

JANUARY 2023

Angus Morrison Elementary School



HOME OF THE
DRAGONS!

91 Simcoe Street, Angus, ON, L0M 1B5

Phone: 705-424-5701 Fax: 705-424-0086

Website: ang.scdsb.on.ca

Twitter @AngusMorrisonES

Mrs. Suzanne Laybolt, Principal

Mrs. Moxam, Vice Principal

January Character Trait: Honesty



Honest hearts produce
honest actions.

In This Issue

- School Council
- Standards Of Behaviour And Consequences For Student Action Related To Racism, Bias Or Hate
- Mrs. Brown's Library Corner
- Kindergarten Registration
- Kindergarten Virtual Info Session
- High School Information For Grade 8's
- Ministry of Education and Tutoring
- Supporting Students and Families With Special Needs

Honesty - We behave in a sincere, trustworthy and truthful manner.

Important Dates And Events For January

School Council Meeting—January 16

Open House For Grade 8's @ NPSS—January 17

AMES Harvey's Night—January 17

Kindergarten Virtual Info Session—January 24

PA Day—January 27

**BE KIND
WHENEVER
POSSIBLE
IT IS ALWAYS
POSSIBLE**
Dalai Lama

School Council

Declutter your life...
support your school!

AMES has partnered with Kidney Clothes to both raise money for the school and help you clean out your closets!

Kidney Clothes will be accepting clothing donations from AMES families and giving back part of the proceeds to the school.

See important details below!

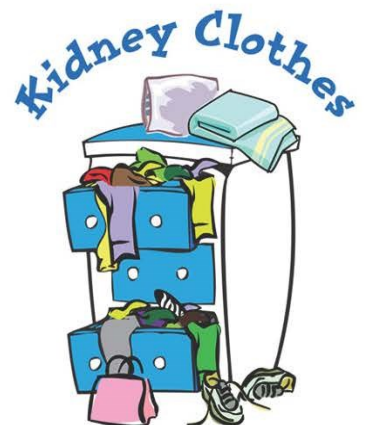
LOCATION: 570 Bryne Drive Unit J.

DROP OFF TIMES: Monday - Friday 9am-4pm only. If dropped off after hours, the school will not get credit.

LABELLING INSTRUCTIONS: All clothing bags **MUST** be labelled "Angus Morrison Elementary School" or the school will not get credit.



We can't
possibly make a
fundraiser any
easier.
Get decluttering!





The School Cash Online program is used by the SCDSB **for online forms** and/or to collect school funds.

Parents/guardians can select to receive email notification when a new item becomes available. Items are personalized to each student.

Payment can be made by credit card, electronic cheque or using visa/debit style card. To create an online account, go to

<https://simcoecounty.schoolcashionline.com>.

Please complete the permissions and acknowledgements form on SchoolCash Online to allow your child(ren) to participate in activities such as community walks, safe arrival, etc.

Please check for upcoming field trips

****Lunches Made Easy, Mr. Sub And Pizza Available To Order Now!****

Lunches will be cancelled on days that busses are cancelled due to snow



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.

Standards Of Behaviour And Consequences For Student Action Related 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.

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.



Mrs. Brown's Library Corner



Welcome back!

We are looking forward to an exciting month in our Library/Learning Commons as we learn more about Chinese New Year, winter adaptations, hockey, and continue coding through websites and hands-on activities.



Family Literacy Day is January 27th. Check out the [website](#) for loads of fun ideas for families. Barbara Reid, our world famous plasticine artist and author, will be the chairperson again this year.

Blue Spruce 2023 will be back for those in Kindergarten to Grade 3 who are participating with their classes. [Check out the amazing nominees for this year](#) – lots of great diversity for all of our readers. Students will vote for their favourite book near the end of April and we will have our annual Blue Spruce Celebration to find out the winner in May!



Reminder: All Simcoe County students have access to Our SORA Digital Library. Just add the free SORA app to your phone or tablet and your child can log in with their SCDSB Google Drive account email. Click on Simcoe County District School Board (don't search for Angus Morrison) and your child is able to access thousands of new ebooks, audio books and magazines. To access SORA on a laptop or Chromebook, go to <https://soraapp.com/library/simcoecountyca>



Yours in literacy,
Gina Brown
Teacher-Librarian
glbrown@scdsb.on.ca

High School Information Events For Grade 8 Students

Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information events will take place in person this winter! Student leaders and staff at the school will give an overview of what's new and what to expect. Learn about courses offered, as well as information about teams and clubs. Please visit the SCDSB website to find details on your high schools' info night, and contact the school directly for more information.

Kindergarten Registration For September 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.

Join SCDSB For A Live Virtual Kindergarten Info session Jan. 24th

Do you have a child who is turning four in 2023 and are interested in learning about Kindergarten in the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB)? Join us Tuesday, Jan. 24 from 7 to 7:30 p.m. for a virtual info session. This presentation will be hosted by members of the SCDSB's early years team, who will provide parents/guardians with important information they need to know about Kindergarten. More details regarding this event will be shared on the SCDSB website and social media platforms in January.



♥ Welcome to
Kindergarten

Ontario Ministry Of Education Tutoring Services

The Ontario Ministry of Education is supporting tutoring services in schools and in the community until the end of March 2023. Schools offering after school tutoring services will advertise this service directly to parents/guardians. Community tutoring agencies provide free-of-charge tutoring to Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) students after hours in the community and online. Contact information for community tutoring agencies can be found at www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/tutoring_programs. Tutoring is available to all SCDSB students from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 12. The SCDSB is also seeking members of the community to act as tutors in our schools during the school day. All candidates must apply through Apply to Education Posting #3361243. Candidates are required to be interviewed by SCDSB administration, provide professional references, and complete a Vulnerable Sector Screen through their local police service. For more information, please email tutoring@scdsb.on.ca.

Bite-Sized Math Support At Home

Are you looking for a quick way to support your child in developing their numeracy skills? Here are two resources that provide math activities that can be done in 5 minutes or less!

1. mathbeforebed.com/ We know that daily reading at home supports your child's literacy development; the same is true with math! This website provides images that can be used as a quick number talk before bed. Ask your child: "how many do you see?" and "how do you know?" This website has content for students of all ages.
2. www.parentengagementmatters.ca/math-storytime Math Storytime is a tablet-based app for ages 5-8 that contains stories about basic math concepts. The stories provide the opportunity for talking about math at home.

Early Learning And Child Care

The Simcoe County EarlyON Child and Family Centres are excited to offer programs that help prepare children and parents for Kindergarten. Programming will be offered in the spring of 2023. For more information and to find your local EarlyON provider, visit: <https://linktr.ee/earlyonsimcoe>



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.

IEPs and school-based assessments – information for parents/caregivers

Jan. 12

6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Supporting students with autism spectrum disorder

Feb. 14

6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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.

SCDSB/YMCA Simcoe Muskoka Team Up To Launch The Y Achieve Tutoring Program

Based on decades of research, we know the foundational literacy skills necessary for students to learn to read. Oral language is a natural process for us as humans, and our brain is wired for speaking and listening. As children interact with others, they acquire language skills, learning the pronunciation of words and their meaning. Oral language helps children learn the sound structure of language and build vocabulary and background knowledge. Oral language is the foundation for reading and writing.

Ways you can support oral language development with your child(ren) at home:: Sharing oral stories, active everyday conversations, listening games such as Simon Says, dramatic play where your child takes on imaginary roles, reading books together

Four ways to improve your child's study habits

As we welcome the new year, people often take this time to reflect and make resolutions to form good habits for the year ahead. For some, these resolutions are personal goals, like cooking more meals at home, or joining a local gym – but what about setting family goals? As a parent, you can help your children set goals that will help them succeed at school, such as improving study habits.

It is difficult to see your child struggle with their schoolwork, but with these tips, your child will be able to effectively use their study time to thrive in school this year. Even better, working on these habits now will set them up for success for years to come — both in school and in the workplace. Here are four ways you can help improve your child's study habits:

Eliminate distraction

Learning requires focus and concentration to be successful. Removing distractions from your child's learning space is crucial. Portable technology is the largest distraction when it comes to studying. While studying, try to choose a location outside of their study space where they can leave their phone or tablet to minimize distractions. Of course, there are other types of distractions as well, such as a nearby TV or other children. If possible, find a study location away from the home's common space. Allow your child to turn on white noise or music if it helps them concentrate. It might aid in blocking out other obtrusive sounds so they can concentrate on their schoolwork.

Try alternatives to reading

It can get tiresome to read notes and textbooks to learn new information. Your child can only focus for so long before they begin to lose interest and tire of the subject. Try alternative strategies, such as creating flashcards, finding an informative video, listening to educational podcasts or audio books, or asking them to visualize a concept with a graphic or diagram. Kids learn in different ways. Find what works best for your child and use it to their advantage. Just be sure to keep the focus on studying and avoid the online distractions.

Give regular praise

Positive parenting and recognizing their accomplishments (both big and small) may be all the motivation they require to succeed. Let them know you appreciate all their effort and hard work. Make sure to celebrate effort over outcome to show your child that trying is the most important thing. Some great wins to celebrate include solving a tricky problem, reaching a reading or math goal, or finishing a project or assignment. Let them know you are proud of them and that they should be proud of themselves as well. They'll be eager to advance if you sometimes throw in a special treat or outing!

Find additional help when needed

Perhaps one of the biggest lessons for students to learn is not be afraid to ask for help when needed. However, as a parent, sometimes we don't have the knowledge or ability to provide the help they need when it comes to schooling. That's when it's important to seek additional help, such as a tutor. Tutors can provide professional, tailored help to students, whether it is with an entire subject or a concept within a subject. Tutors can help your child succeed in school, while giving you peace of mind that they are learning with a professional.

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) has teamed up with the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka to launch the Y Achieve Tutoring program. This program provides free tutoring sessions outside of school hours, free of charge for any students who may be struggling. These sessions are open to students from Grades 6 to 12 attending a school within the SCDSB, whether you have a YMCA membership or not. For more information, or to book a session online, please visit www.ymcasm.ca/tutoring or contact morgan.gillies@sm.ymca.ca.

Information provided by the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka

Drop Off/ Pick UP Procedures



If you are picking up your child for appointments during our nutrition/recess times, please expect delays as this is a very busy time for our office staff. Students are socializing during this time and may not hear their name being called over the intercom. This is also the case if students are busy playing outside. Please reference the website for our daily schedule @ <http://ang.scdsb.on.ca/>

Parking At Angus Morrison

Many of you are aware of the congestion during pick up and drop off times. Safety is our primary concern.

Please follow these procedures during pick up and drop off times:

Consider parking on our side streets and walking from there. Remind your child to cross the street at stop signs and use the newly installed crosswalks.

Our parking lots are closed from 9:00—9:30am and again in the afternoon from 3:15 — 3:45pm.

Be patient and allow our buses and school vans to pull in and out of their parking areas. DO NOT try to squeeze past or block their entry/exit.

Grades 1-8 walkers, please enter and exit the school yard on Simcoe Street. Bussed students will enter and exit on Sydenham Street as well as the Kindergarten students. Parents, please follow these procedures as it helps tremendously to keep pick up and drop off times organized and running smoothly. Thanks to all our families for your understanding and patience when using our parking lot/driveway to pick up and drop off students.





Potential Student Transportation Delays

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.

Inclement Weather And Bus Cancellation 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. Our school is in the Central 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 Consortium and bus operators try to make the decision to cancel school buses before 6 a.m. and make every effort to post announcements before 7 a.m. Inclement weather cancellations are effective for the whole day and buses cancelled in the morning will not run at the end of the day. You can follow the Consortium on Twitter [@SCSTC_SchoolBus](https://twitter.com/SCSTC_SchoolBus) for bus cancellations and other information. You can also subscribe to receive bus delay notifications here: <https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions/Login.aspx>.

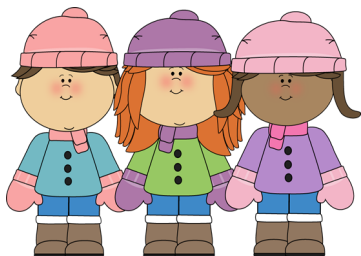


JANUARY



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Welcome Back!	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 School Council Meeting 6:30PM-8PM	17 AMES Harvey's Night Open House for Grade 8's @ NPSS 6PM-7:30PM	18 Grade 6 Trip	19	20	21
22	23	24 Kindergarten Virtual Info Session 7PM-7:30pm	25 Team Day Wear Your Favourite Sports Team Gear	26	27 Family Literacy Day PA DAY	28
29	30	31	WE ARE IN THE CENTRAL ZONE FOR ALL BUS CANCELLATIONS			

<u>Upcoming Dates To Remember</u>	
-Report Cards	February 17
-Family Day	February 20
-March Break	March 13-17



(705) 424-5701 Phone
 Press "1" for Safe Arrival
 (705) 424-0086 Fax
ang.scdsb.on.ca
 K. Micallef — SAS-E
 M. Walker — Clerk
 D. Nobes—Clerk