drivers to be extra cautious near school buses and in school bus loading and unloading zones. For more information or if you have questions, visit [main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca/](http://main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca/).

## Do you know a youth, aged 15-29, who is looking for a job or to gain work experience?

The Career Centre can help. Services include paid employment training, support with job searches and more, at no cost. Meet with an Employment Consultant today, or visit the Career Centre website at [www.barriecareercentre.com](http://www.barriecareercentre.com) for more information, including hours of operation. The Career Centre is operated by the Simcoe County District School Board. This Employment Ontario service is funded in part by the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario.

***Trauma & Loss: Creating School Communities of Well-being on April 14 in Barrie***

Parents and/or community members are invited to attend *Trauma & Loss: Creating School Communities of Well-being* on Sat. April 14 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Bear Creek Secondary School, located at 110 Red Oak Dr. in Barrie. This conference is being funded through a Regional PRO grant from the Ontario Ministry of Education and is being presented by the Adoption Council of Ontario. This event is free to attend and lunch is provided. Limited child care is available for children aged three to 12 years. Register at [www.adoption.on.ca/events](http://www.adoption.on.ca/events). Questions? Contact [pact@adoptontario.ca](mailto:pact@adoptontario.ca).

**Stress: Our kids get it too!**

Kids have stress, just like us. Stress is a normal part of life, but our bodies are only made to handle it for short amounts of time. Continued stress can cause feelings of pressure, anxiety and tiredness. It can make it hard for kids to focus in school and can cause them to become sick, get lower grades or make unhealthy choices. It's easy to mistake signs of stress for bad behaviour in your child. You can help them learn to manage stress by staying calm, showing love and talking openly about their feelings. Encourage them to try calming activities like deep breathing or doing something active. If the stress continues, be sure talk to your child's family doctor or health care provider. To speak with a public health nurse, contact Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 or visit the health unit website for more information at [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org). *Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit*