



ALLISTON UNION PUBLIC SCHOOL



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December Newsletter

Empathy: We strive to understand and appreciate the feelings and actions of others

[Grade 1 French Immersion info night & registration info](#)

Register your child for French Immersion, find out more at information sessions in January

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) offers French Immersion (FI) at select schools throughout the county beginning in Grade 1. This program gives students a bilingual education and the opportunity to become fluent in another language.

Information sessions will be held January 19th at 7:00 pm at our school for parents of students in Senior Kindergarten. A letter will be sent home to those parents with more details. Information session dates will be posted at www.scdsb.on.ca under Programs, French as a Second Language.

The FI online application form will be available from 9 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 23, until 9 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2017 at www.scdsb.on.ca under Programs, French as a Second Language. While every effort is made to accommodate all FI applications, available space and staffing will determine how many students can be registered in the program. **Applications will be processed in the order they are received electronically.**

Please contact the school if you do not have Internet access at home or require assistance accessing the online application. Please note that the host sites for FI may change during your child's time in the program, and your child may need to move schools. This may also include splitting the program between two different sites.

Month of December House Colour: GREEN!

[Kindergarten registration opens in January](#)

Do you (or someone you know) have a child who was born in 2013? If so, it's almost time to register them for Kindergarten in the SCDSB! Beginning on January 23, 2017 and throughout the remaining school year, Simcoe County's public schools will register children for Kindergarten for the 2017-18 school year. Required registration documents include birthdate documentation, proof of address and record of immunization. Visit www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten for more information. An appointment is not necessary at AUPS. Our office hours are 8:00 – 4:00.

Safe Arrival Procedure on Inclement Weather Days

when buses are cancelled to the school – an automated call is made to **All** absent students, **Parent 1**, except those who have fully withdrawn from the Safe Arrival program as recorded in PowerSchool. A message will advise **Parent 1** of an absence, and advises them to call the Safe Arrival Line if the student was expected to be at school.

THANK YOU – VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to those volunteers who have been coming in regularly to assist with snack, hot food, reading with children and various fundraisers at school. We are still always looking for volunteers, especially to read with children. If you are able to read, for even one hour for one day out of the week on a fairly regular basis, we need your help. Please contact the office for further information.

Returning volunteers: Signed Offence Declaration must be submitted by December 31st in order to remain on the list. Please return your declarations as soon as possible.

REMEMBRANCE DAY ASSEMBLIES

We would like to extend our appreciation to Ms. Fraser and Ms. Clinton for all their hard work organizing this year's Remembrance Day assembly. The student presentations and the MC's were engaging and all discourse was delivered with reverence. We, as a school staff, were very impressed by the considerate behaviour of our students.

Once again, AUPS comes together as a school community and embraces the true embodiment of what it means to be a respectful Canadian on Remembrance Day! The donations made to the poppy fund were outstanding.



HOT LUNCH/MILK PROGRAM

Thank you to those who have supported our Hot Lunch fundraiser. Funds raised through this program are used to support field trips and our character education 'ONE' program, to name a few. Term 2 Hot Lunch orders are due December 16th running from January 11 to March 8, 2017.



Message from the Health Unit: Is Bedtime Stressing You Out?

Kids need 10 to 12 hours of sleep every night but sometimes getting them to bed can be frustrating. You can help create a regular sleep schedule for your child by setting a clear bedtime and sticking to the same time every night. Start getting ready an hour before bed: turn off the TV, computers and phones. Spend quality time talking or reading stories to help them unwind. Agree on how many books you'll read before you start! Keep their room dark, cool and quiet - a nightlight is fine. Remember, making sure your child gets enough rest will help improve their mood, behaviour and ability to learn.

For more bedtime tips, contact Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 to speak with a public health nurse or visit a www.simcoemuskokahealth.org.

Message from the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit: Healthy Celebrations

Celebrations are great opportunities for children to practice the healthy eating messages they learn in class. You can help us teach the importance of healthy eating by choosing healthy foods to send to school the next time your child's class is celebrating.

Low sugar and low sodium options, peanut free and allergy-aware choices help students to identify healthy options for all. For more ideas, tool and resources to support your healthy classroom celebrations, check out www.brightbites.ca – Reason to Celebrate.

WINTER WEATHER

1. Students will not be admitted to school prior to 8:30 AM, so in anticipation of colder weather, it is advised not to arrive too early at school.
2. An extra pair of gloves/mittens and socks in your child's schoolbag is a GOOD idea. Cold or wet hands and feet are not fun!
3. Snow can be a lot of fun and we enjoy seeing our students playing in the snow. Students however; are not allowed to throw snow on school property due to risk of injury. Please review this rule with your child(ren). **Snow must stay on the ground.**
4. On the occasion of school buses being cancelled the school is open and expect to run a full program. This includes walkers and those students who are able to be transported by their parents. A full school program is provided in every classroom when school buses are cancelled.

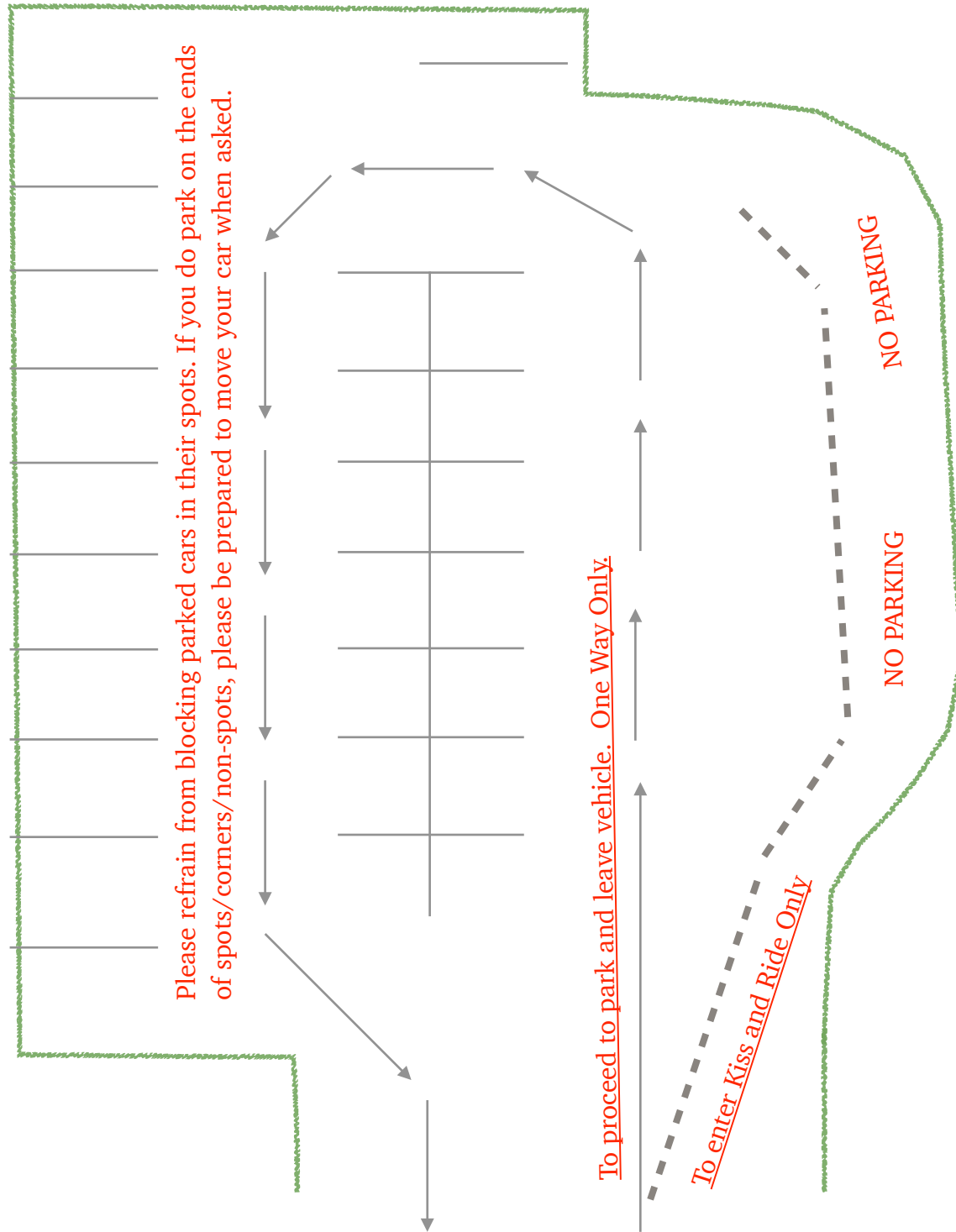
Bus Cancellations:

Parents can check the status on bus cancellations by going to www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca .

Alliston Union's weather zone is SOUTH.

Notification will also be released through the local media. Please ensure your child has appropriate clothing for weather conditions while at school.

NORTH



Kiss and Ride is for quick drop off only. There is NO PARKING. If you need to leave your vehicle, please park in the parking lot.

With the winter weather now arriving, our parking lot will continue to become busier. With increased congestion comes the request for increased patience and courtesy. 840 students are transitioning at entry and dismissal to and from Alliston Union on a daily basis and this takes extreme care to ensure everyone arrives at their destination safe and on time. The parking lot is busy and we all rely on our drivers to exhibit care, awareness and to follow our guidelines for kiss and ride and no parking zones to ensure safety and flow of traffic. We thank you for your continued efforts to respect one another, students and staff as we all work together for the safety of students and their families. We, of course, continue to encourage students to walk to school as often as they can and if they are designated to take a bus, please refrain from driving.

PLEASE BE ON TIME FOR SCHOOL



A number of students are continuing to arrive late in the morning for the start of school. Students are missing the lesson in literacy or numeracy and are then left to catch up on their own. This loss of learning will be reflected in their level of academic achievement and satisfaction with school. For those families that this effects please ensure

that your child(ren) get enough sleep each night, that they prepare their lunches and pack their school bags the night before and consistently ensure your child(ren) wake up with a enough preparation and travel time to get to school on time.

Provide input on proposed 2017-18 school year calendar

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) invites public school communities to submit input regarding the proposed school year calendar for next school year (Sept. 2017 to June 2018). Input can be provided by visiting www.scdsb.on.ca, then clicking the link on the 'School Year Calendars' page under the 'Schools' menu. All stakeholders including staff, school council members, parents/guardians, students and members of the school community are invited to provide input. **The deadline to submit input is Jan. 13, 2017.**

At Alliston Union, teachers use the four part problem solving approaches. The sample is found below whereby students develop their understanding of the problem; make a plan to solve it; carry out the plan and finally answer and verify the answer to ensure it is answering the question.

Understand the Problem

What do I know?

Highlight/Circle the most important parts

What do I need to find out?

Underline or circle the parts of the problem you need to solve

Make a Plan

(To Solve this I will...)

Strategies

- Guess and Check
- Use a T-chart
- Make a table/chart
- Draw Pictures/Diagram
- Make connections
- Work backward
- Add / Subtract
- Multiply / Divide
- Use manipulatives etc.

Carry out the plan (Show your work)

- ✓ Be sure to show **all** your rough work
- ✓ Include pictures, math sentences, charts, numbers etc.

Answer the question (Answer the question(s) being asked)

- ✓ Check "Understand the Problem" block – Did I answer what I was supposed to?
- ✓ Answer the question with a complete sentence-use part of the question in your answer
- ✓ Use A.P.E. (answer, prove, explain/extend) ~ **PROVE, PROVE, PROVE**
- ✓ I know this answer is right because.....

Fostering Mathematics at Home

- Talk together and have fun with numbers and patterns
- find numbers around your home and neighbourhood – clocks, letterboxes, speed signs
- count forwards and backwards (clocks, fingers and toes, letterboxes, action rhymes, signs)
- make patterns when counting "clap 1, stamp 2, clap 3, stamp 4, clap 5..."
- add using objects such as stones or marbles eg $2 + 3$, $4 + 1$, $5 + 4$
- make up number stories – "you have 2 brothers and 2 sisters. There are 4 of them"

Math is an important part of everyday life and there are lots of ways you can make it fun for your child.

- Use easy, everyday activities
- Involve your child in:
 - preparing and sharing out food – "two for me and two for you". Ask, "How many for each of us?"
 - talking about time – "lunchtime", "storytime", "bedtime"
 - using words in everyday play like "under", "over", "between", "around", "behind", "up", "down", "heavy", "light", "round", "circle", "yesterday", "tomorrow". You can get library books with these words and ideas in them too
 - asking questions like "How many apples do we need for lunches? What do you think the weather is going to be like today/tomorrow? What are we going to do next?"

Use lots of mathematics words as your child is playing to develop their understanding of early mathematics (eg "over", "under", "first, second, third", "round", "through", "before", "after"). Use the language that works best for you and your child.

- For wet afternoons/school holidays/weekends
- Get together with your child and:

play with water using different shaped containers and measuring cups in the sink or bath

- bake – talk to your child about the recipe/ingredients using words like "how many?" "how much?" "more". Count how many teaspoons of baking soda are needed, how many cups of flour, how many muffin cases
- play dress-ups and getting dressed, use words like "short", "long", and ask questions like "what goes on first?", "what goes on next?", "does it fit?"
- create a 'sorting box' with all sorts of 'treasure' – bottle tops, shells, stones, poi, toys, acorns, pounamu (greenstone), cardboard shapes, leaves. Ask questions like "how many?", "which is the biggest group?", "which is the smallest?", "how many for each of us?"
- do jigsaw puzzles, play card and board games and build with blocks.
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Being positive about mathematics is really important for your child's learning – even if you didn't enjoy it or do well at it yourself at school.



We would like to wish all our students and families a safe, festival and restful holiday with family and friends. We look forward to seeing you back on January 9th.

December 2016

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			1	2
5	6 Pizza for K-4 Hosting County Volleyball	7 Pizza for 5-8	8	9 Grade 6 and 7 EFSL Cafecole
12	13 Pizza for K-4 Kindergarten Concert 6-7:30 for Bossence and Chalmers	14 Pizza for 5-8	15 Kindergarten Concert 6-7:30 for Spataro, Taylor & Burgie	16 Term 2 Hot Lunch Orders Due
19	20	21	22	23
Enjoy your Winter Break December 24 - January 8				
9 Welcome Back!	10	11	12	13