



# May 2018 News

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## From the Desk of Mrs Golding

It is hard to believe that we only have two months of school left! May is shaping up to be a very busy month with lots of exciting classroom and co-curricular activities taking place to support student learning.



At the end of the month, our grade 3 & 6 students begin their final preparations for EQAO standardized testing. We encourage all of our students to give their best effort every day to make for great results at the end of the year. Thank you for supporting your child in all of the different aspects of their education.

## From the Desk of Mr Dobson

Spring seems to have finally arrived. This is a time of renewed energy. Longer daylight hours, warmer temperatures, flora and fauna emerging from a long winter's nap. As Mrs. Golding and I walk through the halls, we notice a change in the mood of students and staff alike. We appreciate the many positive vibes we get as we visit classrooms and see how students are progressing. The community here at Holly is second to none and we look forward to seeing more parents and community members involved in the many wonderful events happening at Holly this spring.

## Important Dates

- May 2 - Parent Coffee House - Library - 2:00 - 3:00
- May 4 - Milk, pizza and pasta orders for June open (please note- no popcorn in June)
- May 7 - School Council Meeting - Library - 6:00 - 7:30
- May 9 - Intergenerational Arts Night - 6:00 - 7:30
- May 15 - Track and Field (school event) - Junior/Intermediate students - all day
- May 16 - Jump Rope for Heart
- May 17 - Track and Field (school event) - Rain Date
- May 18 - PA Day
- May 23 - Buffalo Wild Wing Fundraiser - 5:00 - 8:00 pm
- May 23 - 25 - Grade 6 EQAO testing
- May 25- Milk, pizza, pasta and popcorn orders for June (please note that food orders for June will end one week prior to the end of school on June 22nd)
- May 29 - 31 - Grade 3 EQAO
- May 31 - Kindergarten Orientation - 4:00 - 5:00 pm
- June 1 - PA Day



### **Class Placements for 2018-2019**

We will soon begin to organize students into classrooms for next year. This process is very complex and time-consuming. Several factors are taken into consideration in the careful placement of each child that include the following: the professional view of the child's previous teachers; Ministry of Education, Simcoe County District School Board and teacher contract guidelines about class size and staffing formulae; combinations of students related to social factors (friendships, number of years with the same teacher, etc.); emotional needs; academics; balance of boys and girls; number of students in each side of a split grade; special education needs; behavioural concerns. Although parent requests involving concerns with siblings, health considerations, etc. will be accepted, we cannot guarantee that these requests will be granted. If you wish to make a classroom request for your child, please ensure that you submit to the principal in writing by June 15.

### **Bicycles, Scooters and Skateboards**

Now that our nicer weather has arrived, many of our students enjoy riding their bikes, scooters or skateboards. We remind everyone that all modes of transportation are to be walked on school property and it is the responsibility of the student to lock them safely to the bike racks. Last but not least, please remember to always wear a helmet!

### **Jump Rope for Heart**

Event Date – May 15th, 2018

Participants – All Students K to 8

School Goal - \$5000

Pledge Form Due Date – May 23rd, 2018

Waiver – can be completed on the pledge form that was send home or online.

Prizes – all participating students are entered into prize draw – students with higher fundraising receive more entries into the draw.

We are trying to encourage online registration and fundraising as a safer, more convenient and environmentally friendly option. Anyone who registers online by end of the first week is entered into a prize draw. This is the link for families to register for Jump Rope for Heart: [http://support.heartandstroke.ca/site/PageServer?pagename=jump18\\_register](http://support.heartandstroke.ca/site/PageServer?pagename=jump18_register)

### **Coffee House**

We would like to extend an invitation to members of our school community to attend a coffee house on Wednesday May 2 from 2-3:15pm in the library. Our guest speaker will be our school community officer, Phil Graham who will be presenting on the topics of social media and bullying. There will be some time for discussion at the end of the presentation. We hope that you will join us for this event. If you plan to attend, please RSVP by May 1st to [cihodgins@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:cihodgins@scdsb.on.ca)

### **Clothing Drive**

Time to clean out your closets, our Spring Clothing Drive is beginning soon! From April 23-May 22, families are invited to drop off their used clothing, footwear, bedding, jewellery, accessories, luggage, draperies and outerwear at the school.

If you would like more information about this program, [here is the link](#) to the Kidney Clothes program with whom we are running our current clothing drive. The Kidney Clothes program has a partnership with Value Village who provide funds for the items donated. The funds raised through the Kidney Clothes program are used by The Kidney Foundation to provide access to programs like financial assistance for families, peer support and educational materials such as their "Living with Kidney Disease" patient handbook which is given to every newly diagnosed kidney patient. A portion of those funds are also then given back to the school to support fundraising initiatives.

Do some spring cleaning and support HMES, the Kidney Foundation and the environment!

# Intergenerational Arts Night

**Wednesday May 9  
6-7:30pm  
Holly Meadows**

- Student art displays
- Explore using different artistic mediums
- Create your own masterpieces to take home

In order to prepare the appropriate amount of materials, we require an **RSVP to this event by Monday April 30th at noon. Please RSVP to [cihodgins@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:cihodgins@scdsb.on.ca)**

*Brought to you by a Parents Reaching Out Grant*

## **Buffalo Wild Wing Fundraiser**

On Wednesday May 23rd Buffalo Wild Wings® will donate 10% of all pretaxed food sales (less alcohol and promotional discounts) back to the school from any guest that presents a fundraising ticket. Visit Buffalo Wild wings on the 23rd and present the ticket to your server between 5-8pm and 10% of your sales will be donated back to the school to support technology purchases for students.

Fundraising tickets are available to be printed at home through the [link on our website](#) and will also be distributed at the school the week prior to the event. Please contact the office if you require tickets.

Please note that the restaurant will be operating as a normal operating business on the day of the event, continuing to allow the general public and guests to come in and dine. As such, it is important to be aware that although mingling is expected, staff ask that typical restaurant protocol is observed, including refraining from allowing children to run around and refraining from standing or gathering in the seating area for extended periods of time. In order to allow for socializing during the event while still maintaining an orderly and comfortable atmosphere for all patrons, please note that staff will accommodate seating for larger parties as requested.

Lasly, a few days prior to the event, the restaurant requires approximate numbers so they can staff and set aside areas of the restaurant as appropriate to our group size. If you plan to attend, please RSVP by email to [cihodgins@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:cihodgins@scdsb.on.ca) by Friday May 18th.

## **Register now for Before & After School Programs for September 2018**

Register now for child care at our school next school year. Your child's space in the program for September 2018 will be considered a priority if completed registration forms have been submitted to the child care operator by June 30, 2018. Please contact SEEDS at 705-726-3770 to register your child(ren).

## **Summer child care options available**

The Simcoe County District School Board 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 old. 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.'

### **School's in for summer at the SCDSB**

Are you and your child planning their courses for next school year? Looking for a way to create flexibility in their timetable and earn a credit? Consider summer school! Each year, the SCDSB offers a variety of summer programs to over 2,000 students. Summer school options include open, college and university level courses from Grades 9 to 12. Courses are offered in-person or online. Interested students can also travel and earn credits with the summer EduTravel program. Summer school program details can be found on the Learning Centres website at [www.thelearningcentres.com](http://www.thelearningcentres.com). Current SCDSB students should speak to their guidance counsellor for information and to register. Register now so that your summer school choices align with course selection for next year!

### **Reading Support for students in grades 1 - 3**

With funding from a SCDSB grant, Holly Meadows has purchased a one-year license for 144 primary (grades 1 - 3) students to have access to an online program called RAZ Kids (Reading A-Z). This program can be accessed from anywhere with internet connectivity and provides 1000s of levelled texts for students to practise their reading comprehension skills. If you would like to be provided with a login for your child to work at home on this program, please contact [jjobson@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:jjobson@scdsb.on.ca) and indicate "Raz Kids" in the subject line.

### **Parents invited to information session about special education on May 16**

The Simcoe County District School Board is hosting a series of information sessions for parents/guardians to learn about special education and how to support students with special education needs. The last session takes place this month:

Date: May 16

Time: 6 to 7 p.m.

Location: SCDSB Education Centre, 1170 Highway 26, Midhurst

Topic: Understanding Alternative/Non-Academic Individual Education Plan (IEP) Goals

No registration is required. You can also join this session from home via Google Meet using this link:

[meet.google.com/zfg-egau-wgp](https://meet.google.com/zfg-egau-wgp). Those joining via Google Meet will need to 'mute' while watching the session to avoid audio feedback. Parents are welcome to type in questions using the chat option in Google Meet during the event.

### **Math Corner**

Some of our staff are currently participating in a book on Positive Math Mindsets. In general, a growth mindset is the belief that intelligence and 'smartness' can also be learned and that the brain grows from experience and effort. The opposite, a fixed mindset, is the idea that you are smart, or you are not. In math, that translates into "some people are good at math, and some are not." Did you know that praising efforts rather than intelligence or results can impact your child's ability to persevere in challenges?! The goal is to have children thrive on challenges and see failures, not as a sign of low intelligence, but as a learning opportunity. Brain research tells us that making mistakes actually wires more connections into the brain! When a person has a growth mindset, they accept challenges, see their efforts as worthwhile, and are open to learning from mistakes. Students with a growth mindset achieve at higher levels than those with fixed mindsets. How can you help? Some simple ways:

- Adding "yet" when they claim they are "not good at this" (Respond: "You are not good at this yet.")
- Ask questions that focus on their effort and choices and get them to reflect on satisfaction of that effort (e.g. What did you learn today? What mistake did you make that taught you something? What did you try hard at today?)  
Model this yourself as you share about your own day.

### **Neema Children's Choir**

In our our "Save the date" section of our April newsletter, we mentioned a performance by the Neema Children's choir. Unfortunately, this performance has been cancelled so you can "unsave" that date. Please refer to our May dates on page one of our newsletter for upcoming events this month.