



Clearview Meadows Elementary School

Bus zone: West

12 Locke Ave.
Stayner, Ontario

www.cle.scdsb.on.ca

clearviewsafearrival@gmail.com

<https://twitter.com/CMESwolfpack>

September 2017
Jacqueline Linton
Principal

Sue Moxam
Principal's Assistant



Welcome Back to the new School Year!

Welcome back to all our returning students and staff. You can see the excitement as the students settle into their new classrooms, meet their teachers and get ready for the adventures of the 2017-18 school year.

A special welcome to our new families! Some of our students are coming to school for the first time this week while others are joining us from other schools. We are so excited that you are here at Clearview Meadows.

As always, our classes are not finalized and may need to be changed due to enrollment fluctuations. We have grown in some grades and may need to adjust class numbers for greater balance. If changes are necessary, parents will be notified in the first few weeks of school. Please reinforce with your child(ren) that changes to classes may need to occur. Please remind your children that each year is a fresh start and an opportunity to learn with new students and new teachers. It can take time to settle in to a new class. We will publish our staff names and assignments in the October newsletter... when everything is finalized. **TURN AROUND DAY IS SEPTEMBER 26.**

Parent/Student Led Conferences (Week of November 13th – 17th)

Teachers will be holding Student/Parent Conferences during the week of November 13th – 17th with parents of children whose progress they wish to discuss. **Teacher sign-up sheets will be posted inside the front rotunda during our Welcome Back Night/Meet the Teacher on September 21st.**

Start/End and Nutritional Break Times

Our first bell will ring at 8:50 AM and supervision begins at 8:35 AM. Students are expected to be on the yard prior to the first bell in order for them to start their day on time. Remember, our front doors will be locked at 9:00 AM in accordance with the Board's new Safe Schools policy. Our school end time is 3:10 PM. Our first break starts at 10:30 AM – 11:10 AM and second break (the designated lunch) starts at 12:50 PM – 1:30 PM.

Safe Arrival System

We ask all parents to contact us when their child will be late or absent from school. We have our Gmail account ready for parents who prefer email clearviewsafearrival@gmail.com. When we don't hear from a parent/guardian, and a student is absent, we call home to find out the reason for the absence. Lates and absences impact the learning of your child. Students who are late or absent more than 15 times will experience this impact and may or may not continue to experience successes at school. Being at school does make a difference. We monitor attendance closely. A written note is required in the office if a student is absent for 3 days or more. **We do not accept text messages and students that need to leave early must use the office phone to call an adult.**

Visitors Sign in at the office

All visitors are required to sign-in at the school office and wear visitor identification. All Parents/Guardians are asked to say good-bye at the door. Please allow our staff to establish appropriate routines and safety measures with your children upon entry and dismissal. Our hallways are too busy for additional traffic. If you need to speak with a teacher, please call the office and arrange a time.

Safe Welcome

Safety reminder: Our school doors are locked during the day. The safety and well-being of our students is our top priority. We have a number of procedures in place designed to keep our school safe. Our front door will be locked during the school day. All other school doors are also locked. To access the building, visitors will need to press the intercom button. Staff in the office will be responsible for letting visitors into the school. It will help us ensure all visitors sign in at the office.

It's important for you to know that we'll always take whatever precautions are necessary to keep our school and students safe. If you have any questions about safety procedures, as always, please contact the school office.

Electronic Newsletter

We are continuing to strive to be paperless with our newsletters. Starting in October, the newsletter and calendar will be placed on our school webpage <http://cle.scdsb.on.ca> to view at the beginning of each month. If you require a paper copy please request one from the office. Copies are mailed via email to those families that have provided email address to the office.

Student Information Packages

Your child(ren) will be bringing home Student Information Verification Form, Permission & Indication Form, and Student Accident Insurance Forms. Please complete these forms with any changes, **sign and date** and return to the school as soon as possible. Any Student Verification Form which is not signed by parent/guardian on the back of page 2 will be returned home for signature.

Annual Offence Declaration for Volunteers

Returning volunteers in schools are required to complete an Annual Offence Declaration and new volunteers must provide their original Criminal Records Check.

Current volunteers are required to complete the Annual Offence Declaration and return it to the school office by Friday, September 15, 2017. Anyone who does not submit an Annual Offence Declaration will be deleted from the database and will have to submit a new Criminal Records Check.

If you are a new volunteer please stop by the office to pick up a copy of our volunteer letter. You will need to take this to the O.P.P. detachment and request for Criminal Record Check. Once it is returned to you, bring it into the school and we will submit it to our school board office for their approval to be added to the Approved Volunteer List.

Medical Forms

If your child has a medical concern, a form will be sent home for you to update. Please return the form as soon as possible. Remember, the sooner we get these forms back the sooner we can ensure all our staff are aware of these concerns. If your child needs medication administered during the school day, please request a form that will need to be completed.

Agendas

Student Agendas have been provided for each student grades 1-6. There will not be a cost to our families for this wonderful home-school communication tool. The cost will be covered through school-generated funds. Encouraging your child to make use of the agenda and reviewing this with them daily, is a great way to keep informed about what is happening at school. Also, please review the inserts especially the Code of Conduct and Technology Use Guidelines in the front of the agenda, with your child.

Lost and Found

PLEASE label your child's clothing. We accumulate a large amount of lost clothing and items monthly. When labeled, we are able to return many of these items. All unclaimed items will be donated every two months to our local goodwill.

Schools are Available for Community Use

Through our Community Use of Schools program, almost all of our schools are available outside of school hours for not-for-profit community groups. Our gyms, fields, auditoriums and classrooms are available for your sporting events, concerts, recitals and more.

You can apply online. A Permit Clerk will process the application and advise if the facility is available at the requested time. Once an application is approved, a rental contract will be issued and the applicant will be invoiced.

For more information, visit www.scdsb.on.ca, click on 'Schools' and then 'Community Use of Schools.'

Life Threatening Allergies

PLEASE BE AWARE.....

WE ARE STRIVING TO
REDUCE THE RISK
OF
ALLERGIC REACTIONS
TO
PEANUTS, TREE NUTS AND OTHER FOOD
ALLERGIES THAT STUDENTS MAY HAVE IN OUR
SCHOOL



A LETTER WILL BE SENT HOME AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR TO INDICATE WHAT ALLERGENS ARE IN OUR SCHOOL SO THAT WE CAN BE PROACTIVE IN CONTINUING TO EDUCATE OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY AND STRIVE TO REDUCE THE RISK OF ANY ALLERGIC REACTIONS.

PLEASE DO NOT BRING ANY FOODS CONTAINING THESE PRODUCTS UPON THE PREMISES.

Hot Lunches

Pizza and Milk will begin the week of October 2nd. Order forms will be sent home shortly and will also be available for download on our school website. If you are unable to download a form, please ask your child to pick a form up in the office. Please remember to return all orders with payments by the due dates. This is an excellent opportunity to use School Cash Online, where you can order and pay 24/7 using your credit card.

Active and Safe Routes to School

Walking or cycling to school is a great way to help your child get the 60 minutes of recommended daily physical activity. It also teaches them to be aware of their own safety, builds responsibility and independence, and helps them to feel more connected to the community. And it's good for their physical and mental health! More walkers also means less car traffic around our school, which will help keep students safe and improve outdoor air quality too. Committing to even one day a week of walking or cycling to school can make a big difference!

To find out more about the recommendations for physical activity and how to make Active and Safe Routes to School happen in your school community, visit www.saferoutestoschool.ca.

Crossing Guard

A crossing guard will be in place at the corner of Locke Ave. and Hwy. 26. Students are required to take direction from the crossing guard when leaving the vicinity of the school. All bicycles, long boards, scooters and roller blades are to be walked on school grounds and also while crossing with the crossing guard.

It's important for you to know that we'll always take whatever precautions are necessary to keep our school and students safe. If you have any questions about safety procedures, as always, please contact the office.

Parking Lot Safety

1. Our bus loop is one way only. You must exit the parking lot and bus loop at the West end to ensure safety for our walking and biking students. It is extremely dangerous to exit through our entrance, especially with cars/vans/busses using the entrance.
2. The parking lot is for staff. With the growth of our staff, we need the spaces. There are 25 spots in the community lot available for the public.
3. Respect the pylons. Parking is not permitted in the bends at the entrance and exit as these areas need to be open for our busses and special needs vans to safely enter the bus loop. Your vehicle can be hit by one of our buses.
4. Safety is our priority. Do not park, drop off students or leave your vehicle on the North/school side or our bus loop. This is a fire zone and must remain clear at all times for fire vehicles.

School Council

Our first meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 18th at 6 p.m. in our library. At this inaugural meeting our executive will be determined and our focus for the year will be identified. All parents are welcome to join School Council. Please stop by the office to pick up a nomination form starting on September 11th. It is a self-nomination process and your form gives the principal sufficient contact information to connect with you prior to the scheduled meetings. Looking forward to seeing everyone. Our school council represents our families and students at CMES.

Keep connected with our school and with the SCDSB

It's important to get accurate information about what's going on at your school and at the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB):

- you can subscribe to our school's website by visiting the 'What's New' section at <http://cle.scdsb.on.ca>. You can sign up to receive emails about school news updates and information during emergency situations. It's easy to subscribe – visit our website and click the 'Subscribe' link at the very top of the page. When you fill out your email and click Subscribe, an email will be sent to your inbox with a link to

click to confirm that you want to subscribe. You can unsubscribe at any time using the link at the bottom of each email.

- for Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) media releases and event information, visit the 'News' section under 'About Us' on the SCDSB's website: www.scdsb.on.ca. The SCDSB Education Centre can be reached at 705-734-6363.
- follow the SCDSB on Twitter (@SCDSB_Schools), Facebook (facebook.com/SCDSB) and Instagram (instagram.com/scdsb).
- through SCDSB's Sharing Simcoe blog (www.sharingsimcoe.com), we share stories of our amazing staff, students and school communities.

For school bus transportation information, visit the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium's website at: main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca. And remember to bookmark the school bus information page at: simcoecountyschoolbus.ca for bus delay and cancellation information on inclement weather days.

Procedures help keep our school safe

The safety and well-being of students is our top priority. We have a number of procedures in place to keep our school safe. You can help your child understand and feel safe by:

- talking to them about the situations below
- reminding them that emergencies are rare
- telling them it's important to follow staff instructions in these situations

Parents should talk about the following emergency drills with their children:

- **Shelter in place** is used when there is an environmental or weather-related situation, like a chemical spill outside the building, or a major storm. Activities continue inside the school. Students and staff are not allowed to leave the building. The ventilation system may be shut off.
- A **hold and secure** is used when there is a situation in the community, not related to the school, like a bank robbery nearby. Activities continue, but all doors are locked. No one is allowed to enter or exit the school.
- A **lockdown** is used when there is a major incident or a threat of violence related to the school. Students and staff move to secure areas, away from doors and windows. Doors are locked, lights are shut off and blinds are drawn. Students and staff remain quiet. We practice lockdown drills at least two times per year. In the unlikely event of an actual lockdown situation, police ask that parents do not go to the school. Information will be communicated through the school board social media sites

(www.facebook.com/SCDSB and www.twitter.com/SCDSB_Schools) and website (www.scdsb.on.ca), through local police and local media.

- All schools have **evacuation plans** in case of gas leaks, bomb threats or fire incidents that would require everyone to leave the school. We hold drills to practice our evacuation plan. In a real evacuation, students and staff may go to the evacuation site, depending on the situation. Parents will be informed about pick-up procedures by the school, school board and local media.
- Elementary school main doors are locked during the school day. Visitors must use the **intercom system** to enter the building. **Staff may not be available to answer the door immediately, please be patient.** All visitors, including school volunteers, are required to **sign in** at the school office and wear **visitor identification**.
- Staff and volunteers must complete a **criminal record check** before having contact with students.
- We ask parents to contact us when their child will be absent from school as part of our **Safe Arrival** program. When we don't hear from a parent/guardian, and a student is absent, we will call home to find out the reason for the absence.
- At least two staff members in every school are trained in **first aid and CPR**. All Simcoe County District School Board schools **have Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs)**.

When parents are at school during a drill or emergency event, they must follow direction from school staff, police, fire and/or emergency personnel. Parents may not have immediate access to their children during drills or emergencies. They may need to wait until the situation is resolved and school staff and/or emergency personnel release students into parent care. It's important for you to know we'll always take whatever precautions are necessary to keep our school and students safe.

Student dress code

Students are expected to respect the guidelines when dressing for school. Our school is a safe space. We work to be equitable and inclusive, and understand that students may choose to express themselves through their clothing choices. Student clothing cannot pose a safety concern or conceal identity and cannot be offensive (i.e. swear words). Exceptions are granted to students who wear head coverings or other garments/objects for the purposes of religious observance, medical or sensory needs, or other reasons protected by the Ontario Human Rights Code.

The SCDSB dress code is available in the student agenda and online at www.scdsb.on.ca. If you have questions about the dress code, you can contact the principal or the SCDSB Equity and Inclusive Education Team at 705-728-7570.

School bus 'Bus Tag' program helps students get to and from school safely

The Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium's Bus Tag program supports safety for JK/SK and other school identified students. The program helps match students to their assigned afternoon school bus and identifies that they must be met by a parent or guardian at their afternoon bus stop.

The program provides a colour coded Bus Tag with the assigned p.m. route number to be attached to the student's backpack and a colour coded route card with route number in the windows of the school bus that the Bus Tag is matched to. The program can also provide tags for students who are walkers and/or who remain at an on-site childcare centre to make sure they don't get on a bus in error.

For more information, visit main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca and click on the 'Safety' tab.

Your child can learn a new language for free this fall in Barrie and Bradford

The SCDSB offers children in Grades 1 to 8 an opportunity to learn and/or maintain a language other than French or English. Whether you enrol your children in this program to learn a new language, understand a new culture or to extend their knowledge of their first language, every student can benefit from this program. The Barrie Learning Centre (Bayfield Mall) is offering Arabic, Russian, Mandarin, Korean, German, Spanish and Ukrainian. The Bradford Learning Centre (157 Holland St. E, Suite 200) is offering Arabic, Tamil, Spanish, Russian, Ukrainian and Vietnamese. The course takes place Saturday mornings, 9 to 11:30 a.m. starting Sept. 16. There is no charge for this program. Most classes fill quickly on a first come, first served basis. Register your child by visiting www.thelearningcentres.com and clicking on 'Elementary Student.'

Pay for field trips, lunch days, etc. with SchoolCash Online

We have made it easy for parents to make their school purchases from the convenience of their own home. Whether it's lunch days, field trips or school wear, we have it online for you! Follow these three steps to get started:

1. Go to simcoecounty.schoolcashionline.com or visit our school website and click on "Pay Fees"
2. Register and add your child to the newly created account
3. View and purchase items through bank transfer or credit card

It's safe, fast and convenient. Contact the office with any questions.

Information about student accident insurance for the 2017-2018 school year

Student injuries at school, during school events, and extra-curricular activities (athletics, clubs, and out-of-

province/out-of-country trips) are not covered by the board or its insurance company. While every precaution is taken to provide a safe learning environment, accidents can and do happen. The Simcoe County District School Board has selected the “insure my kids” program through Old Republic Canada as an option for students/parents/guardians to consider. This insurance offers a variety of plans and benefits at reasonable annual prices. Coverage can be purchased online at www.insuremykids.com. Please watch for your student accident insurance package along with a letter about requirements for extra-curricular activities and out-of-province or out-of-country trips. **NOTE: SCDSB policy states students cannot join an extra-curricular sport without insurance.**

Parent Portal gives parents real-time access to attendance, grade information

The SCDSB Parent Portal is a secure online tool that provides parents/guardians (of students less than 18 years of age) with quick access to their children’s attendance and grades and includes the option to sign up for email notifications. To access the Parent Portal, parents/guardians will need their child’s SCDSB Pupil ID Number, which can be found on the Student Information Verification Form, as well as an Access ID. The Access ID will be provided in a sealed letter this fall with instructions on how to create an account. If you lose the Access ID, you can visit us in the school office and we’ll provide it to you after verifying your identity.

Register for **Before & After School/Childcare at our school**

Register now for before and after school programs/childcare. The Before and After School Program is for students in Kindergarten to Grade 6 who need care before and/or after the regular school day hours. The fees are as follows:

- Before and After School fee: \$18.90
- Before School only fee: \$9.45
- After School only fee: \$13.80
- PA day, holiday fee: \$34.20

Please contact Michelle Weymark at 705 444-0188 to register your child(ren).

Want to volunteer at our school?

Current volunteers who do not submit an Annual Offence Declaration for Volunteers on or before December 31, 2017, will be deleted from the database on January 1, 2018, and will have to submit a new Criminal Records Check and Vulnerable Sector Screen. Please see the office for more information or if you have questions about volunteering in our school.

Safety reminder: School buses are back on the roads

As students return to school, the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC) reminds everyone that school buses are back on our roads. The majority of school buses in Simcoe County are on the road in the

morning from 7 – 9:30 a.m. and again in the afternoon from 2 – 4:30 p.m. As a reminder to drivers:

- **Take caution** – Be extra cautious in the vicinity of school buses and around school bus loading and unloading zones
- **Be alert** – Watch for school bus chrome yellow colouring, flashing red lights and stop arms. Drivers travelling in both directions on a road without a median must stop for a stopped school bus that has its upper red lights flashing
- **Know the repercussions** – Any driver that fails to stop for a school bus with its lights engaged is subject to a fine of up to \$2,000 and six demerit points for a first time offence
- **Be empowered** – Anyone who witnesses a driver failing to stop for a school bus can report the incident to police.

Visit the SCSTC web site at

www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca, click on the ‘Home’ button and then the ‘Safety’ tab for more information.

Eye See...Eye Learn program offers free glasses for Junior Kindergarten students

The *Eye See...Eye Learn* program provides comprehensive eye exams by local optometrists to Junior Kindergarten (JK) students. The eye exams are covered under the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) when parents show their child’s health card. There is no out-of-pocket cost for the eye exam and if the child requires a pair of glasses, they will receive them free of charge courtesy of a participating optometrist. For more information, visit www.Eyeseeyelearn.ca.

Ideas for packing healthy school lunches

A school lunch should give children the energy and nutrients they need to be ready to learn, be more alert and perform better at school. When planning lunches keep these tips in mind:

- Include one serving from at least three of the four food groups from Canada's Food Guide
- Rather than buying pre-made lunch kits, make your own healthy lunch kit with divided containers and small ‘bite-sized’ cheese cubes, left over chicken chunks, veggie sticks or fruit slices
- Get your kids to eat more veggies! Send cucumber coins, zucchini sticks and pepper strips with dip
- Fill whole wheat or multi grain wrap/pits/tortilla shells with your child’s favourite foods such as hummus and grated carrot or sliced turkey with honey mustard.
- Water is the best option for hydration

Looking for more information to help keep you and your family healthy? Call *Health Connection* at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-5720 to speak with a public health nurse or visit the health unit’s website at www.simcoemuskokahealth.org.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Reminder from the Health Unit: School grounds are smoke free 24/7

Protect yourself and your children from the health hazards of secondhand smoke. Remember, it is against the law to smoke ANYWHERE on school property at ANY TIME. This includes smoking in your vehicle while picking up or dropping off students. It is also against the law to smoke or hold lit tobacco in a vehicle carrying anyone under age 16. The fine for ignoring the law is \$250. For more information, contact the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 or visit www.simcoemuskokahealth.org.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Free dental care for children under 18 from Healthy Smiles Ontario

Free dental service is available to your child through Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit's Healthy Smiles Dental Clinic in Barrie, or on the dental bus that visits many communities across Simcoe Muskoka throughout the year, as long as you qualify for the program. To find out if your child qualifies or to book an appointment, call the health unit (Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.) oral health team at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520, extension 8818. Healthy Smiles Ontario is a government-funded program that provides free dental care for children and youth 17 years old and under from low-income households. This dental program provides free preventative, routine and emergency dental services.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

How exercise can help with homework

It's the start of a new school year and students need to get back into the swing of things! Many students and parents adopt a similar philosophy for success – clear your schedule, buckle down and focus. Although the intention is great, by focusing solely on the books and neglecting the body, students are not actually reaching their full potential. Here are three reasons why exercise can make students more productive:

- Better sleep – it's a fact that our brains work better with a good night's rest. Getting enough sleep contributes to the brain's capacity to store and retrieve information, complete tasks efficiently, maintain focus and manage stress – all of which will improve student success.
- Stress release – exercise is proven to release endorphins that reduce stress. We all know how hard it can be to focus with an aching back, cramped neck or jittery leg. These physical distractions are often a result of excessive time spent in sedentary activities. A quick body break

can relieve tension, stress and excess energy, making it easier to focus on the tasks at hand.

- Retain more – blood pumping exercise increases the flow of oxygen to the brain making it more receptive to the flow of new information coming in. Studies prove that students who exercise three times a week or more get higher grades.

In addition to exercise, students should ensure they are eating healthy, staying hydrated and getting lots rest and fresh air.

Information provided by the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka (www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca)

Simcoe Community Services' Grandparent System Support Program

Simcoe County is home to approximately 4,000 grand-families. The Grandparent System Support Program (GSSP) was established in response to the increased needs and unique challenges experienced by grandparents with the sole responsibility of raising their grandchildren. The GSSP Support Groups take place in Barrie, Bradford, Orillia and Midland. For more information about the support group, meeting dates/times or if you have questions about the GSSP, contact Trish Longo at gssp@simcoecommunityservices.ca or 705-726-9082 x2321.

PHOTO DAY
October 25, 2017



Community News

Clearview Community Theatre is proud to present "Anne of Green Gables, the Musical", a show for all ages! Shows will be held Friday, October 20th at 7:30 pm, Saturday, October 21st at 3:00 pm and 7:30 pm, Sunday, October 22nd at 3:00 pm, Friday, October 27th at 7:30 pm and Saturday, October 28th at 3:00 pm and 7:30 p m. Shows are held at the GNE Fairgrounds on Fairgrounds Road, where we are wheelchair accessible. Tickets will be on sale for \$30 per person for Premium seating rows A-D and the remaining seats will be offered at \$22 for adults and \$17 for children 13 years and under. Tickets will be available online on our website at www.clearviewcommunitytheatre.ca, or visit A & D Birdseed, 1617 County Road 42. Visit our website for more information.

