

Steele Street PS

INCLUDE - UNITE - EMBRACE
TOGETHER WE ARE STRONG AS STEELE!!!

Dianna Wright-Drzazga
Principal

36 Steel Street
Barrie, ON L4M 2E7
Safe Arrival: (705) 728-9292
School Website: sst.scdsb.on.ca
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Shirley Kennedy
Vice-Principal

Bus Cancellation Zone: Central

December 2016

Important December Dates

December Dates:

- Dec. 5 – School Council Meeting 6:00 pm
- Dec. 7 - 8 - Zumba
- Dec. 9 – Red / Green Day – Spirit Day
- Dec. 16 – Grinch Day – Spirit Day
- Dec. 20 – 22 – Holiday Gift Shop
- Dec. 21 – Holiday Sweater Day – Spirit Day
- Dec. 22 – Holiday Hat Day – Spirit Day
- Dec. 23 – PJ Day – Spirit Day
- Dec. 26 – Jan 6 – Winter Holiday Break

Upcoming Dates:

- Jan. 9 – Return to School

Message from the Principal

Once again Steele Street is reaching out, asking for your support, to help us assist *Barrie Christmas Cheer* provide non-perishable food items and new unwrapped toys for Barrie families in need. Any and all donations are appreciated.



While we are continuing to work hard over the month of December we also have many exciting Spirit Days planned as our students gear up for the holiday break.

Fri. December 9 th	Red & Green Day
Fri. December 16 th	Grinch Day – dress up like your favourite character
Wed. December 21 st	Holiday Sweater Day
Thurs. December 22 nd	Holiday Hat Day
Fri. December 23 rd	PJ Day

With the holiday season coming quickly, the staff at Steele Street would like to wish all of our families a safe and happy holiday!

Write your Letters to your Child(ren)

Dear Parents, guardians, grandparents,

Steele Street mail service has arrived! Take this opportunity to write a letter to your child. The mailbox is located in the front foyer. Delivery is daily at 12:30. We hope you enjoy writing to your child.



Also, we would like to thank Moore Packaging and Mrs. Archer for creating a wonderful mailbox for Steele Street!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Peachey's Grade 3 / 4 and Mrs. McLaughlin's Grade 3 Class.

The Holiday Gift Shop



**The Holiday Gift Shop
IS COMING SOON TO
STEELE STREET P.S.
December 20, 21 and 22**

Presented by:

Grade 8 students, in support of their year-end trip.
Further information will be sent home via flyer soon.

Sledding at School

A reminder to all students and families that only soft sleds and crazy carpets are permitted at school. As well, any sleds brought to school should be clearly labelled with student's name. All sleds brought to school are stored outside by the entry doors. Any items brought to school are the responsibility of the student.



Lost and Found

Once again we have accumulated a large amount of lost and found items. All items are in the front foyer. Please check to see if your child has misplaced anything. All items still remaining will be donated to charity on Friday December 16th.



School Council

All parents are welcome to attend any School Council meeting which take place at Steele Street P.S. in the library. Our meeting dates are as follows:

Dec. 5th 6:00 PM – TONIGHT!
Feb. 6th 6:00 PM
April 3rd 6:00 PM
May 15th 6:00 PM



Mark your calendar and please consider coming out to our school council meetings. Everyone is welcome!

School Playground Closed for Winter

All school playgrounds are closed for the winter.

Every winter, school playground structures are closed. Students are made aware of this during school hours through announcements and staff reminders during breaks. This may not be well known



throughout the community despite signs indicating that playground structures are a winter hazard and are closed. The Canadian Standards Association Regulations make recommendations for the depth of ground cover required to minimize injuries (eg. sand, pea gravel, or wood chips). These surfaces cannot be maintained when the ground freezes. Injuries from

falling would be more significant on frozen ground. We strongly recommend that you do not allow your children to play on any structures while the ground is frozen.

Provide input on the 2017-2018 Calendar

Provide input on proposed 2017-2018 school year calendar

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) invites public school communities to submit input regarding the proposed school year calendar for next school year (Sept. 2017 to June 2018). Input can be provided by visiting www.scdsb.on.ca, then clicking the link on the 'School Year Calendars' page under the 'Schools' menu. All stakeholders including staff, school council members, parents/guardians, students and members of the school community are invited to provide input. **The deadline to submit input is Jan. 13, 2017.**



Winter Holidays

The last day of school will be Friday December 23rd. Students return to school Monday January 9th, 2017.



Leading Women / Leading Girls Program

Leading Women/Leading Girls Building Communities Recognition Program

MPP Ann Hoggarth invites nominations for outstanding women and girls for their community leadership contributions. To submit a nomination, please provide the completed nomination form, available from Ann Hoggarth's office (email ahoggarth.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org) and provide two letters of support from persons such as a community leader, mentor, employer, or another individual who has had experience volunteering with the nominee.

Support letters should address the following three areas:

- describe how the nominee's efforts improved the lives of women and/ or girls in her community

- explain how the nominee's achievements demonstrate her leadership
- specify the number of volunteer hours the nominee contributes annually

Nominations for Barrie residents can be forwarded to MPP Ann Hoggarth's Barrie office by Dec. 19.

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration opens in January.

Do you (or someone you know) have a child who was born in 2013? If so, it's almost time to register them for Kindergarten in the SCDSB!



Beginning on January 23, 2017, Simcoe County's public schools will register children for Kindergarten for the 2017-2018 school year. Required registration documents include birthdate documentation, proof of address and record of immunization. Visit www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten for more information.

French Immersion – Register Now!

Register your child for French Immersion, find out more at information sessions in January

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) offers French Immersion (FI) at select schools throughout the county beginning in Grade 1. This program gives students a bilingual education and the opportunity to become fluent in another language.

Information sessions will be held in January for parents of students in Senior Kindergarten. A letter will be sent home to those parents with more details. Information session dates will be posted at www.scdsb.on.ca under Programs, French as a Second Language.

The FI online application form will be available from 9 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 23, until 9 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2017 at www.scdsb.on.ca under Programs, French as a Second Language. While every effort is made to accommodate all FI applications, available space and staffing will determine how many students can be registered in the program. **Applications will be processed in the order they are received electronically.**

Please contact the school if you do not have Internet access at home or require assistance accessing the online application. Please note that the host sites for FI may change during your child's time in the program, and your child may need to move schools. This may

also include splitting the program between two different sites.

High School Information Nights

High School information nights coming to a school near you!

Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information nights happen this fall and winter. This event gives an overview of what's new, what to expect, as well as a chance to check out the school and ask questions. Attend our local high school information night to find out what's offered:

Eastview Secondary School 421 Grove St. East, Barrie	Wed., Feb. 22 2017	6:30 to 8:30 pm
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High school is an exciting time—there are so many programs, clubs and activities for students to try. Attend an information night to find out what's offered at your local high school. See the schedule of upcoming information nights at www.scdsb.on.ca/highschool.

Message from SMDHU: Healthy Celebrations

Healthy Celebrations

Celebrations are great opportunities for children to practice the healthy eating messages they learn in class. You can help us teach the importance of healthy eating by choosing healthy foods to send to school the next time your child's class is celebrating. Try these ideas:



- send a tray of watermelon slices, box of clementines or fruit kabobs
- make homemade mini muffins with whole wheat flour and grated carrots or apple
- send a tray of whole grain crackers, cubes of lower fat cheese and grapes

For more ideas, tool and resources to support your healthy classroom celebrations, check out www.brightbites.ca – Reason to Celebrate.

Message from SMDHU: Bedtime

Is Bedtime Stressing You Out?

Kids need 10 to 12 hours of sleep every night but sometimes getting them to bed can be frustrating. You can help create a regular sleep schedule for your child by setting a clear bedtime and sticking to



the same time every night. Start getting ready an hour before bed: turn off the TV, computers and phones. Spend quality time talking or reading stories to help them unwind. Agree on how many books you'll read before you start! Keep their room dark, cool and quiet - a nightlight is fine. Remember, making sure your child gets enough rest will help improve their mood, behaviour and ability to learn.

For more bedtime tips, contact Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 to speak with a public health nurse or visit the health unit website at www.simcoemuskokahealth.org.

Bus Cancellation Information for Parents

It's almost winter: Bus cancellation information for parents

Winter is just around the corner in Simcoe County, and with it comes the possibility of severe weather, challenging winter driving conditions and possible bus and school event cancellations.

All information regarding cancelled buses in Simcoe County is posted on the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium's bus information website at www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca. Our school is in the Central zone. When buses are cancelled, schools are still open for student learning, unless otherwise noted.

The Consortium and bus operators try to make the decision to cancel school buses before 6 a.m. and make every effort to post announcements between 6 and 7 a.m. Inclement weather cancellations are effective for the whole day and buses cancelled in the morning will not run at the end of the day. You can follow the Consortium on Twitter @SCSTC_SchoolBus for bus cancellations and other information. You can also subscribe to receive bus delay notifications here: <https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions>

For school event cancellations in case of inclement weather, follow our school's Twitter account at [@SteeleStreetPS](https://twitter.com/SteeleStreetPS) or listen to local radio for event cancellation information.



Website & Twitter

Keep connected with your school and the SCDSB

It's important to get accurate information about what's going on at your school and your school board. Please feel free to call the school at any time if you have questions or concerns.

- You can subscribe to our school's website by visiting the 'What's New' section at <http://sst.scdsb.on.ca>. You can sign up to receive emails about school news updates and information during emergency situations. It's easy to subscribe – visit our website and click the 'Subscribe' link at the very top of the page. When you fill out your email and click Subscribe, an email will be sent to your inbox with a link to click to confirm that you want to subscribe. You can unsubscribe at any time using the link at the bottom of each email.
- For Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) media releases and event information, visit the 'News' section under 'About Us' at the SCDSB's website: www.scdsb.on.ca. The SCDSB Education Centre can be reached at 705-734-6363.
- You can also follow us on Twitter [@SteeleStreetPS](https://twitter.com/SteeleStreetPS)
- Through SCDSB's *Sharing Simcoe* blog (www.sharingsimcoe.com), we share stories of some of the amazing people involved in our schools. The blog features stories and tips from our own in-house experts and experts we work with in the community, as well as good news stories about our schools.

