



## The SIMCOE STREET Public School ...

4760 Simcoe Street,  
Niagara Falls, Ontario L2E 1V6  
905 358-9121  
Our website: [simcoestreet.dsbnschools.org](http://simcoestreet.dsbnschools.org)

May 2017



### A WORD (OR TWO!) TO OUR SIMCOE STREET PUBLIC SCHOOL COMMUNITY!

It's hard to believe that another school is nearly complete! TWO MORE MONTHS! It has been a successful year because of the efforts of so many members of the SIMCOE STREET Public School team. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to:

- our cooperative and enthusiastic students,
- our hard working and dedicated staff who day after day support student learning
- our dedicated Simcoe Street Public School Council
- our busy volunteers who support Simcoe Street Public School in every which way, on behalf of our students

Simcoe Street Public School is an amazing place because of the community pride we share, our staff and the support that parents/guardians provide for our students!

Thank you parents/guardians who have so thoughtfully thanked our community organizations for financial support/eye glasses that they have received either through the Educational Foundations of Niagara (EFN) or the many organizations that always believe in us. **If you would like a SIMCOE STREET PUBLIC SCHOOL note card to express your thanks, all you need to do is call Mrs. Reeb, our school secretary, and she will send one home with your child or just stop by the school and she will provide you with one.** A HUGE thank you goes out to all of our community partners who provide information sessions for our community, donate to our school or financially support us in one or another. We applaud their support ALL the time!

Shopper's Drug Mart (Victoria Avenue)    Niagara Falls LIONS Club

Ontario *Therapy Tails*    PROJECT SHARE

Heart Niagara    Niagara Falls Community Health Centre

LOCOCCO'S    MARRIOT HOTEL

SUBWAY    CINEPLEX ODEON THEATRE

LITTLE CAESAR'S PIZZA    EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATIONS OF NIAGARA (EFN)

TIM HORTON'S    NICO'S

In honour of the many, many financial donations that EFN has provided for our families and students, we will be sponsoring a **TOONIE TUESDAY** on Tuesday, May 02, 2017 to let them know that they MATTER to us! Please consider sending a toonie (or more if you wish) to school with your child on this day, for our Educational Foundation of Niagara (EFN) Poverty and Emergency Relief Fund. EFN has supported our school by providing a substantial donation to our students and families at our school this year.

## COMPREHENSION STRATEGIES

### COMPREHENSION STRATEGY FOR YOU TO TRY AT HOME: *RETELLING*

When parents ask their children what happened in school that day, the response is usually one of two things. Either they are given a play by play synopsis or they are given the single word answer “nothing”.

The strategy of retelling is similar. Retelling a story helps readers recall what is happening in the story they are reading. It allows a reader to stop and monitor their understanding. A retelling usually includes characters, setting problems, and the solution or the main ideas of the text. It involves telling what is important without telling too much. Many times children struggle with the concept of weeding out what is important. Often they either provide every single detail or they give a vague description that is hard to follow. Use the following strategies to help your child be successful in retelling. How can you help your child with this strategy at home?

1. When reading with your child, stop to think about what you are reading. Model this process aloud. ‘Stop and reread if you can’t remember’.
2. When reading with your child, stop and have your child tell you what is happening in the story using the words: *first, next, then, last* and *finally*.
3. Use the following questions to prompt your child to think about the story being read:

*Who were the main characters?*

*What problem did the main characters experience?*

*How was the problem solved?*

*How did the story end?*

*What happened first, next, and last?*

4. Allow your child to become comfortable with the strategy of retelling by retelling events they are familiar with. This is where you can help your child focus on weeding out minor details by centering their attention on what’s important. Use some of the following prompts or come up with some of your own:

Tell me about the last time our family went out to dinner.

Tell me about what you did at school this week.

Tell me about a time when you went to a birthday party.

Tell me about the first time you lost a tooth.

## FIGHT THE BITE!

Ticks, mosquitos and rabid animals have no boundaries and can be a risk to you and your family when walking to and from school or work, waiting at the bus stop, family trips, and while playing in the yard at home or at the park.

### Protect yourself and your family from West Nile Virus:

- Reduce standing water where mosquitoes breed
- Cover up, wear long sleeved shirts, long pants, hats socks and shoes
- Repair any damaged window screens
- Use insect repellants containing DEET or Icardin (follow manufacturer's instructions)

### Reduce the risk of Lyme disease:

- Wear light coloured clothing to help spot ticks
- Use insect repellants containing DEET or Icardin (follow manufacturer's instructions)
- Check yourself, your children and pets for ticks after being outdoors
- Cut your grass and dispose of leaf litter where ticks can live

### Prevent rabies:

- Vaccinate your pets and do not feed or approach any wild, stray or strange animals
- Do not trap, transport, keep or pet any wild animals
- Do not try and nurse sick animals back to health

Presently, all of these diseases exist in Niagara. For more information, contact Niagara Region Public Health, 905-688-8248 ext. 7767 or 1-888-505-6074

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT OUR SCHOOL?

- On Friday , April 28, 2017 just before school begins (weather permitting) please stop by on our lawn to say hello and enjoy a coffee and TIMBITS from the Niagara Falls Community Centre! They would love to introduce themselves to you and talk about the summer programs happening in our community!
- All the best to our Intermediate Badminton Team as they go to A.N. Myer Secondary School On Friday, April 28, 2017 to compete with other *badmintonians!* Thank you to Mrs. Leblanc for developing their skills!
- Monday, May 1, 2017 is the last day for our PIZZA fundraiser. The class with the most orders over 20 , will receive a pizza /cupcake party and a movie! Now that's a deal!
- TOONIE TUESDAY on May 2, 2017 for EFN! Please bring a toonie (or more if you wish) to support EFN who so generously support our families and students.
- May 18, 2017 at 9:15 a.m will be our next School Council Meeting. See you then.
- May 19, 2017 is a Professional Activity Day for teachers. No school on this day. Also Monday, May 22, 2017 is Victoria Day so there is no school on this day either. Enjoy your long weekend and the firework celebrations around downtown.
- EQAO begins for our Grade 3 and Grade 6 students on May 23, 2017 to June 2, 2017 during selected times throughout the school day. For those families who have children in these two grades please be mindful of not scheduling medical appointments during this time since it takes a lot of organization to 'catch students up' as to what they have missed. Thank you!
- Peeking into June, we will have a WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE scheduled event on June 2, 2017 from 4-5 p.m. for our NEW JK students and their parents who will be coming to school in September. Parents with children who will be 4 years old by December 2017 and who have registered for Kindergarten at our school, are welcome to join us! A special LOOT bag with be provided for your child as well.
- Our last School Council meeting of the school year will be on June 8, 2017 at 9:15 a.m. See you there.

## NAME CALLING

### NAME CALLING AROUND HERE:

The *Ontario Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy* launched in April 2009 by the Ministry of Education has helped schools across the province to better identify and remove discriminatory biases and barriers to student achievement. These barriers related to racism, sexism, homophobia and other forms of discrimination may prevent some students from reaching their full potential. All students regardless of their background or personal circumstances must be given every opportunity to reach their full potential. Research shows that when students feel welcomed and accepted in their school, they are most likely to succeed academically. Our school isn't any different. We want our students to feel welcome, safe and respected at our school each and every day and each and every minute.

We take the calling of racist, sexist or homophobic names VERY seriously. In fact we take the calling of ANY names directed towards any of our students and staff VERY seriously.

## THE DAILY FIVE IN THE PRIMARY GRADES

You might have wondered what your child is talking about when you hear them mention "The Daily Five." The purpose of this article is to fill you in on what The Daily Five is all about, so you don't have to nod your head while wondering what in the world your child is referring to.

The Daily Five is a way of structuring the reading block so every student is independently engaged in meaningful literacy tasks. These research-based tasks are ones that will have the biggest impact on student reading and writing achievement, as well as help foster children who love to read and write. Students receive explicit whole group instruction and then are given independent practice time to read and write independently while the teacher provides focused, intense instruction to individuals and small groups of students.

When it is up and running smoothly, students are engaged in the Daily Five, which consists of:

Read to Self

Work on Writing

Read to Someone

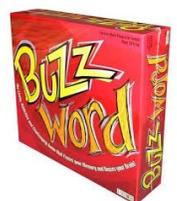
Listen to Reading

Word Work

There are very specific behaviour expectations that go with each Daily 5 component. The first few weeks are spent working intensely on building reading and writing stamina, learning the behaviours of the Daily 5 and fostering classroom community. The teacher also spends time learning about each student's strengths and greatest needs as a reader in order to best plan for each student's instruction.

Each child is taught to select "Good Fit Books" or books they can read, understand and are interested in, which they read during Daily 5. Students spend most of their time actually reading, which research supports as the number one way to improve reading. Motivation and reading enjoyment skyrocket when students are offered choice, especially when this is accompanied by extended practice and specific reading instruction for each individual child.

Please think of your child's classroom as you visit garage sales or clean your own child's bookcase. A variety of reading materials at various reading levels makes the classroom library as appealing as the local favourite bookstore or library for browsing.



badminton