



## **ORILLIA SECONDARY SCHOOL**

**April, 2019**



### **Register now for summer child care**

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) works in partnership with child care operators to provide summer child care programs for children from Junior Kindergarten age to 12 years of age in select schools across Simcoe County. More information can be found on our website at [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca) – click on ‘Elementary’ then ‘Planning for School’ then ‘Childcare (Before & After)’. Please contact the child care operator directly for inquiries and registration. School locations of programs will be available in May.

### **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 – registration is open! 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.learningcentres.com](http://www.learningcentres.com). Current SCDSB students should speak to their guidance counsellor for information and to register.

### **Parents invited to information session about special education**

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

Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA): What is it?  
Thursday, April 25 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.  
SCDSB Education Centre, 1170 Hwy. 26 West in Midhurst

For those who can’t attend in person, the session is also offered online through Google Meet. Registration is required. Details are available at [www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/special\\_education](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/special_education).

### **SCDSB Specialist High Skills Majors programs offer students opportunity to earn industry-recognized certifications**

Specialist High Skills Majors (SHSM) are bundles of 8-10 courses that allow Grade 11 and 12 students to focus their learning on a specific economic sector while getting their high school diploma. SHSMs provide students with an opportunity to focus their learning and gain valuable experience for all post-secondary opportunities. The SHSM program has a number of required components, designed to give students a leg-up to pursue post-secondary opportunities in a variety of employment sectors. Students will also earn industry-recognized certifications, which builds confidence in their skills and links their studies with the world beyond high school and future careers. Find out more about SHSM at [www.myshsm.ca](http://www.myshsm.ca).

### **Community conversations: Building resilient families and communities – free session for all parents, guardians and caregivers**

Parents/guardians and caregivers of elementary and secondary students are invited to join us for a free information session presented by the Simcoe County District School Board's (SCDSB) Parent Involvement Committee. During this session we will discuss the specific attitudes, strategies and factors that promote resilience in our children, youth, families and larger community.

Community partners will also be on site to answer your questions. The sessions will be offered at the following locations:

Orillia Secondary School, Tuesday, April 23 at 7 p.m.

Bradford District High School, Tuesday, April 30 at 7 p.m.

For more information and to register to attend, please visit [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca).

### **Helping students stay safe online**

The Internet is a wonderful research, homework and communication tool for children. It can also present a host of risks. When you talk to your children about online safety, you help prepare them for the dangers they might encounter online. Here are some cyber-safety tips that can help to ensure a positive online experience for your children:

- put the family computer in a visible space in the home
- inform your children about the dangers of sharing personal information online
- install software that limits the websites your children can visit
- set a clear limit on daily Internet time
- keep devices, like smartphones and tablets, out of bedrooms

### **School bus evacuation training takes place April 1 to 5**

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 1 to 5. 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/).

### **Events at our school in celebration of International Day of Pink**

Our school will be hosting several events during the week of April 8 to 12 in honour of the International Day of Pink, which is Wednesday, April 10. This day celebrates diversity and promotes standing up to bullying. It is a day of action that started in Nova Scotia when two straight high school students saw that a gay student wearing a pink shirt was bullied. The two students intervened but wanted to do more. They purchased pink shirts and within a few days got everyone at school wearing pink, standing in solidarity for diversity and standing up against discrimination, gender-based bullying and homophobia. Our school will be recognizing Day of Pink by encouraging all students to wear pink in support of the International Day of Pink and be a part of our school wide photo. Homeroom classes will also participate in the “Pink Points” contest, where points and prizes will be awarded to classes sporting the most pink clothing.

Students will also be invited to participate in a Day of Pink photo booth event during the lunch hour. Orillia Secondary School is proud to recognize this worthy day of recognition.

### **Identifying school-sponsored trips**

All field trip information will be sent home on school and/or SCDSB letterhead. This is the best way for parents/guardians to identify supervised and approved trips. There may have been times when community or external groups organized trips that have been mistaken for school-sponsored field trips. Parents would be notified of individual circumstances if the school is aware that an external trip is being planned. When in doubt about any trip, ask questions of the organizers, including “Who is sponsoring or in charge of this trip?”, “Who will be supervising?” and “What are their qualifications?” You can also contact the school if you have any questions about a trip you see advertised that you think may not be school-sanctioned.

### **Please turn off your car while you wait**

Parents and guardians are reminded to please turn your engine off when dropping off or picking up your child(ren) from school. Idling cars release exhaust that is harmful to the environment, our health and the health of our students. It’s good to get into the habit of turning your car off any time you’re stopped and in park for more than 60 seconds. Thank you for doing your part to keep our kids and our environment healthy! For more information to keep you and your family healthy, visit [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org) or call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520.

*Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit*

### **Free prom dresses for Grade 12 students from Prom Glitz**

Grade 12 students in need of a prom dress are invited to Prom Glitz’s annual free prom dress event on April 5, 6 and 7 at the Kozlov Centre. Students are paired with a personal shopper and can choose from hundreds of dresses and accessories, free of charge. To learn more, including how to book an appointment, visit [www.promglitz.ca](http://www.promglitz.ca).