



The SIMCOE STREET Public School ...

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Our website: simcoestreet.dsbns.org

APRIL 2017



JUST AN UPDATE

- We appreciate our School Council support this year in their organization of all of our fundraising efforts. They always have the best interests of our students at heart. Again, we thank our parent community for supporting all the School Council fundraising initiatives this year.
- As always, we invite you to please stop by the WELCOME ROOM with your child (who does not attend school as yet) and spend some time in the preschool area and have a coffee/tea with your friends. Remember that we have two computers that you may access as well. You may stop by even after you drop your child off at school in the morning. Enjoy some time at our school!
- **The DSBN is proud to offer access to School Cash Online for parents.** School Cash Online is a safe and secure online portal that gives you the freedom to approve permission forms electronically and make payments for school items and events using echeque, credit or debit card.



You have a lot on the go...

Let us do our part to make things easier.

By using School Cash Online, you'll never have to:

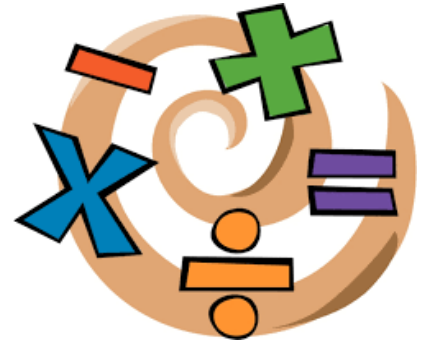
- ◊ Find a crumpled permission form at the bottom of your child's backpack
 - ◊ Search for cash or exact change to pay for thing such as field trips
 - ◊ Send money in your child's backpack
 - ◊ To learn more and register, visit dsbn.org/schoolcash
- As per DSBN policy we will be scheduling 3 Fire Drills in the Spring sometime in April, May and June. We will also have our second and last LOCKDOWN drill on April 11, 2017. This LOCKDOWN will be a little different than the first one, with consideration of any credible threat to the safety of our students and staff when students and staff are actually outside and they will be signaled to come inside immediately. A credible threat outside could be anything from a gas leak close to our community or even if there is an active police search in our school community area and we need get our students/ staff out of the way.
 - Our school experiences **significant chronic** student absences and students arriving late to school to the point that these absences are interfering significantly with student progress. We need to do something about this way before Grade 4! Why? More details inside this newsletter.

HELPING AT HOME WITH MATH FACTS!

The mastery of basic math facts is important. These facts require drill and practice at home. The automatic recall of these facts is a useful life skill and makes computation more accurate and efficient. While teachers do teach these skills, the heavier content of our mathematics curriculum has made it more difficult to spend as much time on 'the facts'.

A few minutes of practice several times each week will go a long way! Try to make the practice sessions short and fun (i.e. Math facts can be included in board games or practiced while going for a walk or riding in the car).

The following is a guideline of math facts to be mastered by the end of each grade:



JK:	Counting (recognizing and printing numbers to 10)
SK:	Counting by ones to 30 and recognizing numbers to 20
Grade 1:	Addition and subtraction facts to 10 (i.e. $3 + 4 = 7$ or $10 - 2 + 8$)
Grade 2:	Addition and subtraction facts to 18; recognizing the values of coins
Grade 3:	Review number facts to 18; multiplication and division facts to 7 times table; telling time at 5 minute intervals
Grade 4:	Multiplication and division facts to 10 timetable; making change using money
Grade 5:	Multiplication and division facts to 12 timetable; simple 'in your head' computations
Grade 6:	Continued practice of timetables to 12; solving daily problems using mathematics; practical applications at home of area, perimeter and volume (i.e. crafts, cooking and carpentry)

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN APRIL ?

- Our next School Council meeting is on Thursday, April 13, 2017 in our WELCOME ROOM at 9:15 a.m. Check us out!
- Thank you to Mrs. LeBlanc and our intermediate students for managing the 'pizza finger count' this year. Students help us to figure out how much pizza to purchase for each Wednesday.
- EARTH DAY is on Saturday, April 22, 2017
- Our BOOK FAIR will be underway April 3–7. Stay tuned with more information coming your way .
- COOKIE DOUGH will be delivered to our school on Wednesday, April 12, 2017 during the afternoon.
- The EASTER weekend begins on April 14 - 17, 2017. Enjoy!
- Our students from Grades 1-5 only will enjoy CAROUSEL PLAYERS performance of "Boys and Girls and other Mythological Creatures" in our GYM on April 25, 2017. Deep in Simon's basement is a secret world of imagination and adventure—where a young prince can transform into mythological creatures! Simon invites new neighbour Abby to help save a princess in a battle against a fire-breathing dragon. Meanwhile, in reality, Simon's older brother Zach's not so sure about all this dressing up and fairy tale business...A thoughtful and hilarious new play about our ability to transform!
- Stay tuned for our Family Math Night on April 26, 2017. Details will follow. This will be an exciting evening of mystery sponsored through the Ministry of Education's Speak up Grant. We really do need you to be there to make it a huge success!
- Grade 8 and Kindergarten Graduation and Celebrations plans are underway. We will keep you posted.



OATMEAL FOR YOU!



BASIC OVERNIGHT OATS

INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 c rolled, steel-cut oats
- 1/2 c liquid (milk, soymilk, or almond milk)
- 1 tbsp chia seeds (optional)

Overnight Oatmeal In a Jar



- ### Mix-ins
- Chia Seeds
 - Flax seeds
 - Cinnamon
 - Vanilla extract
 - Maple syrup
 - Honey
 - Nut Butters

3 Ingredient Oatmeal Cookies:

- 2 ripe bananas (mashed)
- 1 cup quick-cooking oats (uncooked)
- 1/4 cup raisins, coconut, chopped nuts or chocolate chips
- Heat oven to 350.
- In a bowl combine mashed bananas, oats & your add-in ingredient.
- Spoon tablespoons of mixture onto cookie sheet.
- Bake 15 minutes or until edges are brown.



Tesh.com

- ### Toppings
- Fresh Fruit
 - Dried Fruit
 - Nuts
 - Chocolate Chips
 - Coconut



Combine oats, liquid and mix-ins in a jar, refrigerate and enjoy with toppings!

We have received 100 pounds of OATMEAL from PROJECT SHARE and we would love to share it with you to provide healthy breakfasts and snacks at home. We have prepackaged oatmeal with EITHER raisins OR coconut ready for you to take home. We will provide you with frozen bananas and by the time you get home you will be ready to prepare your cookies. If you would just like oatmeal to make OATMEAL IN A JAR, we will provide you with that as well. All you have to do is stop by the school and we will provide you with everything you need. This offer will be available for the month of APRIL or while supplies last.



nutrition

ATTENDANCE MATTERS AT OUR SCHOOL!!!

IMPORTANT

We are experiencing significant chronic attendance problems which means that some students are missing too much school (for any reason) at ANY grade, including Junior Kindergarten. The common definition of a chronic absence is missing 18 days anytime throughout a school YEAR or 2 days per month. We are seriously looking at students who have missed 14 days or more as of today. Did you know that research tells us that by Grade 4, chronic absence is a leading

indicator that a student will drop out of Secondary School? We don't want that to happen to any of our students. Right now, a staggering 27% of our students have exceeded the 14 day threshold. That is over a quarter of our students! These students are losing ground academically and will have difficulty catching up. Teachers cannot be expected to catch them up or send work home for them to do. Our teachers spend a lot of time delivering quality instruction, providing feedback to students and just the daily interaction and conversation with teachers and among peers is critical to their success.

A letter will be sent out soon to parents of children who are experiencing attendance issues and a follow up phone call will be made to your home by administration, to meet with you regarding the development of a plan to help re-engage your child in getting to school and getting there in time. If we need to get your family doctor, or the District School Board of Niagara's Attendance Counsellor, Lynn Coles, involved in developing a great plan, then we will do that so that you know that we are all partners in the education of your child.

We take our job as educators very seriously at our school. We want our students to be at an advantage rather than a disadvantage compared to other students. PLEASE help us! Improving student attendance is a high priority at our school!

OUR BOOK FAIR IS COMING SOON

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to SIMCOE STREET Public School once again from

Tuesday, April 3 to Friday, April 7, 2017.

The Book Fair will be open in our *WELCOME ROOM* from

8:30 am to 4:00 pm on Tuesday,

8:30 am to 4:00pm on Wednesday

8:30 am to 4:00 pm on Thursday.

8:30 am—10:30 am on Friday.

We are thrilled to offer this literary event to our students. We invite your entire family to participate by purchasing the latest and greatest in children's books. **Did you know that for every \$10 you spend at the Book Fair, at least \$6 in product goes directly back to our school?**

Your support of this event is key to our obtaining new resources for our Learning Commons and our School. Thank you!

Mrs. Iacobaccio, Teacher-Librarian and Mrs. Jonovich, Grade 5/6 Teacher