

March 2023

Tottenham Newsletter

Tottenham Public School

21 Rogers Road, Tottenham ON L0G 1W0

Mike Pattison, Principal

Heather Booth, Vice-Principal



From The Desk of Mr. Pattison...

Hello Tiger Families,

February was a busy month at the school. ***Congratulations*** to our ***Intermediate Girls Volleyball team*** as well as our ***Intermediate Boys basketball team*** for representing our school at the Zone tournament on Feb 22. It has been great to see so many students coming to the office daily to put their ***Gotcha*** tickets into the draw box. ***Gotchas are handed out to students who have demonstrated kindness or any of the other character traits. We had more than 1000 Gotchas given out in February, which is awesome!***

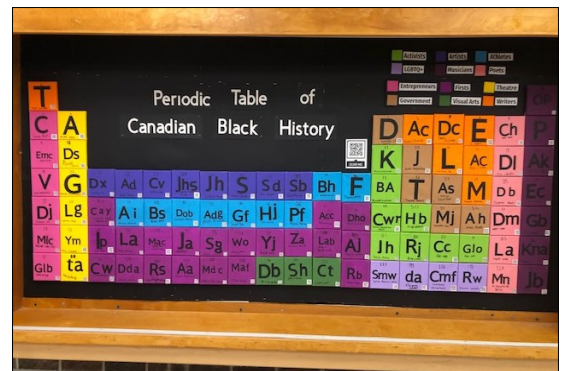
February was also ***Black History Month*** and our staff and students engaged in many activities centered around ***Celebrating Black Excellence***. Some of the activities included ***read alouds***, exposure to ***musicians***, different projects including ***biographies*** and daily announcements ***highlighting various Black Canadians*** who have made an impact. ***Mrs. Montesano's class also replicated the periodic table of Black Canadian History and important people, which we displayed in the front foyer. Each individual element had its own QR code that kids could scan and then read information about that person.***

Thank you to our families that supported Parent Council's Terracotta Cookie Dough Fundraiser. Just a reminder, that cookies can be picked up between 3-5p.m. this Wednesday, March 8 at the front of the school. Thanks again for your continued support!

Lastly, ***a reminder that supervision of students begins at 8:45 am. We would ask that your child not arrive before this time.*** Thanks for helping us with this. With March Break approaching, I sure hope that this gives everyone some time to relax a bit and enjoy some family time. Take care.

Sincerely,

Mike Pattison, Principal



Black History Periodic Table created by Ms. Montesano and her class.

Contact Us



905-936-4951

For Safe Arrival Press 1



905-936-2832



tot.scdsb.on.ca



@Tottenhamps

Safe Arrival can also be emailed to:

totattendance@scdsb.on.ca

Daily Schedule

Yard Supervision 8:45 am

Entry Bell 9:00 am

Instructional Time

9:00 —10:40 am

Nutrition /Recess 10:40 —
11:00 am

Nutrition /Recess 11:00—
11:20 am

Instructional Time

11:20—1:00 pm

Nutrition /Recess 1:00 —
1:20 pm

Nutrition /Recess 1:20—
1:40 pm

Instructional Time

1:40 —3:20 pm

Dismissal 3:20 pm

IMPORTANT:

For safety reasons, students should not arrive at school prior to 8:45 am, when staff supervision begins. Please use the Kiss & Ride to drop off or pick up your children. There is NO PARKING permitted on Rogers Road.

Kindergarten Registration 2023 is OPEN!



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 2023? If so, we invite you to register your child for Kindergarten. **To register online or for more information visit: www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten**

EWTE Snack Program

Each year we receive limited funding from Eat Well to Excel. This funding allows for us to provide a small pre-packaged snack to students who have eaten all of their lunch and are still hungry. We would just like to remind families who are able, to please send their child(ren) with enough food for the day. As always, we appreciate your support!



Hot Lunch School Bus Cancellation Results

Thank you to all who took the time to complete our hot lunch survey. We received a tremendous amount of responses with regards to our hot lunch program. ***With the overwhelming numbers of families choosing to continue – we will continue with hot lunch on school bus cancellation days.*** As always, thank you for your feedback and continued support!

Thank You!

Safe Arrival



If your child will be absent/late:

Please call the school's safe arrival line at 905-936-4951 and press 1 OR Send us an email at totattendance@scdsb.on.ca.

Please leave a message with the spelling of your child's name, teacher, date of absence and the reason for the absence. This is a 24 hour machine where a message must be left if your child will be absent or late. If your child is absent for 3 or more consecutive days please send a note to the office. We appreciate your help with ensuring student safety!

Lunch box by School Cash Online

We are currently offering lunches through lunchbox by schoolcashionline.



We will be offering the following:

Wednesday—Subway

Thursday—New Orleans Pizza

Please log into your SchoolCashOnline account to place your orders.

****Due to lack of storage we cannot commit to keeping student's lunch orders if they are absent. Please remember you can cancel your order through SchoolCashOnline up to two days in advance.****

Childcare Programs Available on PA Days, Holidays and March Break

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 on PA days and holidays, including over the March Break (Mar. 13 to 17). Registration in advance is required. Please contact the child care operator directly to discuss fees and to register. For more information and contact numbers, please visit: https://scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/childcare_before_after.

Character Attribute for the Month of March

Integrity – We act justly and honourably in all that we do.

More information about Character Education can be found here:

www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character_education



We are Nut Free!

Within our school community there are students who have a life-threatening allergy (**anaphylaxis**)

to peanuts and/or tree nuts. For some students even touching peanut and/or tree nut residue or inhaling airborne peanut or tree nut proteins can cause a reaction.

Thank you for not sending food products containing peanuts and/or tree nuts to school. Your caring, compassion and support is greatly appreciated and is critical to the well-being of students.



Please note that March 13 to 17 is March Break for all SCDSB students. Please refer to the 2022-2023 School Year Calendar on the SCDSB website for more information: www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/school_year_calendar.

March Break

Collection and Use of Personal Student Information

As students' progress from elementary school to secondary school, important personal student information is shared which eases each student's transition to secondary school. Sharing this information also improves our ability to program effectively to benefit all students. The collection and use of personal student information for such purposes are authorized under the Education Act. Please note that all information used for the transition process is limited, secure, and protected at all times.

Please contact Dean Maltby, Superintendent of Education, if you would like more information about the transition process at Tottenham Public School.

Inclement Weather and Bus Cancellation Information

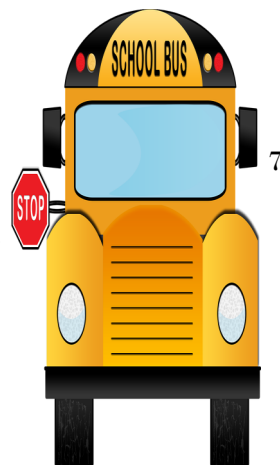
Reminder

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

Our school is in the **SOUTH zone**. When buses are cancelled, schools remain open for student learning, unless otherwise noted. School staff are expected to plan for such emergencies in order to transition students who are unable to attend due to inclement weather to their online platforms (Google Classroom and/or SCDSBhub [Brightspace by D2L]) and continue with academic programming. It is always a family decision whether or not it is safe for their child(ren) to leave for school under severe weather conditions.

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 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 SCSTC 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>.



School bus transportation information available from the SCSTC

In order to receive delay and cancellation notifications, families can check the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC) website at

www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca or download the 'BusPlanner Delays' app from the Apple or Android app stores to receive delay notifications to their devices. Users would need to select Simcoe County STC as the transportation authority. The app will need to be forced closed, but you will be able to select your student(s) routes or school to receive delays.

The app will send a general notice for any cancellation in Simcoe County. You only need to know which 'zone' you're in, so you would know which one to look out for in the app. You can find your student's zone by visiting the School Bus Status page at www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca and clicking the dropdown for the area you live in.



Join us! A learning series for parents/guardians with Pine River Institute

Mental health and well-being continues 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, staff and within the SCDSB's broader school communities.

There are five webinars in the learning series specifically planned for parents, guardians and other caregivers during this school year.

April 27, 2023 The Biology of Stress

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 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.

Interested in learning more about the ways that the SCDSB supports students with special education needs and their families? Join us for a virtual special education outreach series

In 2023, the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) is hosting virtual special education outreach sessions to assist parents/caregivers in learning more about programs, supports and ways that we work together to support students with special education needs. The remaining sessions include:

Supporting students as they transition into school, from one school to another, and from school upon graduation

April 20
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Working with families to create safe and supportive environments for children who have experienced trauma

May 9
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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 at www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/special_education/special_education_outreach_sessions.

Just breathe coping strategy

Well-being is a Strategic Priority in the Simcoe County District School Board, and our well-being department provides monthly strategies to support student and family well-being.

This month's strategy is deep breathing. Parents/guardians should practice deep breathing with their children to help them develop a deeper mind/body connection, self-regulation, awareness of emotions, and build resiliency. To practice deep breathing at home, have your child get comfortable by either standing or sitting. Encourage them to keep their back straight, and shoulders and head relaxed. If they're comfortable, ask them to close their eyes. Have your child place their hands flat on their stomach. Ask your child to breathe in deeply through their nose, filling the belly with breath. Point out how hands move out. Encourage them to hold their breath for a few seconds, then slowly breathe out through the mouth to feel the stomach contract and hands move in. Repeat 5-6 times.

Parents/guardians should practice deep belly breathing at home any time their child seems stressed or upset. Watch a deep breathing video here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=le2TO_MNFxE&t=3s.

Follow along the Mental Health and Well-being social media accounts (@SCDSB_MHWP) to see how well-being is being supported in our schools.

School Cash 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 simcoe.schoolcashonline.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!

Please contact the office if you have any questions.

How is your infant, toddler, or preschool child developing?

Is your child meeting their milestones? Age-appropriate speech and language skills are critical to your child's ability to read, write and be successful in school as well as to their ability to engage with their peers. Free services are available to support you with your child's development. Preschool speech and language programs are located across the County of Simcoe. Call (705) 739-5696 or 1-800-675-1979 to complete a developmental screen. The earlier we work together, the better!

EarlyON Child and Family Centres

Is your child starting JK or SK in September? The Simcoe County EarlyON Child and Family Centres are excited to offer in person and virtual programs that help prepare children and parents/guardians for Kindergarten. Parents/guardians and children will have the opportunity to interact together in a variety of school readiness activities. We will look at and discuss how does learning happen, self-regulation, social skills, and how to get ready to start school.

If program registration is full, please check back regularly as there may be cancellations. To register for a program in your area visit www.earlyonsimcoenorth.ca/GRFK.

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#ITSTARTS week in the SCDSB

The County of Simcoe has once again proclaimed March as #ITSTARTS month. The Simcoe County District School Board will be championing the #ITSTARTS campaign from March 6 to 10. This campaign promotes inclusion, acceptance, and equity within the vibrant, diverse, and growing communities that make up Simcoe County.

For more information, visit: www.simcoe.ca/dpt/ccs/lip/itstarts.

SCDSB eBook library - SORA



Did you know that the SCDSB has a digital eBook library available for all students from K-12? Students may access books using either the SORA app on a tablet or visiting <https://soraapp.com/welcome/login/202712> on the desktop version. They simply use their school Google login and password to access the library. Picture books, beginner chapter books, graphic novels, magazines, young adult novels, audio books; there is something for every student. Students may use the search function to select a specific book or browse through one of the many curated collections. Happy reading!

Math @Home Parent Series

Fostering a strong school-home partnership is an important part of reinforcing math learning at school and extending the learning beyond the classroom. Families are a child's first educator and help build a strong foundation for future success. The virtual math series outlined below is intended to support a positive attitude towards mathematics, enhance motivation and ultimate success.

The SCDSB math department is pleased to offer three evening virtual sessions for families and caregivers of SCDSB students. These sessions will focus on practical and fun ways to support students with their mathematics learning and engagement at home. The first 200 registrants will receive a path pack of resources to use at home. Participants must pre-register for each of the sessions.

Making Math Connections @Home

Wednesday, April 12

7 – 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

Tuesday, April 25

7 – 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.

Having Fun with Math Facts @Home

Thursday, May 11

7 – 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 with becoming fluent with their math facts.




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

Use this link to register: <https://bit.ly/23MathAtHome>



Date	Name
March	Bangladeshi Heritage Month
March	Hellenic Heritage Month
March 2-20	Bahá'í Fast Bahá'í
March 3	National Employee Appreciation Day
March 4	Sikh New Year Sikhism
March 6	Memorial of Shan-tao/Zendo Daishi Buddhism
March 6-7	Purim Judaism
March 7	Holi Hinduism
March 7	Mid-Sha'ban Islam
March 8	International Women's Day
March 11	National COVID-19 Day of Observance
March 14	National Pi Day
March 17	Irish Heritage Day
March 20	Festival of Higan-e Buddhism
March 20	Ostara/Mabon/Lady Day/Spring Equinox (may be observed March 19-22) Wicca
March 21	Naw Ruz (New Year) Bahá'í
March 21	Eid-e-Navroz Islam
March 21	Navroze (New Year) (FC) Zoroastrianism
March 21	World Down Syndrome Day
March 21	International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
March 22-31	Chaitra/Chithirai (New Year) Hinduism
March 22	Hindu New Year Hinduism
March 22	Vasant Navratri begins Hinduism
March 23	Ramadan (fasting month) Islam
March 23	National School Crossing Guard Appreciation Day
March 24	Earth Hour (in schools – official date is Saturday, March 25)
March 25-27	Hola Mohalla Sikhism
March 26	Khordad Sal (FC) Zoroastrianism
March 26	Epilepsy Awareness Day
March 30	Rama Navami Hinduism
March 31	Trans Day of Visibility



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2  Grade 8 Grad Photos	3	4
5	6	7	8  Terracotta Cookie Pick Up 3-5 pm	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18
March Break—School is Closed						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 School Dental Screening	28 →	29 →	30 →	31  Wacky/ Favourite Hat Day	



Important Dates to Remember ...

1. **April 18, 2023** — Grade 7-8 Immunization Clinic (2nd Dose)
2. **April 27, 2023**—Comfy Clothes Spirit Day

