

# CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH



## New Lowell Central Public School

5197 County Road 9, New Lowell, ON L0M 1N0

PH:705-424-0991 Email: [newlowell@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:newlowell@scdsb.on.ca)

### Newsletter #5 February 2024 - Inclusiveness

#### Student Illness & Wellbeing

Please remember to keep your children home when they aren't feeling well. We follow the Ontario Health guidelines. It states the following:

If you are sick, stay home to prevent transmission to others, except to seek testing or medical care if required.

You should stay home until all of the following apply to you:

- your symptoms have been improving for at least 24 hours (or 48 hours if you had nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea)
- you do not have a fever
- you do not develop any additional symptoms

Please note, when we send students home for vomiting or diarrhea, they are to be home for 48 hours, and can return if feeling better at that time.

Please visit, <https://www.ontario.ca/page/protection-covid-19-and-other-respiratory-illnesses> for more information.

#### Eat Well to Excel

If you are interested in making an online donation, you will log into your School Cash Online account and click on the "Make a Donation" button to launch the donation portal. You will then be able to choose your gift amount, select our school, and an initiative that you would like to support. Donations received for the general Initiative will be allocated at the discretion of the principal based on the needs of the school. Lastly, you will have the option to send a message to the school board. Once you add it to your cart you can proceed to the cart and complete your transaction. Tax receipts are issued for donations regardless of denomination, upon completion of transaction. We thank you in advance for your support of our school!



New Lowell Central  
Public School

# Reminders

## Cell Phone Use

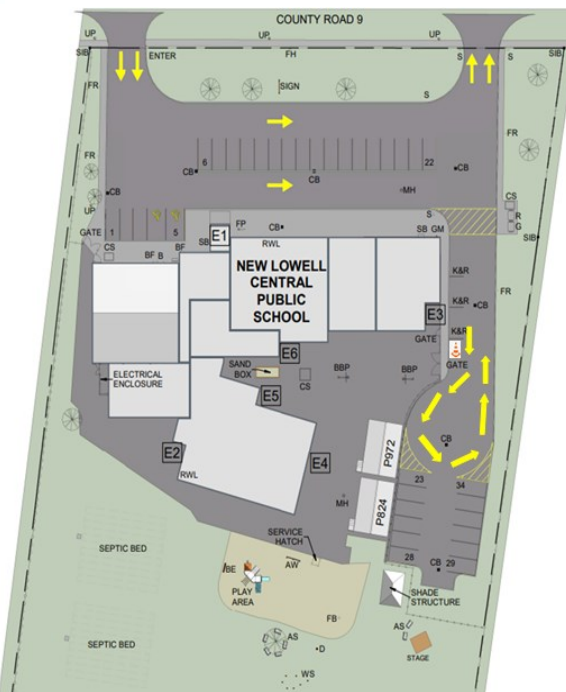
Devices will be securely stored in students' homeroom at the beginning of the day. Communication between students and parents/guardians **MUST** take place in the office. If you need to send a time-sensitive message to your child, please call the office and the message will be relayed to your child.

## Lunch Delivery & Inclement Weather Days

Please note, Lunchbox orders are **NOT** delivered on inclement weather days, when school transportation is cancelled.

If you would like to pick your students order up due to an absence please call or email the school to inform them of the request and pick up after 1pm please note we do not have proper refrigeration to safely store lunches.

## Kiss n' Ride



THANK YOU for your continued support in maintaining a safe, calm and smooth parking lot and Kiss n' Ride program.

We have many people accessing our parking lot and Kiss n' Ride each day. Please exercise extra caution in our lot as safety is our first priority. It is very important that if you need to park, please use designated parking spaces only.

Please do not block the Kiss and Ride by parking in a non-designated space.

The map below indicates the direction of the flow of cars. In the morning, if you are using the Kiss n' Ride, drivers must remain in their vehicle and students must exit independently and enter the schoolyard. Please pull up to the pylon at the gate for your child to exit your vehicle. We ask that students do not exit along the sidewalk.

If your child is not able to exit the vehicle **independently**, please park in a designated parking spot, support the safe exit from the vehicle and walk them to the gate. At the gate, a staff member will welcome them into the school yard. **If you have** family or friends dropping your child off, please share this information with them.

We appreciate everyone trying their best and continuing to be patient and respectful with this process. Your child's safety is our number one priority and together we can ensure that our parking lot and Kiss n' Ride function safely.

**Kindergarten Registration for September 2024 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 4 in 2024? If so, we invite you to register your child for kindergarten. To register online or for more information visit: [www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten)

## Black History Month

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) recognizes and celebrates Black History Month every February. The SCDSB is committed to improving equity of access, positive identity affirming experiences and opportunities for Black students, staff, and parents/guardians, and to create a safe and caring learning environment that promotes the human rights of students, staff, and parents/guardians. The initiatives undertaken by the SCDSB have been embedded in teaching and learning at all school levels, and centrally, for Black History Month and throughout the year. Follow the SCDSB on social media to see how schools are recognizing Black History Month and celebrating Black excellence.

## New Lowell School Schedule

Yard Supervision	9:15 - 9:30
Period 1	9:30 - 10:20
Period 2	10:20 - 11:10
Nutrition Break	11:10 - 11:30
Fitness Break	11:30 - 11:50
Period 3	11:50 - 12:40
Period 4	12:40 - 1:30
Nutrition Break	1:30 - 1:50
Fitness Break	1:50 - 12:10
Period 5	2:10 - 3:00
Period 6	3:00 - 3:50
Dismissal	3:50pm



## Barrie Colts Fundraiser

Join us on Thursday, March 7th to watch the Barrie Colts take on the Mississauga Steelheads at the Sadlon Arena starting at 7pm. Great news...a portion of each ticket sold will be donated back to New Lowell Central Public School! We look forward to cheering on the Colts as a school community!

Tickets will be available for purchase through SchoolCash Online until Thursday, February 29th for \$25/ticket.

Go Colts Go!

Thursday March 7nd, 2024 puck drops at 7:00pm

Come out to support our school at the Barrie Colts vs. Mississauga Steelheads

\*Please select quantity of tickets you would like to purchase. Tickets will be handed out to families a few days prior to the game.



## Licensed Winter Break School-Age 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 on PA days and holidays including over the Winter Break. 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 by visiting: [www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning\\_for\\_school/childcare\\_before\\_after](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/childcare_before_after).

## 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 information series

During the 2023-2024 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.

### Transition planning

Feb. 13 6:30pm to 7:30pm

### Reading Strategies

March 19 :30pm to 7:30pm

### Supporting students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

April 16 6:30pm to 7:30pm

### Every day mental health strategies

May 14 6:30pm to 7:30pm

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: [www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/special\\_education/special\\_education\\_outreach\\_sessions](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/special_education/special_education_outreach_sessions)

## 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. There are eight webinars specifically planned for parents/guardians and other caregivers during this school year. The remaining webinars are:

- Feb. 8, 2024 Self regulation for kids
- Feb. 22, 2024 Self regulation for teens
- March 28, 2024 Building parents' resiliency
- April 18, 2024 Vaping, weed, and alcohol

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](http://www.pineriverinstitute.com).

## Grade 8 Successful Transition

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 Greg Jacobs, Superintendent of Education, if you would like more information about the transition process at New Lowell Central Public School.



## Stay Healthy this School Year

COVID and other respiratory infections can spread easily from person to person. These germs can spread quickly when someone coughs or sneezes directly on another person, or when germs land on hard surfaces like doorknobs, desks, and keyboards and then are touched by someone else. These germs can then enter the body through the eyes, nose, or mouth.

The most important thing you can do to keep from getting sick and stop the spread of germs is wash your hands. Wash with soap and warm running water for at least 15 seconds (or try singing Happy Birthday twice). If your hands are not visibly dirty you can use alcohol-based hand sanitizer for 15 seconds. Also, make sure you are up to date with your immunizations, cover coughs and sneezes, and stay home if you are sick. Teach your kids to do the same!

For more tips to keep you and your family healthy this school year, contact *Health Connection* at 1-877-721-7520 or visit [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org).

*Information provided by The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit.*

### Creating Safe and Healthy Schools

A healthy school supports children to reach their full health and learning potential. There are many ways for you to get involved in creating a safe and healthy school for your child. Here are some ideas:

- Talk with your child about what they are learning at school and find ways to role model or reinforce the health messages at home
- Stay informed about your child's school through the school website and social media platforms.
- Get to know your child's friends, other parents, and staff from the school and communicate often.
- Volunteer to participate on a committee that helps organize healthy activities for the school community. Contact your child's school or your local public health unit to get started.

Looking for more parenting support? Speak with a public health nurse by calling 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 or visit [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org)

### Parent/Guardian Self-Care

As parents and caregivers, it is important that we take time to check in with ourselves. When you are feeling stressed or overwhelmed, take time for yourself, even if it is just a few minutes. Working through your own feelings will make it easier for you to support and reassure your child.

Self-care does not need to be complicated. Take a few minutes to do something you enjoy, connect with a friend, or move your body. It is not selfish, it is self-preservation.

For more information, call *Health Connection* at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 or visit [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org)

*Information provided by The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit.*



## Days of Awareness 2023-24

Days of Awareness for February 2024

Feb. 1-29 Black History Month  
Feb. 1 World Hijab Day  
Feb. 1-2 Imbolc  
Feb. 2 Groundhog Day & World Wetlands Day  
Feb. 4 World Cancer Day  
Feb. 6 Isra'a and Mi'raj  
Feb. 10 Losar/Tibetan New Year & Lunar New Year/  
Maitreya Bodhisattva's Birthday Feb. 11 International  
Day of Women and Girls in Science  
Feb. 14 Ash Wednesday, Valentines Day & Vasant  
Panchami  
Feb. 15 National Flag of Canada Day & Nirvana Day  
Feb. 17 Random Acts of Kindness Day  
Feb. 19 Family Day  
Feb. 20 World Day of Social Justice  
Feb. 24 Magha/Sangha Day  
Feb. 24-25 Mid-Sha'ban  
Feb. 26 – March 1 Ayyám-i-Há/Intercalary Days  
Feb. 28 Pink Shirt Day (Anti-Bullying Day)  
Feb. 29 Rare Diseases Day

**SCHOOOSE**  
*Kindness*

## Subscribe to Community Connects!

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) is excited to launch Community Connects, a new bi-monthly newsletter for the SCDSB community. Our shared goal with this new tool is to keep our community partners and stakeholders informed while nurturing relationships that are built on accountability, trust and transparency.

To learn more and subscribe, visit the Community Connects page on the SCDSB website:

[https://www.scdsb.on.ca/community/community\\_connects](https://www.scdsb.on.ca/community/community_connects)

## Registration now open for summer eLearning!

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) is offering summer school courses in July 2024 (eLearning) and travel for credit courses in both July and August for current high school students 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 <https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.thelearningcentres.com%2Fprograms%2FEDUTravel> 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 [www.edutravelforcredit.com](http://www.edutravelforcredit.com)

## 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!

## Register your child for the YMCA Escape in the Landscape Program

Register your child for an outdoor education experience like no other. The YMCA of Simcoe Muskoka's Escape in the Landscape Program offers nature immersion activities led by qualified staff for children ages 4-12. Through experimentation, peer-to-peer learning, and storytelling, your child will be encouraged to discover new experiences and skills, all while making lasting friendships and developing a love of the great outdoors.

During this memorable program, your child will:

- Learn about the land and how to be environmental caretakers
- Connect with nature and build self-confidence
- Improve their mental and physical health
- Be curious, resilient, and motivated to make a difference.

The program runs for eight weeks from March to April 2024 and is offered in Alliston, Innisfil, Midland, Wasaga Beach and Barrie.

Cost:

Ages 4-6: \$125.00

Ages 7-12: \$175.00

For more information and to register, visit <https://ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca/escape-in-the-landscape/>

*Information provided by the YMCA of Simcoe Muskoka*

## Online luring and grooming

As part of our shared commitment to education our students about digital citizenship and cyber awareness, this month we are highlighting online luring and grooming. The following info sheet has been created by the Educational Collaborative Network of Ontario (ECNO) to overview:

- what online luring and grooming is
- Commonly used tactics that online predators use
- Helpful tips to stay safe
- How to report if necessary

Info sheet: [https://ecno.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/ECNO-CAM-Calendar-23-Aug3023\\_GroomingLuring.pdf](https://ecno.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/ECNO-CAM-Calendar-23-Aug3023_GroomingLuring.pdf)

For additional activities and information, please refer to the digital citizenship resources for parents/guardians that are available on the Safe Schools page on the SCDSB website ([www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/safe\\_schools](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/safe_schools)). The Ministry of Education has also provided information and resources in PPM 166 Keeping Students Safe: Policy Framework for School Board Anti-Sex Trafficking Protocols: [www.ontario.ca/document/education-ontario-policy-and-program-direction/policyprogram-memorandum-166](http://www.ontario.ca/document/education-ontario-policy-and-program-direction/policyprogram-memorandum-166).

## Subscribe to Kindergarten Connections!

Will your child be turning four in 2024? If so, the SCDSB invites you to Kindergarten Connections! This is a monthly newsletter informing families of everything they need to know about preparing their child for school, as well as registering them for Kindergarten in the SCDSB.

To learn more and subscribe, visit the Kindergarten page on the SCDSB website: [www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning\\_for\\_school/Kindergarten](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/Kindergarten).

## EarlyON Child and Family Centres

The foundation for lifelong learning and health is built in the early years. EarlyON Child and Family Centres across Simcoe County offer programs for children prenatal to six years of age and their parents/guardians and caregivers. They offer access to play- and inquiry-based learning supported by *How Does Learning Happen?* Ontario's pedagogy for the early years, information on child development and developmental screening including Early Referral Identification Kits (ERIKs), parent/guardian education, referrals to community resources, nutrition information, and post-natal resources. Check with your local EarlyON provider: <https://linktr.ee/earlyonsimcoe>

## Safety Procedures

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. You can help your child understand these procedures 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

### **Shelter in place**

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. During a shelter in place, activities will continue inside the school, but students and staff will not be allowed to leave the building. The ventilation system may be shut off.

### **Hold and secure**

A hold and secure is initiated when there is a situation in the community that is not related to the school, like a bank robbery nearby. A hold and secure is usually initiated by police. During a hold and secure, activities continue inside the building, but all exterior doors are locked and no one is allowed to enter or exit the school.

### **Lockdown**

A lockdown is used when there is a major incident or a threat of violence related to the school. A lockdown can be initiated by police or school staff. During a lockdown, students and staff will move to secure areas, away from doors and windows. Interior doors are locked, lights are shut off and blinds are drawn. Students and staff remain quiet.

Our schools 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](http://www.facebook.com/SCDSB) and [www.twitter.com/SCDSB\\_Schools](http://www.twitter.com/SCDSB_Schools)) and website, through local police and local media.

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.

### **Locked doors and arrival/dismissal**

Elementary school main doors are locked during the school day. Visitors must use the intercom system to enter the building. Staff may not always be available to answer the door, please be patient. All visitors are required to sign-in at school offices and wear visitor identification. Even regular visitors, like school volunteers, must sign in and wear visitor identification.

Arrival and dismissal are busy times at our schools. We need to work together with parents, guardians and childcare providers to make sure students are safe. Read our [arrival and dismissal best practices](#).

### **Fire and evacuation drills**

All schools have evacuation plans in case of gas leaks, bomb threats or fire incidents which would require everyone to leave the school. Each school has an evacuation site. Parents will be informed about pick-up procedures by the school, school board and local media. Schools practice their evacuation plans throughout the year during regular drills.

### **Criminal background checks for staff and volunteers**

All staff and volunteers are required to complete a criminal background check with vulnerable sector screening before having contact with students.



BLACK  
HISTORY  
MONTH



## Safety Procedures con't

### Safe Arrival program

All parents/guardians are asked to contact their school when their child will be absent from school. When schools do not hear from a parent/guardian, and a student who is enrolled in the Safe Arrival program is absent, the school will call home to find out the reason for the absence.

On days when buses are cancelled due to inclement weather, the safe arrival program continues. For parents/guardians of students who ride the bus on these days, if you receive a call and believe that your child should be in attendance, you are asked to please call the school. Otherwise, the school will assume that you are aware of your child's absence. Families of students who walk to school should call the school if their children are not attending on inclement weather days.

### First Aid equipment

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).

### Code of conduct

The SCDSB's [code of conduct](#) outlines expected standards of behaviour and student discipline procedures. It applies to every member of the school community, and outlines the roles and responsibilities for each group.

### Our commitment

It's important for you to know that we'll always take whatever precautions are necessary to keep our school and students safe. Your children are our children—we are committed to their safety, well-being and success.

If you have any questions about safety procedures, as always, please contact your school office.

## Mental Health Promotion Strategy of the Month - Just Breathe

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

This month's strategy is *Just Breathe*. The purpose of this strategy is to help students develop a mind/body connection, self-regulation, awareness of emotions, and resiliency by practicing deep breathing.

To practice *Just Breathe* at home, follow these steps:

- Place your hands flat on your stomach or pay attention to your stomach.
- As you breathe deeply in through your nose, send this breath all the way to your stomach.
- Feel your stomach expand and your hands move out.
- Breathe out. Feel your stomach contract and your hands move in.
- Repeat 5-6 times.

Practice deep belly breathing any time you feel stressed or upset. Find more information to support your child's mental health here: <https://smho-smso.ca/parents-and-caregivers/>



## Summer eLearning opportunities for Students entering Grade 9!

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) is offering summer school eLearning courses in July 2024. 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:

CGC1D - Grade 9 Geography  
PAF10 - Grade 9 Personal Fitness  
CHV20 & GLC2) - 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

[www.thelearningcentres.com/programs/summer\\_school](http://www.thelearningcentres.com/programs/summer_school)

## Foster families needed in your community!

Children in our community need you! We have an urgent need for foster homes in Simcoe Muskoka. We are looking for diverse foster care providers who understand children's needs. Our needs are diverse and range from babies to teens. Open your home to a child/youth and receive training, support, and between \$85 and \$155 per child and per day. Do you know anyone who may be interested? Visit <https://familyconnexions.ca/fosterconnexions/> to inquire, apply, and for more information. You may also call 705-726-6587 ext. 4

*Information provided by Simcoe Muskoka Family Connexions.*

## 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.

## REMINDER: Safe Arrival System for SCDSB Schools - Call 1-888-885-8065 to report an absence.

This school year, the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) launched a new Safe Arrival system at elementary schools. This system supports us in continuing to improve our home-to-school communication process and streamlines absence reporting. **To report a student absence, call 1-888-885-8065.** Callers will be prompted to identify the school before leaving a message. Parents/guardians should include the student's name, teacher's name, dates and reason for absence. When schools do not hear from a parent/guardian, and a student is absent, the school will call home to find out the reason for the absence. If you have questions about the system, please contact the school office.



## Standards of Behaviour and Consequences for Student Action Relate to Racism, Bias or Hate

At the SCDSB, we are committed to maintaining safe, inviting, and supportive school environments, and recognize that all students have the right to be safe, and feel safe in our schools. With this right comes the responsibility to contribute to a positive school climate.

We want you to know that any incident of racism, bias, or hate will not be tolerated. Any such incident is treated very seriously with immediate action and consequences in accordance with the requirements of the *Education Act*, and consistent with our values and obligations under the *Ontario Human Rights Code*.

Students who engage in acts of racism, bias, or hate will face severe consequences as a result of their actions. Please take a moment to review the SCDSB Code of Conduct with your child(ren). The Code of Conduct sets clear standards of behaviour and specifies consequences for student actions that do not comply with these standards. Visit [www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/safe\\_schools](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/safe_schools) to learn more.

The SCDSB's Human Rights and Equity Office (HREO) has an advisory titled *Prohibiting the Use of the N-word*. Please take a moment to review this advisory with your child(ren) by visiting the HREO page on the SCDSB website <https://tinyurl.com/3jsvhan6>.

We are dedicated to educating our students and staff about the injustice and impact of systemic racism. We continue to work with students, staff, parents/guardians and community partners to ensure that our schools are the safe places they are intended to be for all students.

## Supporting Oral Language Development at Home

Within the revised language curriculum, there is a focus on supporting students to acquire the knowledge and skills relating to the foundations of language. Oral and non-verbal communication are foundational components of language skills. Over the years, students develop their listening and speaking abilities using a variety of strategies and skills, including word choice and syntax, to become effective communicators.

- Engage your child in conversations about things that interest them
- Talk to your child and listen responsively
- Ask and answer questions
- Share oral stories
- Read aloud to your child
- Talk about the books you read together
- Singing and playing together



## 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). Here are some ways to do that:

Sign up to receive SCDSB media releases by clicking the 'Subscribe' button at [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca)

Follow the SCDSB on X (@SCDSB\_Schools),  
Facebook (facebook.com/SCDSB) and Instagram (instagram.com/scdsb).  
X (@nlo\_scdsb)  
nlo.scdsb.on.ca

## Stay healthy this school year

COVID and other respiratory infections can spread easily from person to person to person. These germs can spread quickly when someone coughs or sneezes directly on another person, or when germs land on hard surfaces like doorknobs, desks and keyboards and then are touched by someone else. These germs can then enter the body through the eyes, nose and mouth.

The most important thing you can do to keep from getting sick and stop the spread of germs is wash your hands. Wash with soap and warm running water for at least 15 seconds ( or try singing Happy Birthday twice). If your hands are not visibly dirty you can use alcohol-based hand sanitizer for 15 seconds. Also, make sure you are up to date with your immunizations, cover coughs and sneezes, and stay home if you are sick. Teach your kids to do the same!

For more tips to keep you and your family health this school year, contact Health Connection at 1-877-721-7520 or visit [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org)

*Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit.*

### New Math at Home Online Resource for Families

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) Math team is excited to launch Math at Home, an online resource for parents/caregivers of SCDSB students from ages –0-16. Math at home provides the following information and resources to support math learning:

- Math games to play at home
- Links to digital math games
- Practice opportunities
- Real world math connections
- Math mindset

Math at Home will be updated monthly to include new math games , problems and number talks. Visit [www.scdsb.on.ca/MathAtHome](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/MathAtHome) to begin supporting your child's math learning at home!

### Snow Day Safe Arrival Calls

On inclement weather days (when busses are cancelled) **ALL** absences will be assumed due to weather unless you notify the office otherwise. If your student(s) will be away due to weather, you **DO NOT** need to call in or email. A general Inclement Weather Safe Arrival call will be made to **ALL** families of absent students. **This message is different than the regular Safe Arrival message (for non-inclement weather days) and can be disregarded UNLESS your child is supposed to be at the school – in which case you should call us to confirm their attendance.**

### Developing Fluency through repeated Reading

Fluency, the ability to read smoothly, accurately, and with expression, is a fundamental skill that significantly impacts a child's overall reading proficiency. When children read fluently, they can focus more on comprehension, understanding the meaning behind the words, rather than struggling with decoding.

Repeated reading is a highly effective strategy that involves a child reading the same text multiple times. This method aims to enhance fluency, comprehension, and overall reading proficiency. By revisiting a text, readers become more familiar with the words and structure, leading to increased speed and accuracy. Additionally, repeated reading allows children to focus on expression and intonation, promoting a more natural and engaging reading style. This approach is particularly beneficial for struggling readers, as it builds confidence and reinforces word recognition. As parents/guardians, incorporating repeated reading into your child's routine not only reinforces the joy of reading but also cultivates a strong foundation for improved fluency and comprehension skills over time.

### Safe Arrival

**Report a student absence: 1-888-885-8065**

**Please note that pressing #1 DOES NOT confirm your student is absent, only CONFIRMS you've received the phone call.**

## Math @Home Parent and Caregiver Series

It's back! The SCDSB math team is pleased to offer three virtual sessions for parents and caregivers of SCDSB students. These sessions will focus on practical and fun ways to support children with their mathematics learning and engagement at home. The first 200 registrants will receive a Math @Home kit of resources to use at home. Participants must pre-register for each of the sessions.

### Exploring the new SCDSB family math resources

Tuesday February 6, 2024 7pm to 8pm

This session is for parents and caregivers. Join members of the SCDSB math team for a guided exploration of the new SCDSB family math resources. Participants will have the opportunity to explore the resources that are available to support their child's math learning at home. The guided portion of the session will be 45 minutes in length. During the final 15 minutes, the math team will be available to answer questions about the session.

### Tips for engaging in math conversations with your child @Home

Wednesday February 28, 2024 7pm to 8pm

This session is for parents and caregivers and will explore opportunities to discuss math with their child(ren) at home. Participants will learn about how events such as shopping, preparing food, engaging in a building project, or going for a walk can be used as a starting point for math conversations, and will receive prompts to get the discussion rolling. The guided portion of the session will be 45 minutes in length. During the final 15 minutes, the math team will be available to answer questions about the session.

### Games to support your child's math learning @Home

Thursday April 4, 2024 7pm to 8pm

This session is for parents, caregivers and their children. Playing games at home is a great way to support child(ren)'s math development. In this session, several games will be explored, and participants will have the opportunity to try the games with their children during the session. The guided portion of the session will be 45 minutes in length followed by 15 additional minutes for further game play or to ask questions of our math facilitators. Bring your child(ren) and your math kit to this session!

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

Use this link to register: <https://bit.ly/24MathAtHome>.

### School Schedule

Period 1 9:30 - 10:20 am

Period 2 10:20 - 11:10 am

**Nutrition Break 11:10 - 11:30 am**

**Fitness Break 11:30 - 11:50 am**

Period 3 11:50 - 12:40 pm

Period 4 12:40 - 1:30 pm

**Nutrition Break 1:30 - 1:50 pm**

**Fitness Break 1:50 - 2:10 pm**

Period 5 2:10 - 3:00 pm

Period 6 3:00 - 3:50 pm

## New Lowell Central Public School

5197 County Road 9

New Lowell, ON L0M 1N0

Phone: 705-424-0991

Fax: 705-424-0012

Website: [nlo.scdsb.on.ca](http://nlo.scdsb.on.ca)

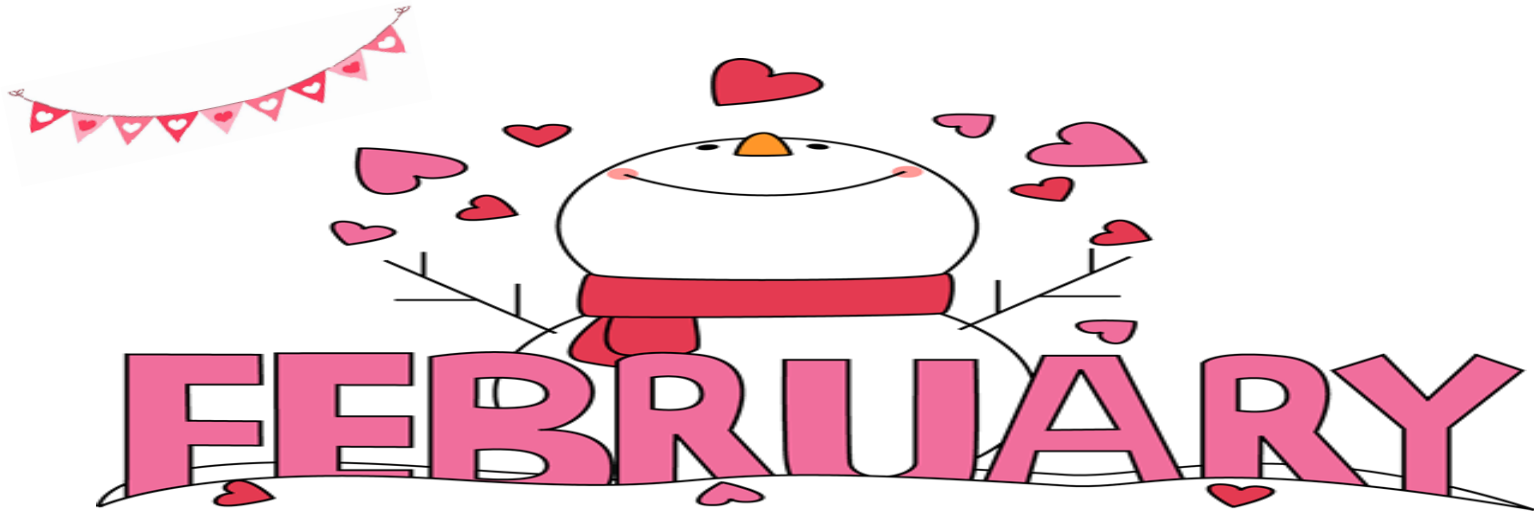
Email: [newlowell@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:newlowell@scdsb.on.ca)

Safe Arrival: [nloattendance@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:nloattendance@scdsb.on.ca)

Twitter: [@nlo\\_scdsb](https://twitter.com/nlo_scdsb)







Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
BLACK HISTORY MONTH				1 Barrie Colts Tickets on sale, see SchoolCash  Boys Basketball @NLCPS Pizza Day	2	3
4	5	6	7  Mr. Sub	8  Boys Basketball @NLCPS  Pizza Day	9	10
11	12 Boys Basketball Mini Tournament in Baxter	13 Boys Basketball in Creemore	14  Mr. Sub	15  Pizza Day	16	17
18	19 	20 Boys Basketball at Worsley	21  Mr. Sub	22  Pizza Day	23	24
25	26 Int. Girls Volleyball tournament @SCI	27 Basketball Area Tournament	28  Mr. Sub	29  Last day for Colts tickets  Pizza Day		