



## Orillia Secondary School

October 2017

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

If you have not already done so, be sure to sign up for School Cash Online. This is our preferred method of payment for all school fundraising including lunch days and field trips. School Cash Online allows you to pay with your debit or credit card. Follow these steps to get started:

1. Go to [simcoecounty.schoolcashonline.com](http://simcoecounty.schoolcashonline.com) or from our school website click on "Pay Fees"
2. Register and add your child to the newly created account
3. View and purchase items through echeck or credit card

The School Cash Parent Helpdesk is available 24/7 to help you with registration, password recoveries or any other payment issues. Call the helpdesk at 1-866-961-1803 or email [parenthelp@schoolcashonline.com](mailto:parenthelp@schoolcashonline.com).

### **Parent Portal gives parents real-time access to attendance, grade information**

The SCDSB Parent Portal is a secure online tool that provides parents/guardians (of students less than 18 years of age) with quick access to their children's attendance and grades and includes the option to sign up for email notifications. To access the Parent Portal, parents/guardians will need their child's SCDSB Pupil ID Number, which can be found on the Student Information Verification Form, as well as an Access ID. The Access ID will be provided in a sealed letter this fall with instructions on how to create an account. If you lose the Access ID, visit us in the school office and we'll provide it to you after verifying your identity.

### **School Bus Safety Week and School Bus Driver Appreciation Day**

School Bus Safety Week takes place Oct. 16 to 20. To support schools in promoting school bus safety to students, the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC), in partnership with school bus operators, will offer bus evacuation training to all home-to-school transported students. During this week, school bus drivers will educate students on how to evacuate a school bus safely in an emergency situation.

Wed., Oct. 18 is School Bus Driver Appreciation Day in the province of Ontario. It's a great opportunity for the school community to thank our bus drivers for all their hard work transporting students to and from school safely. For more information, visit the SCSTC website at [main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca/](http://main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca/).

### **New Path offering child and youth mental health walk-in clinics**

In response to the increasing wait times for child and youth mental health services, and the increased need for such services, New Path has undertaken a service redesign that will provide more timely and responsive services to children, youth and families in Simcoe County. New Path now offers Child and Youth Mental Health Walk-In Clinics in five office locations throughout Simcoe County: Bradford, Alliston, Barrie, Collingwood and Orillia.

Children, youth and families requesting service from New Path no longer need to call and complete an intake; they can simply attend one of the local Walk-In Clinics and will receive a single session intervention that day. Should children or youth require further service, New Path will continue to offer a wide variety of community and school-based services as well as residential service and women's service. For further information, including the clinic locations, days and hours, visit [www.newpath.ca](http://www.newpath.ca) or contact New Path's central intake department at 705-725-7656.

### **Fire Prevention Week is October 8 to 14: Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!**

Fire Prevention Week runs from Oct. 8 to 14. This year's theme is "Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!" Smoke and fire spread fast. There's no time to figure out how to escape AFTER a fire starts. All households should have working smoke alarms and practice a home fire escape plan with everyone in the family BEFORE there's a fire. Find out more at: [www.nfpa.org/fpw](http://www.nfpa.org/fpw).

### **LGBTQI2S Junior Youth Connection for kids aged 12 to 15**

The Gilbert Centre is offering a new drop-in and social program for LGBTQI2S identified youth to connect, explore and learn. Meetings take place on the first and third Friday of every month from 5-7 p.m. at 80 Bradford Street in Barrie. For more information, please call Ve Tao, Youth Support Worker at 705-722-6778 x109, visit [lgbtyouth.ca](http://lgbtyouth.ca) or email [vet@gilbertcentre.ca](mailto:vet@gilbertcentre.ca).

### **Translating legal issues for frontline workers and members of the trans community**

The Gilbert Centre, in partnership with The Community Legal Clinic, The Law Foundation of Ontario, and The Mediation Centre, is offering training on navigating human rights and the law for transgender people in Simcoe County. Topics will include trans inclusivity training, human rights, housing, employment, income support and family law. Register at [www.gilbertcentre.ca/translating-legal-issues/](http://www.gilbertcentre.ca/translating-legal-issues/). The training is offered in Collingwood Oct. 12 to 13.

### **LGBTQ youth employment support program offered by The Gilbert Centre (for secondary schools)**

The Gilbert Centre in Barrie is offering a program for LGBTQI2S identified youth ages 16 to 29 who are seeking support with employment. The program, supported by the United Way, will develop life and employment skills, increase participants' chances of finding employment and connect participants with community resources. Interested youth can contact Ve Tao, Youth Support Worker, at [vet@gilbertcentre.ca](mailto:vet@gilbertcentre.ca) or at 705-722-6778 x109.

### **October is International Walk to School Month**

Did you know that October is International Walk to School month? It's a great way for children to get their recommended 60 minutes of physical activity each day and also gives parents and staff a chance to be part of a worldwide event that celebrates the many benefits of walking. Here are some ideas:

- Encourage your child to walk or cycle to and from school if you live close by and team up with others to make the trip more fun
- If you usually drive your child to school, try getting them to walk part of the way
- If your child takes the bus, walking to and from the bus stop is a great way to add physical activity minutes into the day

### **Active transportation**

Want to help the environment, save money, be with friends, and improve your health and fitness? Choose to walk, bike, roller blade or skateboard as much as possible to places like school, work, shopping and visiting friends.

- Organize a walking or cycling group.
- Talk with your school principal about installing secure bike racks in a visible location.
- If you're concerned about safety, speak with your mayor or municipal councilor about what you need to be able to walk and bike safely in your community.

Check out [www.saferoutestoschool.ca](http://www.saferoutestoschool.ca) for more ideas.

*Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit*

### **Has your teen started driving?**

Getting a driver's license and riding as a passenger with friends is an exciting milestone for many teens, but it can also be a stressful and challenging stage for parents. It can be hard to balance giving them their independence with trying to keep them safe. Be patient and look for opportunities to help your teen learn driving laws, and how to be safe behind the wheel or as a passenger with friends.

For more information, visit the health unit's website at [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org) or call *Health Connection* at 721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520. Another great resource is the Parachute Canada website: <http://www.parachutecanada.org/programs/topic/C430>.

*Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit*