



NEW LOWELL CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

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

Phone 705-424-0991/Fax 424-0012

School Web Site: <http://nlo.scdsb.on.ca/>

Angela Cook, Principal

Jane Anderson, SASE

DECEMBER 2017

CHARACTER TRAIT: **Empathy** – We strive to understand and appreciate the feelings and actions of others.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 5:	Character Recognition Assembly 9:30 a.m.
December 6:	Poinsettia Orders Due
December 8:	Pajama Spirit Day
December 11:	Family Art Night 6–7:30 p.m.
December 12:	Pick-up Poinsettias 3:30 – 5 p.m.
December 15:	Christmas Cheer Pick Up
December 14:	Christmas Concert 11:30 & 6:30 p.m.
December 22:	Christmas Spirit Day
January 8:	School Begins

PLEASE NOTE:

- ★ That staff supervision is not available for students until 8:55 a.m.
- ★ Ensure that all children are sent with clothing suited for the colder temperatures.
- ★ Listen to the radio (KICX 104.1, CHAY 93.1, ROCK 95 or PEAK 95.1) and/or check the Board website (www.scdsb.on.ca) for bus cancellations.



PRINCIPAL'S DESK

As the holiday season approaches, it is important to remember to take some time for yourselves, and be with family and friends. Please find the time to read to and with your child and make many wonderful memories! I wish you all a safe and happy holiday and look forward to the exciting things 2018 will bring.

CLOSING OF SCHOOL UNDER CONDITIONS BROUGHT ABOUT BY INCLEMENT WEATHER

The Board has a Bus Icon on the home page of the board website that shows bus information. **New Lowell Central is in the WEST DISTRICT.**

It will be the parent's responsibility to pick up any child who has attended school. The school will remain open unless stated otherwise on the radio or website.

IT'S WINTER: BUS CANCELLATION INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Winter is here in Simcoe County, and with it comes the possibility of severe weather, challenging winter driving conditions and possible bus and school event cancellations. Please listen to the radio, KICX 104.1, CHAY 93.1, ROCK 95, PEAK 95.1 or check the board website www.scdsb.on.ca to see if busses are cancelled.

All information regarding cancelled buses in Simcoe County is posted on the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium's bus information website at

www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca. Our school is in the **WEST ZONE**. When buses are cancelled, schools are still open for student learning, unless otherwise noted. Take note that if busses are not running in the morning they will not be transporting students at the end of the day.

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 between 6 and 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 for bus cancellations and other information. You can also subscribe to receive bus delay notifications here: <https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions>

SAFE ARRIVAL AND INCLEMENT WEATHER

The Safe Arrival Program is in place in elementary schools to ensure that children arrive safely at school each day. Please be advised that on days when buses are cancelled due to inclement weather, calls will **not** be made to families whose children ride school transportation. Families of those children who walk to school are asked to report their child's absence to the school if they will not be in attendance. An effort will be made to call families of walking students who are not present, but, on some days, given the number of absent students, this may be not possible.

LOST AND FOUND

Our lost and found items are not being found. Please have your children check the bins before leaving for holidays. Items will be donated to the Helping Hand in Angus over the holidays.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

New Lowell Central will be presenting a Primary Christmas Concert on Thursday, December 14, 2017. Performances will be at 11:30 a.m. and also at 6:30 p.m. Tickets for a parking spot and front row seat raffle are being sent home with the youngest and only students in the primary classes. If the weather does not co-operate and we have a bus cancellation that day, the concert will be moved to Monday, December 18th.



CHRISTMAS CHEER

New Lowell Central Public School is collecting food items and toiletries for the local food bank this holiday season. We are also collecting donations of toys for the Toy Drive and hats and mitts for local shelters. Our school goal is to collect 800 items! This year we are having a challenge to see which class can bring in the most items! The winning class will receive a Christmas treat!

The Kindergartens and Learning Centre will once again be going around to each class every day to collect, sort and count the items that have been donated.

Our Christmas Cheer Challenge begins Friday, December 1st and goes until Thursday, December 14th. Please support our local community by contributing to our Christmas Cheer Challenge.

When grocery shopping this month, please keep in mind that food banks are looking for baby food, evaporated milk, canned fruit and vegetables, cereal, soup and canned fish and meats. Thank you for your support!



MITTEN TREE

We will be collecting mittens, gloves, scarves, hats and socks – adult and children's sizes – for a mitten tree that we will have set up in our lobby. These items will be donated to a women's shelter.



LIBRARY NEWS

BOOK FAIR

Congratulations New Lowell. Due to your generous support, our latest book fair raised \$800 in new resources for our school. Thank you so much everyone for your support.

LIBRARY LENDING

Just a reminder that primary book lending will be finished on Friday, December 15th, for the year. Students are encouraged to return all books to the library. Regular lending will continue in January when we return from Christmas holidays. Regular lending for Junior and Intermediate students will continue over Christmas, however, Ms. Hartley asks that you do not take your library books on vacation with you.

SPEECHES

Junior and Intermediate students are invited to participate in our Speeches competition that will be held in January/February. Classes will be having students who are interested in participating in the competition complete speeches early in January. They will compete in their class first, and the winners will be coming to the gym in late January early February where they will compete to earn the right to move on to the Legion/Lions competition. Best of luck to all the students who wish to participate.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION OPENS IN JANUARY

Do you (or someone you know) have a child who was born in 2014? If so, it's almost time to register them for Kindergarten in the SCDSB! Beginning on January 22, 2018, Simcoe County's public schools will be registering children for Kindergarten for the 2018-2019 school year. Required registration documents include birthdate documentation, proof of address and record of immunization. For more information, visit www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten.

FAMILY ART NIGHT

We will be holding our first family art night on Monday, December 11 from 6 – 7:30 p.m. Registrations went home at the beginning of November. All spots have been filled. If you did not receive a Family Art Night Reminder, you have been put on a waiting list. If you have signed up and something come us (illness, work, etc.) please contact Mrs. Haufe asap at 705-424-0991, so we can let those on the waiting list join. If you are on the waiting list you will be saved a spot for our next family night in February, but still send in your registration form so I know you are interested and available. We are painting for this event, so do not wear your best clothes! See you soon! If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Haufe.

HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION NIGHTS COMING SOON TO A HIGH SCHOOL NEAR YOU

Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information nights happen this fall and winter! Information nights give an overview of what's new and what to expect, and are a chance to ask questions. Attend our local high school information night to find out what's offered: SCI was Wed. Nov. 29 – 6 – 8 p.m. Info Night for NPSS is Wed. Feb. 22 – 6 – 8 p.m.

Check out the full schedule of info nights and more information at www.scdsb.on.ca/highschool.

PARENTS INVITED TO INFORMATION SESSIONS ABOUT SPECIAL EDUCATION

The SCDSB is hosting a series of information sessions for parents and guardians to learn about special education in the SCDSB, and how to support students with special education needs.

Dec. 18

Identification, Placement and Review Committee (IPRC)
Information for Families

Jan. 22

Assessments in Special Education: Psych Ed and Other Assessments

Feb. 19

Transition Planning Grade 8 to 9

Mar. 19

Accessing Supports in the Community

Apr. 16

Understanding Alternative/Non-Academic IEP Goals

All sessions take place from 6 – 7 p.m. at the SCDSB Education Centre, located at 1170 Highway 26 in Midhurst. No registration required.

OHIP+ PROVIDES FREE PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE FOR CHILDREN

Beginning Jan. 1, 2018, the province will provide free prescription drug coverage for children and youth aged 24 and under, regardless of family income. Under OHIP+, will be automatic, based on age. There are no upfront costs, no co-payment and no annual deductible. Those who are eligible for OHIP+ will only need their health card number and a valid prescription from their doctor or nurse practitioner when they visit their pharmacist. For more information, visit: www.ontario.ca/page/learn-about-ohip-plus.

UPDATE YOUR CHILD'S IMMUNIZATION RECORD

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit is required to keep up-to-date immunization records for all students who attend elementary or secondary school in the County of Simcoe and the District of Muskoka. Parents are responsible for reporting immunizations to the health unit each time their child receives a vaccine from their health care provider. The immunizations that the health unit requires records for include: diphtheria, tetanus, polio, measles, mumps, rubella, meningococcal, pertussis and varicella (chickenpox) for those born in 2010 or later.

It's easy to update your child's immunization status. Go to www.smdhu.org/immsonline to update your child's record or call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 (toll free).

SCHOOL PLAYGROUNDS 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 (eg 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.

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 students. The eye exams are covered under 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

Please check the SCDSB web site at www.scdsb.on.ca for news and events from the Board.

FUNDRAISING

POINSETTIAS

Poinsettia order forms were sent home on November 28th. Please return the forms by December 6th. Pick up of poinsettias will be on December 12th from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.