



Principal's Message

Principal

Ms. J. Moore

Secretary

Mrs. S. Reeb
905-358-9121

Email

SIM@dsbn.org

Twitter

@PsSimcoe

Check out
the calendar
for important
dates!



On behalf of the staff at Simcoe Street, we want to thank all our families for your support. We know that it can be a challenge to have your child(ren) log in each day and participate in the learning. The staff are truly grateful for your perseverance and amazing efforts. We are also so proud of our students. They are working hard! We love seeing our students connecting with us in our virtual classrooms every day. This is truly a **Stinger family effort!**

I also would like to send a huge **THANK YOU** to our amazing staff and all of the ways they are engaging our students in their virtual classrooms, while also providing support with technology issues as they arise.

It is important that we ensure we are maintaining balance with our families. Please ensure you take some time to care for your physical and emotional health and well-being. What can you do as a family to balance these needs? Take a family walk, play with your dog in the backyard, build a snowman, or perhaps bake some special treats. Sending uplifting messages can also improve our own mood. When we share our gratitude, it helps us feel more positive, build strong friendships, and deal with challenges. Tell someone why they are important to you.

If you would like to send a "Shout Out" to someone in our Simcoe Street community, please send us an email to sim@dsbn.org and we will share your thanks or congratulations with them!

With Term 1 Report Cards and the Kindergarten Communication of Learning coming home in February, this is a great opportunity to reflect on your child's progress and set some goals for the remainder of the year. Please see the important information on page 5, regarding our Term 1 report cards and the Term 1 Kindergarten Communication of Learning.

Stay safe and healthy Stingers!

Ms. Moore



Social Worker Support

Do you have questions about your child's mental health and well-being, such as anxiety, behaviour or self-harm?

Do you need support in accessing supports in the community?

Do you need advice for setting goals to help with regular school attendance?

Do you have any questions or looking for support regarding a certain aspect of parenting?



If these are some questions that you have, please speak with your child's teacher or Ms. Moore. Sue Bennett is a DSBN Social Worker that works with families in Niagara Falls schools, including Simcoe Street, to provide an additional layer of support to help our students and families achieve success. She is an invaluable member of our Simcoe Street team and is looking forward to connecting with families.

Community Crew- Lunch Angels

Since we have been on-line learning, we are thankful that Community Crew started delivering their free lunch program, once a week, to our families. If you are interested in having a bagged lunch delivered to your home for your child(ren), please click on the link and fill out the online application.

It's not too late to apply.

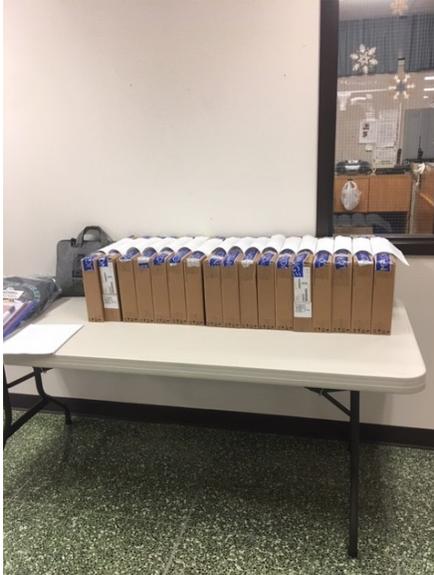
<https://www.communitycrew.ca/lunch-delivery/>

School Council 2021

We will be having a virtual School Council meeting on **Tuesday, February 2nd at 9:30 am.** We will be sending out email invitations for the Microsoft TEAMS meeting on Monday, Feb. 1st. If you have not attended a School Council meeting and would like too, please call our office or email us at sim@dsbn.org, and let us know.



January Highlights!



Gratitude



Family



Community



Pajama Day!



Kindness

Grade 1 French Immersion Registration

The French Immersion program (offered at French Immersion sites) is open to all Year 2 Kindergarten students. If you want your child to develop a high proficiency and fluency in Canada's two official languages, French Immersion has a great deal to offer. [Check out this video about our program!](#)

Registration is now open and will close February 16th, 2021. For more information about French Immersion in the District School Board of Niagara visit www.dsbni.org/fi.

Kindergarten Students Wanted...no experience nec-



Normally we'd invite you inside one of our Kindergarten classrooms so you and your child could look around with me, but to keep each other safe, we have to wait to do that another time. What I can do is help you find all the information you need to register your child for Kindergarten at the DSBN! I put it on <https://www.dsbni.org/earlylearners/kickstart/home> for you. It has important information like:

- ◆ How to register your child online
- ◆ A video about a typical day in Kindergarten
- ◆ A Kindergarten classroom 360° virtual tour
 - ◆ An e-book about how I overcame my first day fears

Hi! I'm Barkley. Your child's Kindergarten sidekick. I'm here to tell you that it's time to register for Kindergarten!

Register today at dsbn.org/kindergarten. I can't wait to meet you and your child at school!

Pink Shirt Day!

Anti-Bullying Day, also known as Pink Shirt Day, is recognized on the last Wednesday in February in Canada. On February 24, we encourage all members of the Simcoe Street community to wear something pink to symbolize that we at Simcoe Street will not tolerate bullying.



What is bullying?

Bullying is aggressive behaviour that is typically repeated over time. It is meant to cause harm, fear or distress or create a negative environment at school for another person. Bullying occurs in a situation where there is a real or perceived power imbalance.

Is conflict the same as bullying?

People may sometimes confuse conflict with bullying, but they are different. Conflict occurs between two or more people who have a disagreement, a difference of opinion or different views. Conflict between students does not always mean its bullying. Children learn at a young age to understand that others can have a different perspective than their own, but developing the ability to gain perspective takes time and the process continues into early adulthood (Stepping Stones: A Resource on Youth Development, page 26). (The above information is taken from www.ontario.ca/page/bullying-we-can-all-help-stop-it).

Term 1 Report Card Update

Elementary Provincial Report Card (Grades 1-8) and the Kindergarten: Communication of Learning

Due to the extension of remote learning, the Elementary Provincial Report Card (Grades 1-8) and the Kindergarten: Communication of Learning will be issued over two days between **February 18-19**. Families can expect to receive additional information about the Report Card distribution process from their school administrator, once further information about the return to “in-person learning” becomes available.

Report cards give a summary of student achievement at the end of each term. Teachers use their professional judgement and consider factors such as consistency, recent improvement and amount of evidence in order to determine students’ grades or marks. Teachers and students work together to gather evidence of their learning over time from observations, conversations and student products.

This year, the Ontario Ministry of Education updated [the math curriculum](#) for Grades 1 to 8 which started in September 2020. The new mathematics curriculum is part of a [four-year math strategy](#) designed to:

- improve student performance in math
- help students solve everyday math problems
- increase students’ employability to attain the jobs of the future

Niagara Falls Community Health Centre

Niagara Falls Community Health Centre



SAME-DAY COUNSELLING

Life may feel overwhelming right now.
You are not alone.
Single session appointments available.

No wait list and no referral needed for same-day counselling.
Our mental health services are free for the community.

OFFERED TUESDAY AND THURSDAY AFTERNOONS.
Call between 8:30am and 12pm to reserve.
First come, first served.

 **905-356-4222**

Virtual Chess Club for Junior/Intermediate Students!

Welcome to Virtual Chess Club!

What is Chess Club?

Chess Club is a great opportunity for your child to get involved in a school club while participating in virtual learning! Mr. Howieson and Mr. Thompson will be running our Chess Club! :)

Don't know how to play Chess?

No problem! Chess Club is for all individuals regardless of their familiarity with Chess. Students will learn what each of the pieces can do, as well as basic strategy which can be applied in games. Students will also be able to play Chess against each other!

When is it?

We will be meeting every Thursday after school (3:15-4:00pm) to take part in games and activities involving Chess. A Google Meet link will be sent to students who sign up, joining Mr. Thompson and Mr. Howieson for 45 minutes of Chess-mania!

How do I sign up?

Parents/Guardians of interested students will be emailed a Google Permission Form.

Hope to see you there!



Updates to Assessment and Evaluation in Math— Gr. 1 to 8

To foster a cohesive approach to both instruction and assessment across the elementary mathematics curriculum, achievement in mathematics will be reported in the Elementary Report Card as one overall letter grade (Grades 1-6) or percentage mark (Grades 7-8), with supporting comments. Comments will describe significant strengths demonstrated by the student, and identify next steps for improvement. Teachers may also describe a student's growth in learning.

The Ministry has provided more information about the new math curriculum for parents on the following website: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/new-math-curriculum-grades-1-8>. If you have any questions, please make arrangements to speak with your child's teacher.

DSBN Academy Virtual Open House on February 8th

Learn about the DSBN Academy at the Virtual Open House on **Monday, February 8, 2021 at 6:00 PM!** Join us to find out:

- How this unique program prepares students to attend, and succeed at, college and university
- What extra opportunities are offered and how your child can benefit
- If the DSBN Academy is a good fit for your child



The DSBN Academy is a Grade 6-12 public school designed to support and empower students to be the first in their family to graduate from college or university. Staff and students are committed to the belief that, with hard work, all students can achieve their dreams.

Students in Grade 5, 6, and 7 will participate in a Virtual Roadshow during class time and learn more about the DSBN Academy and everything it has to offer. **Online registration is open at [ACADEMY.DSBN.ORG/APPLY](https://academy.dsbns.org/apply). Registration will close on FEBRUARY 15, 2021. Limited spots available.**

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY TO DSBN ACADEMY?

- ◆ Student must live within the Niagara Region
- ◆ Student is entering Grade 6, 7 or 8 in September 2021
- ◆ Student would be the first in their family to graduate from a college or university program
- ◆ If a sibling has attended post-secondary but the parent(s)/guardian(s) have not, the student is still considered a First Generation Student
- ◆ Student is achieving current grade level expectations or just below
- ◆ Student has demonstrated the potential for achieving "good" or "excellent" learning skills
- ◆ Student is willing to attend a school that may be out of their community with free transportation provided
- ◆ Student understands there are mandatory after-school academic supports and *ENCORE* programs
- ◆ After-school *ENCORE* options include: Mixed sports, Board games, Photography, Yoga, Makerspace, Choir, Reading, and many more!
- ◆ Families understand that the DSBN Academy is a single-track pathway beginning in Grade 9 (academic level only).

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT: Derek.Harley@dsbn.org - Elementary Principal

CONNECT WITH US!

Technology allows us multiple ways to connect with families. The following is a list of ways we use to connect with families to ensure all families are aware of the many events happening throughout the year.

SCHOOL WEBSITE simcoestreet.dsbnschools.org Please take some time to visit the Simcoe Street Public School website. Our website includes current newsletters, school calendars, code of conduct, a school year calendar and bell times.

SCHOOL MESSENGER: Using the School Messenger program, all families will receive a phone call and email on Friday afternoon with reminders about events for the upcoming week. If you are not receiving these emails/phone calls, please check your contact information with the office to ensure we have the most current information. We have received many positive comments about this method of communication!

TWITTER: Check us out on TWITTER @PsSimcoe.

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER: All newsletters will be posted to the school website (September and January newsletters will be sent home as a hard copy). Monthly calendars will also be posted on our school website.

SCHOOL SIGN: We will continue to post important dates on the school sign on the front of the school. Please note that due to space limitations we cannot fit all school events on the sign.



VIRTUAL DENTAL SERVICES!

Virtual Dental Services: Niagara Region Public Health’s dental program is proud to introduce virtual dental services. Parents at Simcoe Street can now live chat, video call, email or phone with a dental professional for all dental related questions. You can connect about:

- ◆ Brushing and flossing
 - ◆ Tooth decay
- ◆ Fluoride treatments
- ◆ Dental emergencies

Healthy Smiles Ontario (Government funded dental program that provides FREE dental services for eligible children and youth 17 and under)

These online dental services are available Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.

To learn more, visit niagararegion.ca/health search “dental” or call their dental health line at **905-688-8248** or **1-888-505-6074** ext. **7399**.

