

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

MOUNTAIN VIEWPOINT



300 SPRUCE ST., COLLINGWOOD, ON L9Y 3H1

PHONE: 705 445-1501

FAX: 705 445-1588

BUS CANCELLATION: WEST WEATHER ZONE

Website~ mtv.scdsb.on.ca Twitter @mountainviewES



PRINCIPAL: MR. WILLIAM FLOYD
VICE-PRINCIPAL: MS. KAREN MOFFITT
SECRETARY: MRS. DEBORAH FINBOW

Dear Parents / Guardians

We had a fantastic September and I'm looking forward to another great month of learning and fun.

I am so pleased to see so many of our older students involved in the school's Leadership Program. The participation in the cross country club has been awesome. We wish all the students all the best this Thursday at Creemore and at the Area Meet on October 13th. The energy and enthusiasm have also been demonstrated by students involved in junior basketball and intermediate flag football. Thanks for all your contributions to the Terry Fox Foundation. A huge thanks goes out to the students from the Fundraising and Spirit Crews for organizing the Terry Fox Day.

Be sure to follow us on twitter @mountainviewES and subscribe to the school's website – you will get all posts directly to your email.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Please be aware of our School Council Meeting taking place Monday October 5th in the library at 7pm. Attached is the agenda for Monday.

School council meetings are a great way to learn about what is happening in your child's school. As a school council member, you can help your council discover new and exciting ways to contribute to the education of students in your school. Education is a partnership that involves parents, students, teachers, principals, school boards, government and community. Your involvement in council gives you the chance to strengthen that partnership and to be part of a team working to ensure high quality and accountable education for our children. Please consider getting involved at Mountain View!

Upcoming Events

OCTOBER 5

School Council Meeting 7pm

OCTOBER 7

Walk/Wheel to School Day.

OCTOBER 8

Comic workshop Gr 2 - 6

OCTOBER 8

Creemore Cross Country Run

OCTOBER 9

Blue Jays Day – Wear Blue Jays gear or the colour blue!

OCTOBER 12

Thanksgiving (no school)

OCTOBER 13

Area X-Country Meet

OCTOBER 22

County Flag Football Tournament

OCTOBER 23

PA Day

IMPORTANT NEWS

FUNDRAISING – QSP MAGAZINE

Save Our Subscriptions!

Our QSP Magazine Program is underway, so please save your magazine orders (new or renewals) and order them through our school program. All profits will go towards purchasing a new audio and video system for the gym.

We all benefit!

Our school earns profits through magazines people already purchase. QSP prices are up to 85% off of newsstand prices. A single magazine can cost as little as \$1.00 per issue. That's a great investment in literacy! Any reading material, including magazines, will encourage children to read and a parent who reads is a great role model!

Our group Online ID is 3719861

Order Online or return orders by October 14th

OCTOBER IS INTERNATIONAL WALK/WHEEL TO SCHOOL MONTH – MOUNTAIN VIEW CELEBRATES ON WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 7TH

OCTOBER IS INTERNATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL MONTH – CELEBRATING OCT. 7TH

Did you know that October is International Walk to School month? It is a great way for children to get their recommended 60 minutes of physical activity each day and also gives parents and staff a chance to be part of a worldwide event that celebrates the many benefits of walking. At Mountain View we will include both our walkers and bus students. Bus students will get off the bus and walk around the field as part of their morning walking activity.

We are excited that Mayor Cooper will be joining Mountain View the morning of Walk to School Day.

Check out the website at www.saferoutestoschool.ca for more information. You can also call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 and speak with a public health nurse or visit the health unit website at www.simcoemuskokahealth.org.



WE NEED YOUR HELP TO KEEP STUDENTS SAFE AT ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

The safety of our students is our top priority. Arrival and dismissal are busy times at our school. We need to work together with parents/guardians and childcare providers to make sure students are safe. Here are key points to be aware of when planning pick up and/or drop off of students:



- Supervision starts *20 minutes before bell time*
- Visitors must sign into the office. If you are entering into the school you must wear a visitor badge. Before you leave If you sign
- If parents/guardians arrange for other people to pick up their children, like a private childcare provider, the parent/guardian is responsible to ensure the alternate person/program is picking up on time.
- Designated bus loading zones are out-of-bounds during arrival and dismissal times, with the only exception being Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium buses.
- Once buses have departed and the loading zone has been opened up by school staff, vehicle traffic may begin to flow through the area to pick students up. Traffic must be in constant flow in this area at all times, meaning no unattended parked vehicles in this area.

Unattended vehicles must be parked in an approved parking space, outside of the kiss and ride area, with the engine turned off.

A full description of the Supervision, Arrival and Dismissal Procedures is available at www.scdsb.on.ca – Parents – Safe and Healthy Schools – Procedures.

FREE MATH HELP FOR STUDENTS IN GRADE 7 TO 10

Homework Help is a free online math help resource for students in Grades 7-10. Homework Help provides FREE, live one-on-one tutoring from Ontario teachers, and is funded by the Ontario government and administered by TVO. Students can ask their math questions during chat room hours, Sunday to Thursday, 5:30 – 9:30 p.m. For more information and other math resources, visit: www.homeworkhelp.ilc.org.



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK IS OCTOBER 4 TO 10 - "HEAR THE BEEP WHERE YOU SLEEP"

Did you know that roughly half of home fire deaths result from fires reported between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m., when most people are asleep? Working smoke alarms save lives. If there is a fire in your home, smoke spreads fast and you need smoke alarms to give you time to get out. In fact, smoke alarms can increase your chances of surviving a fire by up to 50%.

The key message of this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, October 4-10, is to install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of your home, including the basement. Larger homes may need more alarms.

Make sure you and your family:

- Test smoke alarms monthly.
- Change the batteries once a year.
- Replace smoke alarms after 10 years.

Develop and practice a home fire escape plan with everyone in your household.

For more information and fun resources for kids, visit: www.nfpa.org/safety-information/fire-prevention-week/for-kids-and-families.



A REMINDER FROM THE HEALTH UNIT: KEEPING YOUR CHILD'S IMMUNIZATION RECORD UP-TO-DATE



The Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA) states that The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit is required by law to keep an up-to-date immunization record on file for every student who attends elementary or secondary school. As of July 1, 2014 ISPA has been updated and includes the following vaccines:

- Varicella (chickenpox) two doses for children born in or after 2010
 - Meningococcal (meningitis)
 - Tetanus, diphtheria, polio and pertussis (whooping cough) - at least 4 doses
- Measles, mumps and rubella - after the first birthday

The health unit does not receive immunization information directly from doctor's offices. Parents need to contact the health unit each time students receive a vaccine from their health care provider. If a student's immunization record on file with the health unit is not up to date, the health unit will mail a notice asking for immunization information or proof of a valid exemption. If the information requested is not given to the health unit, the student may be suspended from school. If your child is due for immunizations, an appointment can be made with your health care provider or at a health unit immunization clinic by contacting Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520. Up-to-date immunization information can be provided to the health unit by a secure online form, mail, fax or by dropping off a copy at a local health unit office. For more information, visit www.simcoemuskokahealth.org.

TRIBES LEARNING COMMUNITY

All of the Mountain View staff have been trained in TRIBES. Tribes is a democratic group process that develops a positive environment that promotes human growth and learning. We will continue the program this year.

The community agreements we will be following are:

Attentive Listening

Appreciation/no put downs

The right to pass – the right to participate

Mutual Respect

A PARENT'S GUIDE TO A COMBINED GRADE CLASSROOM

Schools group students from two grades in one classroom to balance class size across the school and to keep the number of students in primary classes at or below 20. Combined grade classes are not new—they have always been a common part of the school experience.

TEACHERS ARE HIGHLY TRAINED TO BALANCE INDIVIDUAL LEARNING NEEDS

Walk into any classroom, and you will find children at various stages of social, physical and intellectual development. No two children are exactly the same, even if they're the same age. Each child has unique learning needs—strengths and areas that need improvement. Learning styles and preferences are unique to each student. That's true of same-grade classrooms, just like combined grade groups.

Teachers are highly trained to adjust the learning program in the classroom to the needs of each student's individual learning needs. In combined grade classes, teachers use these same strategies to teach the curriculum for both grades.

TEACHERS USE A VARIETY OF STRATEGIES TO BALANCE THE NEEDS OF BOTH GRADES

Students in a combined grade class follow expectations for their specific grade. Just as in same-grade classes, teachers in combined grades use a wide range of teaching strategies to make sure they cover all of the curriculum expectations. Children in combined grade classes will spend time learning as a whole class, in small groups and individually. Sometimes they will be grouped based on a specific task and other times the teacher will group them based on their learning needs.

In many areas of the Ontario curriculum, the overall expectations do not change from one grade to the next, but students learn the skill with a greater level of complexity as they progress from grade to grade.

The teacher may have the whole class participate in a common activity, followed by small group or individual work on grade-specific curriculum expectations. For example, in a grade 1/2 combined grade class, when teaching the life systems strand of science, the teacher might start by showing a video about a specific animal. The grade 1 students would do a follow-up activity to identify the characteristics and needs of living things, while the grade 2 students would focus on growth and change in animals.

Students are not always learning new information or concepts—they also need to review, consolidate and refine their learning and build on previous learning to do a more complex task. In a grade 5/6 combined grade math class, for example, the teacher might review the concept of place value with the whole class. Then the students would work on the grade-specific expectations. Grade 5 students would be practicing math problems with place values up to 100,000 and decimals to hundredths, while grade 6 students would work on problems with place values up to 1,000,000 and decimals to thousandths.

STUDIES SHOW THAT STUDENTS IN COMBINED GRADE CLASSES LEARN AS WELL AS OTHER STUDENTS

You may be concerned about how well your child will learn in a combined grade class. Years of research show that students in combined grades do just as well academically as students in single-grade classes. In fact, some students actually do better in language and reading.

You may also wonder about the emotional impact on your child—will your child receive the same amount of individual attention from the teacher in a combined grade as in a single-grade class. It's important to understand that the number of students in the class, not the grade structure, determines the amount of time the teacher has to spend with each individual student.

Students in combined classes often do better emotionally and socially. Combined grade classes have been found to foster greater independence, better social skills and increased motivation to learn.

**BLUE JAYS DAY IS
FRIDAY OCTOBER 9TH**

