

Huronía Highlights

Huronía Centennial Elementary School

28 Simcoe Street, Elmvale, Ontario L0L 1P0

705-322-1101

April 2025

Principal: Mrs. Cathy Lethbridge (clethbridge@scdsb.on.ca) X24303

Vice-Principal: Ms. Dianne Gibson (degibson@scdsb.on.ca) X24302

Website <http://huc.scdsb.on.ca>

Facebook: Huronia Centennial Elementary School

To report a student absence, call 1-888-885-8065.

School News

Our 2024-2025 School Council

Tracy Toner, Chair

Kayla Faria, Vice Chair

Cristal Martyniuk, Secretary

Tyler Tkachyk, Member at large

Randi Long, Member at large

Kimberly Holden, Member at large

This year's remaining School Council meeting will be held on **May 26**.

We encourage all parents/guardians to come out to our meetings. We particularly want to invite parents representing the increasing diversity in our community to come out in order for us to have all voices heard.

Dental Screening at Huronia Centennial

Dental staff from the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit will be visiting your child's school **Huronia Centennial E. S.** on **April 9 – 10, 2025**. The Dental Health Team will be providing **FREE** dental screenings for students in **grades JK, SK, 2, 4 & 7**.

If you do not want your child to have a dental screening, please fill out the [School Dental Screening Non-Participation Form](#) or call the Health Unit's Dental Screening Program as soon as possible at 705-721-7520 or toll free 1-877-721-7520, extension 8342, Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. There is a chance your child may be screened if we do not receive your non-participation request before **April 9, 2025**.

Please do not contact the school to make your request.

Stranger Danger

As spring is upon us and our children are out and about more often, please review stranger danger with your children. Despite being located in a small, friendly town, we need to teach our children not to interact with strangers when they are not with a safe adult. Please remind them never to go toward a stranger's vehicle no matter what incentives they might be offering.

Mindful Mornings

All students are welcome to attend Mindful Mornings brought to our amazing parent/guardian/community and staff volunteers. Every Tuesday and Thursday morning at 8:45 students can join us in the front hall and gym for healthy food items and time to relax before beginning a busy day of learning. Special waffle mornings happen sporadically throughout the year as a special treat. We thank our volunteers and donors. If you are interested in donating to support this program or would like to volunteer, please contact the school office.

Nuts, Peanuts and Sesame

Please do not send food items with nuts, peanuts or sesame to school. We have children with food allergies who could have a very serious allergic reaction. Please remember that products like Nutella contain nuts. Do not send these products to school. **Anyone wishing to send something to school to celebrate an event should remember that items must be store-purchased and nut-safe. Please ensure that the items do not contain sesame.** We are not able to accept and distribute homemade food items. Please talk to your child's teacher before sending in food for the class.

Parking reminders

A number of parents are parking in the no stopping zone on the east side of Simcoe Street south of the crosswalk. These signs were recently installed and will be enforced.

A "no stopping" sign means you cannot stop your vehicle in the designated area, even to drop off passengers. There have been additional no stopping and no parking signs installed. Please ensure that you are following the directions and keep an eye out for our students.

We also have a number of parents and students jaywalking rather than crossing at the crosswalk after parking on the east side of Simcoe Street. Please use the sidewalk and go to the crosswalk. We are very worried that someone is going to get hit by a bus or passenger vehicle.

EQAO Webinar for Parents and Guardians of Elementary School Students

Is your child in Grade 3 or 6 this year? Register for this free live webinar and learn about EQAO's Primary and Junior Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics. Participants will learn about the purpose of Ontario's large-scale assessments. EQAO staff will explain the assessment format, highlight resources to support students, and answer questions from participants. The session is approximately 45 minutes, followed by a live Q&A with EQAO staff. To register, please go to <https://www.eqao.com/school-outreach/>

Webinar: EQAO Math Night for Parents and Guardians

Join us for a free live webinar where EQAO staff will discuss math questions that Ontario students encounter when they participate in Ontario's large-scale assessments. These assessments are taken by all Ontario students in Grades 3, 6 and 9. During the webinar, EQAO staff will show how these math questions help assess the skills students are learning in their math classes. Staff will also share valuable insights from the past three years of assessment results, which can help parents and guardians support their children's math learning. To register, please go to <https://www.eqao.com/school-outreach/>

Milk bag collection

Our school wants to give back and we have started our milk bag collection. Did you know that the outer milk bag from the 4 litre bag of milk is very strong, non-biodegradable plastic that is UV resistant? These bags are used to be woven into a sleeping mat and then sent to over 40 countries and given to people in need. "Miss Moo" the cow, collects these bags in our basket in the front hall. We have already collected over 250 bags. Keep sending those bags in! Thank you for your support.

Did you know?

Our school website has a calendar at the bottom that is kept up to date with events that are happening in the school. The website can be found at <https://huc.scdsb.on.ca>

Upcoming Dates (come back to this page for regular updates of events)

Ongoing Kindergarten Registration

April 9 and 10 Dental Screening for JK, SK, 2 and 4

April 9 Ms. McLaren, Mr. Ozerkevich and Mrs. Isaac's class trip to Wye Marsh

~~April 9 from 5-6 pm~~ Family information night for the Grade 4 Camp Kitchi Trip (new date and time will be announced)

April 18 No school

April 21 No school

April 22 Earth Day

April 23 Junior Girls' and Boys' Basketball Tournament

April 25 Band and Choir performance at Maple Syrup Festival Variety Night at EDHS (meeting in foyer at 6 pm) Adults \$5 and Seniors/Students \$4 (band and choir members are free)

April 30 Favourite Colour Day

May 5-9 Education Week

May 5 Music Monday Assembly

May 5-11 Children's Mental Health Week

May 6 Grade 6 to 7 Information Night at EDHS

May 6 Grade 4 swim test at Midland YMCA

May 6-9 Book Fair

May 7-9 Midland Music Festival (choir and band competing)

May 15 Spring Concert (band and choir) 6:30 pm

May 19 School Holiday

May 22 Using Self-Reg ® Strategies to Calm Your Life and Home--Special Parent evening funded by a Parent Reaching Out grant--door prize draws and snacks provided--all parents and guardians are welcome to attend (details to follow)

May 26 School Council

May 29 EDHS Spring Concert Band will be performing. Meet at EDHS at 6 pm with instruments and music

June 5 Welcome to Kindergarten starting at 3:45

June 24 Grade 6 Celebration Day 11 am (details to follow)

June 26 Last Day for students

June 27 PD Day

SPRINGWATER LIBRARY



Miss Amanda Storytime

Elmvale Branch:
Tuesdays at 10:30am

Midhurst Branch:
Wednesdays at 10:30am



Join Miss Amanda for storytime in the library! We will be singing songs, reading stories and having fun! At the end of each storytime families will be given a craft kit to take home with them!

Drop in! No Registration required! Free!

Weekly After School Games

Cost: FREE

Drop-in

No registration required



Come on in after school to play some games with friends and family **every Thursday from 3:30 - 6:30pm at the Minesing Branch**. The library will provide the games or you can bring your own! All ages are welcome to join the fun!

This is a drop in program, no registration required.

Monthly Drop-in Crafts

Cost: FREE

The Library will be offering a fun drop-in craft at both its **Elmvale and Midhurst Branches**.

Participants will make their own **Paper roll bird**. This program will be available as long as supplies last. **Starting Thursday April 17th!**



Monthly Take and Make

Craft Kits Cost: FREE

Come on in to your local Branch and pick up a FREE craft kit. This month:

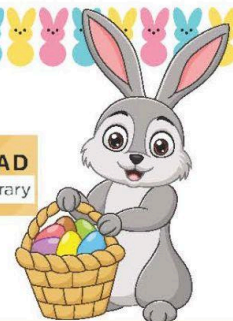
**April 3rd
Mushroom Craft**



Online E-books and Audiobooks

Visit the CloudLibrary app

or Website and log in with your card number and pin to get access to FREE Audiobooks and E-Books online!



For Online Registration please see our website at:

www.springwaterlibrary.ca

School Board News

Student Census

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) is committed to creating a culture of belonging, engagement, and success for all. As part of this commitment, we are conducting a student census so that we can learn more about the students and families that make up our school communities. Student census data also helps us to determine how to best utilize resources and plan appropriate programming, learning opportunities, and events.

As a parent/guardian of a child in Kindergarten to Grade 6, you will receive an email inviting you to complete the census on behalf of your child. Students in Grade 7 to 12 will be provided with the opportunity to participate in the student census survey during class time between April 14 and May 9.

The census is confidential and voluntary.

If you would like more information about the student census, please visit scdsb.on.ca/census. If you have questions regarding the SCDSB Student Census, please contact the Research and Decision Support department at census@scdsb.on.ca.

Applications for the SCDSB Umoja Award are open

The Umoja Black Secondary Student Leadership Award is a \$1,000 scholarship that is awarded annually to a full-time registered SCDSB Black secondary school student who will be attending post-secondary school in the fall and demonstrates leadership in their school and in the Black community within Simcoe County.

Selection of the Umoja Award recipient will be facilitated by the SCDSB Human Rights and Equity Office. The information provided in the application will assist the selection committee (comprised of members of the SCDSB Equity Advisory Committee and graduation coaches for Black students) in choosing the recipient.

For further information about the award and to apply, visit the SCDSB website: scdsb.on.ca/cms/One.aspx?portalId=210982&pageId=38446766. Applications are due May 1, 2025.

SCDSB parents/guardians invited to Connected Parenting learning series this spring

The SCDSB's Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) is hosting Connected Parenting, a two-part learning series for parents/guardians, facilitated by Ulrica Jobe (counsellor and coach). This learning series features a virtual and in person session on the following topics:

Let's Take a Deeper Dive into our Emotions (April 29, 6 p.m., virtual):

Learn about the child and teenage brain, how to keep lines of communication open, how to talk about feelings, and how not to lose your temper in the big feeling moments.

Parenting Unplugged (May 20, 6 p.m., SCDSB Education Centre):

Learn how to talk tech with your teen, set limits without the battles, and balance tech and face time.

Learn more and register to attend at www.scdsb.on.ca/connections.

SCDSB families invited to explore math games and activities at Family Math Night this April

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) invites you to participate in a Family Math Night on Tuesday, April 15 at Chris Hadfield Public School in Bradford. The event will offer a variety of engaging math games and activities for families with children from pre-Kindergarten to Grade 8.

Drop in anytime between 4 and 6 p.m. to explore numerous math stations, each staffed by SCDSB teachers. You'll leave with valuable math tools and resources to support your child's learning at home. Families are welcome to attend this event, regardless of their child's home school.

Register to attend: forms.office.com/r/PE0K5e1Zjm

Spring into new math activities this April

New math problems, games, and activities are added to Math at Home monthly. Visit scdsb.on.ca/MathatHome to find fun, engaging ways to support your child in learning math.

In April, activities in school and on Math at Home may include comparing, estimating, and measuring length, perimeter, area, mass, and capacity.

Check out the SCDSB News video series

The SCDSB News is a weekly video series highlighting positive events, initiatives, and learning happening within school communities across the SCDSB. Follow the SCDSB on social media to catch all of these weekly episodes, and check out our recent video below featuring Black History Month.

The SCDSB is committed to recognizing and celebrating Black excellence and achievement throughout the year. Each February, the SCDSB acknowledges Black History Month with additional opportunities for students and staff to engage in learning and attend events honouring the legacy and contributions of Black Canadians. Watch as we highlight some of the learning that happened in the SCDSB during Black History Month: youtu.be/AKTevCA4nmU

Kindergarten registration for September 2025 is open!

Kindergarten is the beginning of a wonderful journey of learning, and we want your child to begin their journey in an SCDSB school! Do you have a child who is turning four in 2025? If so, we invite you to register your child for Kindergarten. To register online or for more information visit: scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten

Join the SCDSB on Instagram Live to learn about all things Kindergarten!

Do you have a child who is turning four in 2025? Are you interested in learning about Kindergarten in the SCDSB? On Tuesday, April 29 from 6:30 to 7 p.m., members of the SCDSB's Early Years team are hosting a virtual information session via Instagram Live.

This session will highlight important information parents/guardians need to know about Kindergarten in the SCDSB, including details on transitions for students with special education needs.

To virtually attend the presentation, visit the SCDSB Instagram page at 6:30 p.m. on April 29. To get a head start on learning about Kindergarten in the SCDSB, visit the SCDSB website: scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten.

Kindergarten orientation

Kindergarten orientation sessions will be held throughout the SCDSB in the spring of 2025. These sessions provide families with the opportunity to engage with their school community as their children prepare to enter school. Learn more about the sessions and find out when your child's school is holding theirs: scdsb.on.ca/cms/One.aspx?portalId=210982&pageId=8385299.

Licensed summer school child care programs

Child care programs for children in Kindergarten to Grade 6 are provided by independent, third-party child care operators in some SCDSB schools. To support your child care needs, some operators offer child care over the summer holidays. Registration in advance is required. Please contact the child care operator directly to discuss fees and to register. More information and contact numbers can be found at scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/childcare_before_after.

Registration now open for summer eLearning!

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) is offering summer school courses in July 2025 (eLearning) and travel for credit courses in both July and August for current high school students, Grade 8 students entering secondary school, or adult learners who are interested in earning a new credit or upgrading a previous mark. Students can advance online learning skills, earn missed credits, or fast-track preparation for graduation or post-secondary in just four weeks. eLearning is fully supported by certified teachers who are available electronically daily.

Summer school program details can be found on the Learning Centres website at thelearningcentres.com/programs/summer_school.

EDUTravel programs are offered in a variety of destinations including Canada, USA, and Europe. For more information including costs, destinations, credits, and dates of commitment, please visit: edutravelforcredit.com.

Summer eLearning opportunities for students entering Grade 9!

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) is offering summer school eLearning courses in July 2025. Current Grade 8 students wishing to reach ahead and earn a credit before high school can now register through their elementary school principal. eLearning is fully supported by certified teachers who are available electronically daily. Available courses include:

CGC1W – Grade 9 Geography
PAF1O – Grade 9 Personal Fitness
CHV2O & GLC2O – Grade 10 Civics and Careers
CHC2P – Grade 10 Applied History
CHC2D – Grade 10 Academic History

Summer school program details can be found on the Learning Centres website at thelearningcentres.com/programs/summer_school.

Summer learning programs in the SCDSB (elementary)

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) continues to support student achievement and well-being throughout the summer months by providing a range of elementary summer learning programs. This summer, the SCDSB is offering programs for students in Grades 1-8, as well as multilingual learners and students with learning disabilities who use assistive technology at school. The programs will focus on foundational reading and math skills. They will be delivered through both a virtual synchronous learning format (Google Classroom) and in person at West Bayfield Elementary School in Barrie and Worsley Elementary School in Wasaga Beach. The programs will run from July 7 to 25 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. daily.

Interested families are asked to contact their children's school principal for further details and registration information. Registration opens on Monday, April 28 and can be accessed through the SCDSB website: scdsb.on.ca/elementary/summer_learning. The deadline to register is Friday, May 16.

You're invited to a learning series with Pine River Institute (PRI)

Mental health and well-being continue to be a key strategic priority within the SCDSB. We are pleased to continue our partnership with the Centre for Family Initiatives at Pine River Institute (CFI@PRI) to provide several curated learning sessions focused on student mental health and well-being to SCDSB families.

Please join us for the upcoming session:

Gaming and screen time, is it an addiction?

April 16

Understand the impact of excessive screen time and gaming on children's development and well-being. Learn practical strategies to set healthy boundaries, foster balanced technology use, and support your child in maintaining a positive relationship with digital media.

To join in this learning, please visit the SCDSB website to register: scdsb.on.ca/about/well-being_mental_health/pine_river_institute_learning_series. Learn more about PRI by visiting their website at pineriverinstitute.com.

Indigenous leadership and career pathways event hosted by the SCDSB

Are you an SCDSB staff member, graduating student, or member of the public who is of Indigenous ancestry? Are you looking to learn more about leadership opportunities and career pathways at the SCDSB? Join us on April 26 at one of the three locations listed below:

- Midland Georgian Bay Native Friendship Centre, 9 to 11 a.m.
- Rama Community Hall, 1 to 3 p.m.
- Barrie Native Friendship Centre, 5 to 7 p.m.

At this event you will:

- Learn about the various career opportunities within the SCDSB, the required education and skills, and how to apply,
- Discover the various pathways to leadership within the SCDSB, and
- Network with SCDSB staff from the Indigenous Education department and community partners.

Join the SCDSB for a virtual special education information series

During the 2024-25 school year, the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) is hosting virtual special education outreach sessions to assist parents/guardians in learning more about programs, supports, and ways that we work together to support students with special education needs.

Please join us for the upcoming session:

Supporting students with Autism Spectrum Disorder

April 15

In this virtual session, SCDSB staff will discuss the support available in SCDSB schools and the community for students with autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

Participants are asked to register in advance. Information to access the sessions will be shared via email with individuals who have pre-registered. Learn more about each session and how to register on the SCDSB website: scdsb.on.ca/elementary/special_education/special_education_outreach_sessions.

April is National Poetry Month

Celebrate National Poetry Month 2025 using the theme 'family'. Turn to poetry to celebrate, cherish, and explore the many bonds that family forms in our lives. Parents/guardians, pets, friendships, siblings, plants, and beyond, you're invited to explore the shape of family in your life! Learn more: poets.ca/offerings/programs/npm-mnp/#npm.

A curated list of poetry texts can be found on Sora, the SCDSB's digital library. To access the desktop version, visit soraapp.com/welcome or use the Sora app.

April cyber awareness topic: understanding artificial intelligence

As artificial intelligence (AI) becomes a part of our everyday lives, it's important for us all to understand its impact and potential. This month's tip sheet provides easy-to-understand information about what AI is, how it's used, and the ethical considerations we should be aware of.

Talking about AI with your children can help them understand this technology and its role in their lives. Open discussions can make the topic less intimidating and ensure everyone knows how to use AI responsibly and safely.

Access the ECNO Cyber Awareness Tip Sheet for April to stay informed about this month's theme and explore additional resources:

ecno.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/ECNO-CAM-24-Infosheets-E-Part12.pdf

Dental screening and services

Good dental health is an important part of your child's general health. The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit's (SMDHU) Oral Health Community Program offers FREE dental screenings in daycares, schools, and health unit offices for children and youth aged 0 - 17 years. Dental screenings can identify and inform families that their child may have a dental concern.

Health unit staff can also help children/youth and their families access FREE dental care through Healthy Smiles Ontario (ontario.ca/page/get-dental-care) or other publicly funded programs such as the Canadian Dental Care Plan. For more information, call 705-721-7520 or toll-free 1-877-721-7520 ext. 8804, or visit simcoemuskokahealth.org/Topics/Dental.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Lyme and blacklegged ticks

An infected blacklegged tick can spread Lyme disease bacteria to humans through a bite. Blacklegged ticks are often found in forests or overgrown areas where long grasses or leaf litter are present. After you or your children participate in outdoor activities in areas where ticks may be present, it is important to shower and check for ticks.

If you find a tick, use a pair of fine-tipped tweezers to carefully grasp the tick as close to your skin as possible. Pull it straight out, gently but firmly. Don't squeeze it. Squeezing the tick can cause the Lyme disease agent (if it's present) to be accidentally introduced into your body. Don't put anything on the tick or try to burn the tick off.

For more information on how to remove a tick, prevention tips, and how to submit a tick for identification and testing, please visit simcoemuskokahealth.org/ or call the health unit at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit