

January 2022



SIMCOE COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

The Baxter Bear Paw

A Message from Mrs. Ross

Dear Baxter Families,

I hope that you were able to enjoy the holiday break with friends and family. Of course we were hoping to see the bright faces of our students as they shared their stories from the break, but that is postponed a little. Again, we experience the challenges of this unprecedented time and once more we meet those challenges together. It's as a united force that we can help children navigate this uncertainty. Your child's teacher has reached out to you to let you know the way ahead with Learn@Home. This can provide some routine. Technology is being made available and we, in the office, are here to help: 705 424 9992.

In times of challenge, I find I need reminders of the kind of thinking I need to have to get me through. Here are some of the considerations and questions that can help me reframe a situation. I hope you find these useful to you.

1. Everything can – and will – change.
2. What is the learning in this for me?
3. Seek out positive people.
4. Be kind to yourself and others.
5. Smile more.
6. What am I thankful for today?
7. Find some time for yourself – even if it's a few minutes before everyone gets out of bed!

**Breathe,
Mrs. Ross**

Character Attribute for December—Honesty

We behave in a sincere, trustworthy and truthful manner.

More information about character education can be found [here](#).

School Screening Tool—Updates for 2022

Recently, the COVID-19 school and child care screening tool was updated. Please watch for the updated screening coming before January 17th, 2022. As always the most up to date screening is available at <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

Connect with Baxter Central PS

- www.bax.scdsb.on.ca
⇒ *Subscribe to the website for email notification of updates*
- *Follow us on twitter @ps_baxter*
- *Facebook Baxter Central Public School*

Daily COVID-19 self-assessment

All students and staff are required to complete the daily COVID-19 self-assessment prior to entering SCDSB schools and buildings, using the provincial self-assessment tool. Students or staff with symptoms must stay home from school.

To access the COVID-19 self-assessment tool, please visit <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>.

Kindergarten Registration for September 2022

Kindergarten is the beginning of a wonderful journey of learning and we want your child to begin their journey in a SCDSB school! Do you have a child who is turning four in 2022? If so, we invite you to register your child for kindergarten. To register online or for more information visit: www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/kindergarten.

Grade 8 High School Information

Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information events will take place this winter. Student leaders and staff at the school will give an overview of what's new and what to expect. Different pathways and courses offered

will be explained, as well as information about teams and clubs. Please visit your high school's website for more information.

Interested in learning more about IEPs and school-based assessments? Join us for a virtual special education outreach

In 2022, 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.

On Jan. 13, join us for the first session, 'IEPs and school-based assessments – information for parents/guardians.' This virtual presentation will run from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. and will include opportunities for participants to share their questions regarding IEPs and school-based assessments.

For more information and to register visit:

https://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/special_education.

Looking for literacy decodable books to support our young readers, visit beyonddecodables.com

Clothing Drive Fundraiser

Baxter Central is once again teaming up with the Kidney Foundation of Canada for a 'Kidney Clothes' clothing drive.

THIS IS A SELF DELIVERY CLOTHING DRIVE. PLEASE DROP OFF YOUR CLOSED GARBAGE BAGS LABELED BAXTER CENTRAL P.S. TO THE KIDNEY FOUNDATION at 570 BRYNE DRIVE BARRIE BETWEEN 11-3 PM, MONDAY TO FRIDAY.

Kidney Clothes invites you to donate ALL cloth-based items including:

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| New or used clothing | Footwear and outerwear |
| Belts, ties, and purses | Yarn, fabric and patterns |
| Blankets, bedding and linens | Draperies, luggage and sleeping bags |

It is very important to remember that donations must be made during hours of operation and must be in closed/sealed bags labeled with "Baxter Central PS".



Math @ Home Parent Series

Thank you to everyone who completed the parent survey. The winners of the prizes will be notified in January. The SCDSB math department is offering three evening virtual sessions for caregivers of SCDSB students. These sessions will focus on practical and fun ways to support students with their mathematics learning and engagement at home. Participants will receive a math pack of resources to use at home, and must pre-register for each of the sessions by visiting this link: <https://bit.ly/SCDSBMathAtHomeRegistration>.

Having fun with math facts @Home

Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2022 7 to 8 p.m.

This session will explore practical, intentional, and fun ways to practice math facts at home. Participants will leave with ideas, games, and activities to support their child in becoming fluent with their math facts.

Making math connections @Home

Thursday, March 24, 2022 7 to 8 p.m.

This session will explore where we find numbers, patterns, measures, and shapes in our daily lives. Participants will learn about practical ways to help their child notice and wonder about the math in their world.

Problem solving @Home

Wednesday, April 26, 2022 7 to 8 p.m.

This session will explore how to encourage children to be active thinkers and problem solvers, both in math and around the house. Participants will learn about how solving problems at home can help their children solve problems in math class.

Participants must pre-register for the sessions they wish to attend. Registered participants will receive a math @Home pack of hands-on resources that will be sent to the school indicated on the registration form.

Inclement Weather and Bus Cancellation Information

All information regarding cancelled buses in Simcoe County is posted on the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC)'s bus information website at www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca

Our school is in the **Central zone**. When buses are cancelled, schools remain open for student learning, unless otherwise noted.

It is always a family decision whether or not it is safe for their child(ren) to leave for school under severe weather conditions, whether they walk to school or take the bus.

The Consortium and bus operators try to make the decision to cancel school buses before 6 a.m. and make every

effort to post announcements before 7 a.m. Inclement weather cancellations are effective for the whole day and buses cancelled in the morning will not run at the end of the day. You can follow the Consortium on Twitter [@SCSTC_SchoolBus](https://twitter.com/SCSTC_SchoolBus) for bus cancellations and other information. You can also subscribe to receive bus delay notifications here: <https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions/Login.aspx>

For school bus transportation information, visit the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC)'s website

at:

<https://main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca/>

Also, remember to bookmark the school bus information page at: simcoecountyschoolbus.ca for bus delay and cancellation information on inclement weather days.

*Baxter is in the
CENTRAL
weather zone.*



Holy Days and Holidays: January

- 1** Temple Day (Solar New Year)
Buddhism
- 1** **New Year's Day**
Christianity
- 1** New Year's Day
Canadian Holiday
- 5** **Birth of Guru Gobind Singh**
Sikhism
- 6** Epiphany
Christianity
- 7** **Christmas (J)**
Christianity
- 10** Linji Memorial
Buddhism
- 13** Lohri
Hinduism
- 13** Maghi
Sikhism
- 14** **New Year's Day (J)**
Christianity
- 14** **Makar Sankranti**
Hinduism
- 18** Magha begins
Buddhism
- 18-20** **Mahāyāna New Year**
Buddhism
- 19** Epiphany (J)
Christianity
- 25** Honen Shonin Memorial
Buddhism

Join us! A learning series for parents/guardians

Mental health and well-being continues to be a key strategic priority within the SCDSB. We are pleased to announce a new three-year partnership with Pine River Institute (PRI). The Centre for Family Initiatives at Pine River Institute (CFI@PRI) will provide several multi-part learning series focused on student mental health and well-being to SCDSB families, staff and within the SCDSB's broader school communities.

There are three upcoming webinars in the learning series specifically planned for parents and guardians during this school year.

Jan. 25, 2022

Understanding and Managing Screen Time

March 29, 2022

Connection and Empathy in Response to Behaviour

May 19, 2022

Understanding Addiction and Addictive Behaviours

We hope you save these dates in your calendar and join us for these learning opportunities. For more information and to register, please visit the mental health and well-being page on the SCDSB website: <https://bit.ly/3jGaC74>.

Pine River Institute is a live-in treatment centre and outdoor leadership experience for youth aged 13 to 19 struggling with addictive behaviours and often other mental health issues. Combining therapy with a fully-accredited education program, PRI reinforces the healthy life skills required for a successful future. CFI@PRI extends PRI's knowledge, experience and evidence-informed treatment approach to families and care providers in the community to support youth mental wellness and prevent the need for more intensive interventions. Learn more about PRI by visiting their website at www.pineriverinstitute.com.



BAXTER CENTRAL PS

SIMCOE COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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Go Bears!

School Hours

| | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Morning Bell | 9:20 AM |
| Nutrition Break | 11:00 - 11:20 AM |
| Recess | 11:20 - 11:40 AM |
| Nutrition Break | 1:20 - 1:40 PM |
| Recess | 1:40 - 2:00 PM |
| DISMISSAL | 3:40 PM |

January 2022

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------------------|-----|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 <i>PA Day</i> | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |

Heritage Recognition, Holy Days & Holidays

Throughout the year, there are many awareness days that focus on different causes and recognition. The Simcoe County District School Board has developed a list of these days as a guide for schools. Schools may participate in recognizing some or all of these days in various ways. This list is not exhaustive. Following are the days of awareness and recognition that the SCDSB will recognize during the month of January:

Tamil Heritage Month—Tamils began migrating to Ontario as early as the 1940s. The province of Ontario recognizes the valuable contributions that Tamil Canadians have made to Ontario’s social, economic, political and cultural fabric. For more information, visit <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/14t04>.

Land Acknowledgment

The Simcoe County District School Board acknowledges that we are situated on the traditional land of the Anishnaabeg people. We acknowledge the enduring presence of First Nation, Métis and Inuit people on this land and are committed to moving forward in the spirit of reconciliation and respect.