



Birchview Dunes Elementary School

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Wasaga Beach, Ontario L9Z 2W6
705.429.2551
www.bir.scdsb.on.ca

Principal
B. Floyd

Vice-Principal
S. Laybolt

Superintendent
P. Sloan

Trustee
M. Locke

Principal's Message

Thank you to everyone who attended our student led conferences and helped their children set achievable goals for their first term final reports that will be distributed in February. Our last day of school for the 2012 year will be Friday December 21st. That will also be Mrs. Czaikowski and Miss. Garvan's last day teaching their respective grade 6 classes as both Mr. Burke and

Mrs. Wojcik returns on January 7th. On behalf of the students and staff we would like to thank and wish both of these terrific teachers all the best for the remainder of the year. Miss. Garvan will continue at Birchview teaching 0.2 planning time from January to June. Mrs. Czaikowski will be teaching 0.3 at Byng Public School. Please be advised for the upcoming weeks Miss. J. Manuge will be responsible for all Kindergarten and Grade 1 planning time duties.

On behalf of the staff, I would like to wish all families a happy and healthy Christmas break. All of our students have been working very hard and have earned a well deserved break. Enjoy your family and friends and the time that you have together. We look forward to seeing everyone back on January 7th.

Have a Safe and Happy Holiday!

Birchview Dunes Newsletter

Electronic Version

- You will receive an electronic version of our newsletter if we have your email.
- If you would like a newsletter emailed directly to you, please call us or email us at BirchviewDunes@scdsb.on.ca to add your email.
- Have you subscribed to our new website? If you do, you will receive an email notifying you of all information and news including when a newsletter gets posted.



Paper Version

- If we don't have an email, you will receive a paper copy.



WINTER WEATHER

Parents are asked to ensure that their children come with proper clothing for the cold weather. All students are expected to participate in outdoor recess. Hats, mitts, boots and warm jackets make outdoor recess time comfortable and enjoyable for all.

Bus Cancellations

Each year, school bus routes are cancelled due to adverse weather or road conditions. The decision is made by the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium, and the procedure used for decisions are as follows:

- Between 5 and 6 a.m., school bus operators and staff assess weather and road conditions by driving the roads, speaking with the OPP and contacting bus drivers in strategic locations throughout Simcoe County.
- If weather or road conditions are deemed unsafe, the bus operators and Manager of Transportation Services decide by 6 a.m. whether buses will be cancelled system-wide, or in certain zones (**Birchview is in the West Zone**)
- The decision to cancel or alter transportation services will be broadcast on local radio and TV stations (**Rock 95, B101, Life100.3, 107.5KoolFM, CTV News Barrie**). You can now also check bus cancellation status by connecting to the consortium's website at <http://www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca> A direct link to this website is also available on the home page of our school website <http://bir.scdsb.on.ca>

Parent/Guardians Important Information

1. Parents should be aware that morning inclement weather cancellations are effective for the remainder of the day, therefore buses cancelled in the morning will not be running at the end of the day.
2. If you dropped off your child in the morning, you will need to pick up your child **in the gym** for dismissal.
3. If your child/ren are walkers, and will be absent on a bus cancellation day, **please call the safe arrival line**. We need to know they are safe.

November

Congratulations to the staff members of Birchview who participated in the Movember challenge last month. The men of Birchview grew dapper, robust, suave moustaches for the entire month.



Our poor lost and found area is overflowing. If your child has lost anything at school, please drop by before or after school to go through our lost and found area outside the kindergarten classes to claim your child's items.



Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Extreme Cold

Extreme cold occurs when temperatures drop significantly below average for that time of the year. Exposure to cold temperatures, whether indoors or outside, can cause other serious or life-threatening health problems. Children and infants are most vulnerable during extreme cold weather so keep children indoors if the temperature falls below -25°C, or if the wind chill is - 28°C or greater. (Canadian Paediatric Society)

You can also avoid frostbite, frostnip and hypothermia by following these cold weather safety tips:

- Cover exposed skin (exposed skin can become frostbitten in 30 seconds).
- Wear a hat (up to 40% of body heat loss can occur through the head).
- Wear gloves or mittens and a scarf to protect the chin, lips and cheeks.
- Drink warm fluids - but NOT caffeinated or alcoholised beverages as they cause your body to lose heat more rapidly.
- If you start to sweat, cool off a little (wet clothes can freeze).
- Wear clothes in layers: inner layer, middle layer and outer layer.
- Keep moving. Limit time sitting - stand up and move around.
- Take shelter from the wind - this can reduce wind chill exposure.
- Always be alert for signs of frostbite and hypothermia.
- Plan ahead - listen to the weather forecast.

For more information about extreme cold and cold-related injuries, visit the health unit's website at www.simcoemuskokahealth.org or call Your Health Connection at 705-721-7520, or 1-877-721-7520.

RESTORATIVE PRACTICES

A new buzzword is making its way into Birchview Dunes. It's called "Restorative Practices". Our school is committed to teaching students how their actions can affect more than one person. We are using the following language at school when a conflict occurs. Feel free to try it at home and tell us about it.

What happened? (I statements)

What were you feeling/thinking at the time?

Who do you think has been affected?

How do you think they have been affected?

What do you think you need to do to make things right?

Together, we can make a difference. Commit to Character.

SAFE ARRIVAL

Please contact the school anytime your child will be absent.
You can leave a voicemail message 24 hours a day at 705 429-2551 and Press 1.

Assembly & Theme Days

All assemblies will be at 1:45 unless otherwise noted

<u>Date</u>	<u>A/B</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Theme</u>
Thursday & Friday Dec 20 & 21 2:00pm	A/B	4,5	Red & Green Day Christmas Caroling
Tuesday, January 15 Assembly (<i>New Date</i>)	B	4	Crazy Hat Day
Friday, February 1 - Assembly 11:30	A	4	Pink Day
Thursday, February 14 No Assembly	B	2	Red, White & Pink Day
Friday, March 1 st - Assembly	B	3	Tropical Day
Friday, April 5 - Assembly	A	1	Day Backwards
Thursday, May 2 - Assembly	B	5	Wacky Day (Hair/Outfit)
Thursday, June 6 - Assembly	B	4	Sports Day
Wednesday, June 26 - Assembly	A	3	School Colours / Spirit Wear

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

December 19 & 20 at 2pm

Dec. 24 - Jan 6

January 7

Caroling

Winter Holiday Break

First Day Back

BIRCHVIEW NIGHT WITH THE BARRIE COLTS!

Saturday January 26th, 2013 @ 7:30pm

See Letter Sent Home



Grade 8 Transitions

Elmvalle - Wednesday, February 13, 2013

Grade 8 Parents' Night, which was originally scheduled for Wednesday, January 16, has been changed to Wednesday, February 13.

CCI - Wednesday, Jan 9, 2013

All incoming Grade 8 students and their parents/guardians are invited to tour the school and learn about Compulsory and Elective programs at CCI. Contact us 705-445-3161 for more information.

SCHOOL COUNCIL CORNER

2012 - 2013

School Council

Meeting Dates

6:00 pm in the library

Claire Smith	Co-chair
Mary Morrison	Co-chair
Kevin Klodt	Vice-chair
Carrie Pyatt	Secretary
Chad Baldwin	Treasurer
Gabby Vetro	Parent Rep
Karen Newman	Parent Rep
Darlene Schwan	Parent Rep
Brett Bartle	Parent Rep
Bill Floyd	Principal
Suzanne Laybolt	Vice Principal
Annette White	Teaching Rep
Jeremy Osborn	Teaching Rep
Donna Caissie	Non-teaching Rep
Anne Manuge	Non-teaching Rep

Monday January 14, 2013
Monday February 4, 2013
Monday March 4, 2013
Monday April 8, 2013
Monday May 6, 2013

What's Cooking at Birchview

We would like to thank everyone who submitted in recipes and have purchased a cookbook. We expect the cookbooks to be delivered early next week in time for the holidays. They will be sent home with your child. If you haven't purchased a cookbook yet, please call or drop by the office.

School Council is Proud to Announce the Following Purchases (or soon to be purchased) Thanks to the past Fundraising of the Birchview Community

- ✓ New Speaker System for the gym
- ✓ A LCD projector and Whiteboard for the Computer Lab
- ✓ Listening Centres for students
- ✓ TV set up in the school's entrance to display student work, school videos, parent information. We will be setting up a Screenscape program that will allow parents to access this information at home (more information to follow).
- ✓ Funds for In-School Presentations
- ✓ Purchase of Hovercams (all classes will have them)
- ✓ Funds will be set aside to purchase a school tent and uniforms

Santa Claus Parade

A big thank you goes out to Edward and Linda Holley (Sturgeon Point Marina) for the use of the float and for safely driving the kids. Richard and Darlene Schwan, Jamie and Brett Bartle, Alan and Mary Morrison, Claire and Paul Smith for all their work organizing, designing, constructing and cleaning up of the float. Also to all the families who came out and braved the weather so that our vision could be pulled together.

