



Assikinack Public School

The Blackbird Bulletin

December 8, 2020

Wendy Miller, Principal

Len Dunkley, Vice Principal

Grade 8 Transition Evening

Is your child starting grade 9 next year? High school information events will happen virtually 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.

Innisdale SS is holding their virtual information evening on December 9, 2020 from 6:30 pm until 8:00 pm.

To register through Goggle Docs, click or copy the link:

<http://iss.scdsb.on.ca/about-us/news/school-news/735>

Mabel's Labels

Tired of losing their items to the lost and found? You need Mabel's Labels!!



Visit campaigns.mabelslabels.com to place your order and support our school's fundraising campaign!

Mabel's Labels are easy to order, take seconds to apply, they are laundry, dishwasher and microwave SAFE!!

Customize your own label pack with adorable designs today!

All labels are shipped FREE!

Again, visit campaigns.mabelslabels.com and choose Assikinack! It's as simple as that!

Students, please dress for all weather!
Gym and recess are outdoors.

Mode of Learning - Change?

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) is providing parents/guardians of **elementary** school-aged children with the opportunity to submit a request to change their child(ren)'s mode of learning. **Requests will only be granted where space exists.** If the request is approved, the child (ren) would be in their new mode of learning beginning February 17, 2021.

The two modes of learning for elementary school students at the SCDSB are:

1. IN-PERSON learning - this is the traditional mode of learning where a student attends their school in-person with their classmates.
2. LEARN@HOME program - this means a student connects with their teacher virtually from home.

The Request to Change Mode of Learning Form will be available from December 7th until December 11th. You will receive an email invitation with a link to the request form on Monday, December 7, 2020. The request form will also be available on the SCDSB website. **If you do not wish to change your child's mode of learning you do not need to complete a request form.** Your child will automatically remain in their current mode of learning.

Christmas Cheer

Christmas Cheer is not accepting any physical donations this year, everything is virtual. Click the link below if you would like to donate to this very worthy charity this holiday season. Any funds raised through this link will be added to our school's total fundraising amount. Please give generously.

<https://www.canadahelps.org/me/GYwdD6c>

Grade 1 French Immersion Information

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) offers French Immersion (FI) at select schools throughout Simcoe County beginning in Grade 1. The goal of the FI program is to enable students to communicate in French with a high level of proficiency, enabling them to function with ease in both French and English. Upon graduation from the program, students will communicate in French with confidence in a wide variety of real-life situations.

Historically, in-person Grade 1 FI Family Information Nights are held annually in advance of the application process for the following school year. This year, due to restrictions to large-group public gatherings, in-person Family Information Nights will not be held. In lieu of this, an [information page on the board's public website](#) has been created to allow families the ability to access and learn about the program and the application process.

The online Grade 1 FI application form will be available from 9 a.m. on Tuesday, December 1, 2020 until 4:00 pm on Friday, December 18, 2020. In Grade 1, enrollment in the FI program is limited to a maximum of two classes of 20 students per class at each host site for the FI program. The electronic applications will be processed in the order determined by a digitally randomized lottery system.

Please note that the host sites for FI may change during your child's time in the program, and your child may need to move schools. This may also include splitting the program between two different sites.

School Playground Structures are Closed for the Winter

Every winter, school playground structures are closed. Students are made aware of this during school hours through announcements and staff reminders during breaks. This may not be well known throughout the community, despite signs indicating that playground structures are a winter hazard and are closed. The Canadian Standards Association regulations make recommendations for the depth of ground cover required to minimize injuries (e.g. sand, pea gravel or wood chips). These surfaces cannot be maintained when the ground freezes. Injuries from falling would be more significant on frozen ground.

We strongly recommend that you do not allow your children to play on any structures while the ground is frozen.

COVID-19 Holiday Travel

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit recommends that you only travel outside of your home for essential reasons such as work, school and purchasing necessities. Avoid travelling outside of your community as much as possible, including to attend family gatherings, religious services or events at municipal venues, in order to reduce transmission between geographic areas.

Recommendations for travel may change. Check for updates regularly at <https://travel.gc.ca/covid-19-travel>. For more tips to keep you and your family healthy this holiday season, contact *Health Connection* at 1-877-721-7520 or visit the health unit's website at www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/Topics/COVID-19.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Holiday Break: December 21 until January 1, inclusive.

Daily Self Assessment and Mask Etiquette

Self Assessments for students should be completed each morning before school. For the link to the self assessment tool, click below, or copy and paste into your browser: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

Masks are encouraged for all students at Assikinack and are mandatory for students in grades 4 through 8.

FlipGive Fundraiser

This season, fundraising for Assikinack Public School is going to be so much easier with FlipGive, a free team funding app.

We earn cash back on every purchase we make all year long! All you have to do is shop anytime with the brands you already love, like Home Depot, Walmart, Amazon, Sport Chek, Indigo, Old Navy, Apple, Esso, and Loblaws. No more going door-to-door selling chocolate bars - it's completely virtual and contactless.

Join our team now and you'll get a \$5 bonus the first time you shop: https://flipgive.app.link/teams/join?fundraiser_name=Julianne&joincode=G49BS4

Or enter this code: **G49BS4**

Any questions, just ask!

Want to learn more? Check out this two minute video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5vTO_Qg4n80

Inclement Weather and Bus Cancellation Information Reminder

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.

Assikinack Public School is in the CENTRAL ZONE.

When buses are cancelled, schools remain open for student learning, as in previous years. It is always a family decision whether or not it is safe for your child(ren) to leave for school under severe weather conditions.

This year, please note that students who are unable to attend school due to bus cancellations will be able to access learning materials on the digital learning platform assigned by their teacher, either Desire2Learn (D2L) or Google Classroom.

Students in the Learn@Home program will continue with regular programming as scheduled.

The SCSTC 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>