



## Principal's Message

I think a word that best describes this year is...change! Even though change can be difficult, change can also bring with it new opportunities and positive experiences.

As we change from winter to spring and welcome April, I want to let you know of a few upcoming changes that are happening at our school. These changes are necessary if we are going to continue to ensure the safety of our students and staff.

- ◆ The Ontario government has officially announced that this year's **Spring Break is postponed until the week of April 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>.**
- ◆ We have many students returning from Virtual School to in-person learning on **April 19th.** This has generated a need to open an **additional Kindergarten classroom.** We are very thankful, as this classroom will reduce the class sizes in our Kindergarten rooms.
- ◆ **Mrs. Calberry** will be returning from teaching at our Virtual School, to be the teacher of our additional Kindergarten classroom. We are looking forward to welcoming Mrs. Calberry home.
- ◆ Due to our reorganization, **Mrs. Raseta** is needed to support a Kindergarten class at the Virtual School. We will miss Mrs. Raseta. The Kindergarten children at the Virtual School are so lucky to have you.
- ◆ We are welcoming an additional Educational Assistant to our team. **Mrs. McCormick** will be joining our team from Forestview school. Welcome aboard!

We are looking forward to welcoming our students back to in-person learning and we are thankful for the continued support from our families and community. Looking forward to more sunshine and continued good health in the coming months. Ms. Moore :)



### Principal

Ms. J. Moore

### Secretary

Mrs. S. Reeb  
905-358-9121

### Email

SIM@dsbn.org

### Twitter

@PSSimcoe

Check out  
the calendar  
for important  
dates!



## Parent's/Guardian's roles in keeping school's safe...

Everyone has a role to play in keeping families safe and reduce the spread of COVID-19. It is the responsibility of parents and caregivers to assess their children on a daily basis before sending them to school. We ask parents to use this link: [Ontario Ministry of Education Covid-19 School and Childcare Screening Tool](#) to screen their child(ren) daily. It is important to remember that there is a low threshold for symptoms. If your child has even one symptom, they are to remain home and seek medical advice. Additionally, parents must have a person available to pick up their child right away, should they become sick during school. We thank our parents for being diligent with following the screening guidelines and being available to pick up your child when needed!

## Planning for the 2021-2022 School Year!

In order to assist us with making the best decisions possible with respect to class organization and student placements for Simcoe Street Public School for the 2021/2022 school year, we would appreciate if you would let the office know if your family is planning to move in the next few months. Providing us with this information in the spring will also facilitate transportation arrangements for September. We thank you in advance for keeping us informed! School and classroom organization begins at the end of April so sharing this information with us now is very helpful for our planning for next year!

As you are aware from the memo sent out on March 10, we are planning for a regular school year in September 2021. This means in-person learning during regular school day hours, regular classroom schedules, and the return of extra-curricular activities and clubs. This will benefit our students' education and their mental health and well-being.

We can assure you that safety protocols will be in place in September 2021 as directed by Niagara Region Public Health and the Ministry of Education. Our planning for September 2021 will include contingencies should we need to revert to remote learning.

## Raise the Flag for World Autism Day on April 6th!

**April 6th, 2021** will mark a historic day in Canada for the autism community. For the ninth year, Canadians will officially recognize **World Autism Awareness Day**. We encourage all our families to "**Light it Up Blue**" by wearing blue to recognize this day.



## School Advisory Council

We will be having a virtual School Council meeting on

**Thursday, April 29th at 9:30 am.**

We will be sending out email invitations for the Microsoft TEAMS meeting on Monday, If you have not attended a School Council meeting and would like to, please call our office or email us at [sim@dsbn.org](mailto:sim@dsbn.org), and let us know.

## Student Census Survey!

The District School Board of Niagara believes that diversity is a source of strength and innovation. Our schools embrace and appreciate the values, identities and lived experiences of all of our students. The DSBN is committed to ensuring that everyone feels included and has a strong sense of belonging. This is why we're asking students and families to share their voice by completing our "**My Voice Counts**" Student Census Survey.

Collecting information through this survey will help us to identify, eliminate, and respond to systemic barriers to student success, create more equitable and inclusive school environments, and, further support student achievement and well-being in targeted and intentional ways.

The survey is voluntary, although we strongly encourage all students and families to complete it. The more responses we receive, the more effective the DSBN can be in supporting students moving forward. **The survey will take approximately 10 minutes and is entirely confidential.**

We are asking families of students in **Kindergarten to Grade 6** to complete the online "**My Voice Counts**" Student Census Survey, at home, for each student in their household, between **April 6-30**. Families will receive easy step-by-step instructions on how to access the survey by April 6<sup>th</sup>. To access the survey, you will use your child's secure DSBN username and password.

Students in Grades 7-12 will complete the "**My Voice Counts**" Student Census Survey online, during school time, between **March 22-April 1**. The survey is voluntary, although we strongly encourage all students to complete it. The more responses we receive, the more effective the DSBN can be in supporting all students moving forward.

The survey will be available in English, Arabic, Simplified Chinese, Korean, Hungarian, Spanish and Vietnamese. We will support our families who need the survey translated.

Thank you for supporting this important work. Your support in sharing your child's voice will help shape the future of the DSBN.



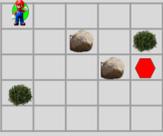
# CODING FUN!

# March Highlights!

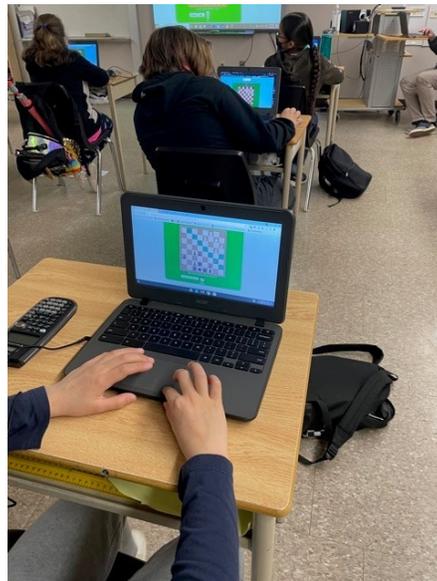
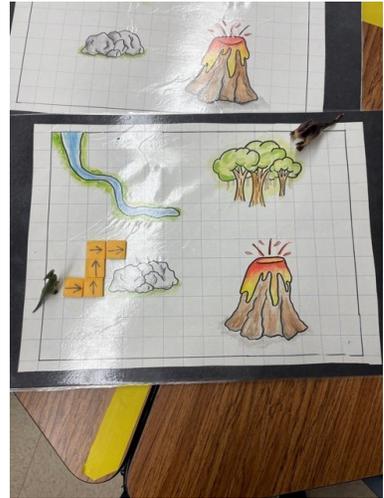
### Pathway Coding Game Challenge

**Your Task:**

- Design a course on your grid paper. It should include:
  - ◆ a START (green square)
  - ◆ a FINISH (red square)
  - ◆ obstacles along the way (brown or blue square)
- Write a code (or codes) using numbers and arrows that will allow you to move your game piece from START to FINISH.



1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9





Niagara Falls Community Health Centre

Youth 9-13

# Take 'n Make



## for "April" Break!



Join us for an afternoon  
of crafts and snacks!

Receive a kit from  
NFCHC and join us from  
home over Zoom with  
your kit.

Limited spaces available - registration required!

Contact Nicole 905-356-4222 ext. 292

Kit Pick-up: Tuesday April 13 8:30am - 4:30pm

Zoom Meeting: Friday April 16 at 2:00pm



# Kindergarten Registration for 2021-2022



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 we can do is help you find all the information you need to register your child for Kindergarten at the DSNB! We put it on <https://www.dsb.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

Register today at [dsbn.org/kindergarten](https://www.dsb.org/kindergarten). We can't wait to meet you and your child at school!

## 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.dsb.org](https://simcoestreet.dsb.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. It also contains all important DSNB news and updates.

**SCHOOL MESSENGER:** Using the School Messenger program, all families will receive a an email on Friday afternoon with reminders about events for the upcoming week. If you are not receiving these emails, 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/CALENDAR:** All newsletters/calendars will 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.

# Delta Monte Carlo Bingo!

Make some plans! Delta's Drive In Bingo is an event that you won't want to miss! Reserve your spot today! [DeltaBingo.Eventbrite.ca](https://DeltaBingo.Eventbrite.ca)

Thank you Delta Monte Carlo Bingo for your continued support!



## Ramadan 2021

Some of our students are excited to be celebrating Ramadan and may benefit from accommodations while at school. Some possible ways we can help:

- ◆ alternate space during lunch and snack time
- ◆ reduced physical activity, or an alternate activity during gym class
- ◆ more time to complete classwork
- ◆ alternate arrangements for missed school work



If your child is celebrating Ramadan and you would like to discuss how we can help, please call the school.

## 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 DSNB 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.



# Public Health Updates....



## Niagara Region Public Health School Health Newsletter

### **SCHOOL VACCINE PROGRAM INFORMATION FOR GRADE 7 AND 8 STUDENTS**

- ◆ Unfortunately, due to school closures and redeployment of Public Health staff, grade 7 school vaccine clinics were cancelled in the spring of 2020 (current grade 8 students). Additionally, the vaccine clinics for current grade 7 students were also cancelled.
- ◆ Currently, grade 8 students remain eligible for publicly funded hepatitis B vaccine until Aug. 31, 2021
- ◆ Students remain eligible for the publicly funded meningococcal vaccine (Men-C-ACYW) until the vaccine is received
- ◆ Students currently in grades 7 and 8 can still receive the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine for free until they finish high school
- ◆ Public Health is looking at opportunities to provide both grade 7 and 8 vaccine clinics throughout Niagara
- ◆ We will reach out to you when more information is available
- ◆ To learn more about vaccines or to report your child's vaccinations, visit: <https://www.niagararegion.ca/health/vaccinations/default.aspx>

### **ORAL HEALTH SCREENING FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS**

- ◆ Due to COVID-19, public health dental staff have not been able to provide school dental screenings in the 2020-2021 school year
- ◆ Unfortunately, we do not expect to be able to return to schools this year. If your child is in need of dental coverage, our dental staff can help families access free dental care.
- ◆ We are planning to re-open our dental clinics soon. We will provide you with an update once services resume.
- ◆ **If your child is experiencing dental pain or discomfort, please connect with our dental program at [www.niagararegion.ca/health](http://www.niagararegion.ca/health) search "dental" or call the Dental Health Line at 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7399**

# Public Health Updates continued...

## COVID-19 Updates

For information regarding schools and COVID-19, including screening, symptoms, prevention and protection measures, visit <https://www.niagararegion.ca/health/covid-19/reopen/schools.aspx>

If you have general COVID-19 questions, you can also speak with health care professional seven days a week 9:15am to 4:15pm 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074, press 7

## School Dental Screening Updates

Due to COVID-19, public health dental staff have not been able to provide school dental screenings in the 2020-2021 school year

If your child is experiencing dental pain or discomfort, please connect with our dental program through the [Niagara Region Public Health dental website](#) or call the Dental Health Line at 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7399

## Spring into Spring

This April, join schools across Ontario to welcome spring by encouraging your families to celebrate walking and wheeling in their community. You can combine this with other environmental celebrations such as Earth Day. For activity ideas including messages you can share on social media and in your newsletter, visit [Ontario Active School Travel](#).





# YOUTH Youth Cooking Session

**FREE!**



VIRTUAL PROGRAM!

To participate YOU need:

- a computer and the internet
- a quiet space in the kitchen to cook
- basic kitchen equipment/utensils

WE provide:

- recipes
- all ingredients
- qualified staff online to support you

**Learn how to follow a recipe and  
increase confidence in the kitchen!**

**Youth 9-13 years old**

**Pick up materials Apr. 9th from NFCHC 3-4pm**

**Cook online Apr. 12th 10:30-11:30am**

**Contact Nicole 905-356-4222 ext 292 to register**



**Niagara Falls  
Community Health  
Centre**



**FREE!**

Adults 18+

# Cooking Session

VIRTUAL PROGRAM!

To participate YOU need:

- a computer and the internet
- a quiet space in the kitchen to cook
- basic kitchen equipment/utensils

WE provide:

- recipes
- all ingredients
- qualified staff online to support you

**Learn new fun, healthy recipes to try at home!**

**Pick up materials Mon. Apr. 19th, 2021**

**Cook online Tues Apr. 20th, 2021, 10:30-11:30pm**

**Contact Nicole 905-356-4222 ext 292 to register**



Niagara Falls  
Community Health  
Centre



# YOUTH ACTION

Evening Programs are BACK!



Programs are **FREE** in locations across **St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, Welland & Port Colborne**

Join us from **6pm to 8pm** at a location near you!

**Youth Action** is a place where **youth** between the ages of 10 to 14 can be themselves, be active, explore their creativity, have fun in a safe environment, hang out with old friends and make some new ones!

**Spaces are limited,** book your spot in advance at [ymcaofniagara.org/youth-action](http://ymcaofniagara.org/youth-action)

*Please Note:  
Masks, running shoes, screening and physical distancing are required.  
Youth can attend one program per week.*

**For more information:**  
[youth.action@niagara.ymca.ca](mailto:youth.action@niagara.ymca.ca)  
(905) 934-9755 x 295

Follow **@ymcayouthaction** on Instagram for updates! 



## YMCA Youth Action Has Gone Virtual!

Youth Action Fun and Games

Tues, Wed & Thurs  
6:00 to 8:00pm  
Ages 10-14 years

[www.ymcaofniagara.org](http://www.ymcaofniagara.org)

