



# Nantyr News



## February 2024

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## Upcoming Events:

- February:** Black History Month
- Feb 5:** Semester 2 Begins
- Feb 16:** Semester 1 Final Report Cards
- Feb 19:** Family Day. No School!
- Feb 20~28:** Grad Photo Begins
- Feb 22:** Pink Shirt Day
- March:** March Break 11th-15th
- March 29:** Good Friday. No School!
- April:** Spring OSSLT, dates TBD
- April 1:** Easter Monday. No School!



## 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 creating a safe and caring learning environment that promotes the human rights of students, staff, and parent/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.

## Subscribe To Community Connects!

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) is excited to launch Community Connects, a new bimonthly 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).

**REMINDER!!** Students are to be in class when at the school. Guardians are not able to sign their student out of class to work on homework in the cafeteria or library.

## Reminder: Absence Reporting System for SCDSB Schools

### Call 1-888-885-8065 to Report an Absence

This school year, the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) implemented a new absence reporting system at secondary 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, teachers' name, dates, and reason for the absence. If you have questions about the system, please contact the school office.



## Guidance Department Update

*For the latest information, follow us on Twitter! @NantyrGuidance*

### Online Option Sheet

Students will select their courses for the 2024/2025 school year during the first few weeks of semester two. Course selections must be submitted online and are due by **February 23, 2024**. Guidance will be visiting classes to help students with this process. Guidance has also emailed all students an instruction sheet, a list of course options, and a video that walks students through the course selection process. There are additional resources on our website [https://nss.scdsb.on.ca/departments/guidance/course\\_selection](https://nss.scdsb.on.ca/departments/guidance/course_selection) and you can always email a guidance counselor for assistance.

| Counsellor      | Student Alpha | Request a Guidance Appointment - Click link   | Email                    |
|-----------------|---------------|---|--------------------------|
| Ms. Kalbfleisch | A - F         | <a href="https://nssguidancekalbfleisch.youcanbook.me">https://nssguidancekalbfleisch.youcanbook.me</a> | akalbfleisch@scdsb.on.ca |
| Ms. Weymark     | G - N         | <a href="https://nssguidanceweymark.youcanbook.me">https://nssguidanceweymark.youcanbook.me</a>         | nweymark@scdsb.on.ca     |
| Ms. Shaw        | O - Z         | <a href="https://nssguidanceshaw.youcanbook.me">https://nssguidanceshaw.youcanbook.me</a>               | jshaw@scdsb.on.ca        |

| Guidance Assistant        |           |                                  |
|---------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|
| Liisa Laanes              | Ext 40290 | Email - llaanes@scdsb.on.ca      |
| Student Success           |           |                                  |
| Matt Rietkoetter (Sem. 2) | Ext 40374 | Email - mrietkoetter@scdsb.on.ca |

### Graduating Students and Parents

The equal consideration dates for University and College applications were January 15<sup>th</sup> and February 1<sup>st</sup> respectively. Students who will meet their graduation requirements are still encouraged to apply at either [www.ouac.on.ca](http://www.ouac.on.ca) (university) or [www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca) (college).

### Students Taking Night School or Independent Learning Credits

Students taking courses other than regular day school and are applying to college or university need to inform Guidance of the credits ASAP. Counsellors must manually change an applicant's status with OUAC or OCAS; not doing so may jeopardize acceptance to a program.

### Edutravel

The SCDSB has once again partnered with EduTravel to offer SCDSB students the unique opportunity to earn secondary school credits while travelling abroad. March Break and Summer School options are available.

For more information about the programs, we are offering this year, please visit [www.edutravelforcredit.com](http://www.edutravelforcredit.com)

### Summer School

Summer school is officially open! You can see options that our board is offering here: [Summer School Offerings](#)

If you don't see the course that you would like to take, check out options from other school boards [Here](#) as you may be able to take an eLearning course from another school board.

**To register for summer school, you must make an appointment with a guidance counsellor.**


### Attention Grade 12 Graduates!

We are excited to announce that grad photos will take place at the school starting on February 20. You must book an appointment to have your photo taken. <https://booking.edgeimaging.ca/portal/book/NAN>

\*Students will be provided with a gown to use on the day of photos

\*A dress shirt and tie or white blouse complement the gown nicely (this is not provided by the photographer)

## Cooperative Education Employer Appreciation

Thank you to all of our employers for hosting co-op students throughout the year, without your support this program would not be made possible. Every month we will be highlighting local employers as well as showcasing our students on Instagram; follow us all year  @nsscoop.

A big shout out goes to **Jay at Lefroy Plumbing** and **Thomas at The Auto Ranch** for being supporters of the Co-op Program at Nantyr Shores Secondary School. These employers go above and beyond to help engage and train our students to become valuable employees within our community.

# LEFROY PLUMBING



# AUTO RANCH

Automotive Service & Repair



### How can you help?

We are always seeking partners in experiential learning. Fill out the google form below and we will be in touch! <https://forms.gle/Rv5ALjdqx1tWNGqu6>

## Prom Glitz 2024



Grade 12 Prom and Grade 8 Grad Dresses will be available  
at the Kozlov Centre at 400 Bayfield St.

Thurs. Feb. 1 12:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Fri. Feb. 2 12:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Sat. Feb. 3 9:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Fri. Feb. 9 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Sat. Feb. 10 9:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Fri. Feb. 23 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Sat. Feb. 24 9:30 – 5:00 p.m.

No appointment necessary.

Limited space, one graduate with one guest only.

Dresses are free but cash donations are appreciated.

## Attention Grade 12 Graduates!

We are excited to announce that grade 12 grad photos will take place at the school starting on February 20th

Book now to reserve your spot! Visit [www.bookmygrad.ca](http://www.bookmygrad.ca) our school code is **NAN**

\*Students will be provided with a gown to use on the day of photos

\*A dress shirt and tie or white blouse complement the gown nicely (this is not provided by the photographer)



Be *Scent*sitive to others

Please help to achieve a scent-reduced environment and avoid the use of scented products.



Simcoe County  
District School Board

we  
Share the  
Air

## Leadership Class ~ SMILE WEEK!

From January 15-19, Nantyr's Leadership class presented SMILE WEEK! They started the week off strong with creating and hanging 1300 love notes on lockers. They also spend the week creating "post it's for positivity" at lunch and inspiring the student body to play "Track the Triton". When the students found the Triton, they got a sweet treat! On Friday, they brought out even more smiles as they distributed over 1000 yummy Smile cookies made by Nantyr's own Hospitality class! There were lots of smiles this week to beat out the January Blues!



### The Teenage Brain

Did you know that the teen brain is still developing until about the age of 25? The part of the brain that powers a teen's ability to think, plan, solve problems, make decisions, and control emotions is one of the last parts to mature. This may help explain certain teenage behaviour.

Because their brains are still developing, young people are at greater risk from the harmful effects of alcohol, cannabis, and other drugs. Stay connected, keep talking with your teen, and be a good role model.

For more information, visit the health unit's website at [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org) or call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520.

*Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health*

### 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 & GLC20 – 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).

### 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.*

### 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.

## **February PA Day**

Please note that Friday, Feb. 2 is a PA Day for secondary SCDSB students. Please refer to the 2023-24 School Year Calendar on the SCDSB website for more information:

[www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning\\_for\\_school/school\\_year\\_calendar](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/school_year_calendar).

Below is a summary of the activities planned for the Feb. 2 PA Day:

**Length:** Full day

**Topic:** Evaluation and reporting

**Host:** Simcoe County District School Board

**Presenter(s)/facilitator(s):** Not applicable

Educators will be working to complete the first provincial report card which will reflect students' achievement of curriculum expectations introduced and developed in semester one from September to January/February of the school year, as well as students' development of the learning skills and work habits during that period. This process includes both evaluation and reporting.

Secondary report cards will go home to parents/guardians on Friday, Feb. 16, 2024.

## **Online Luring and Grooming**

As part of our shared commitment to educating 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).

## **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://www.thelearningcentres.com/programs/summer\\_school](https://www.thelearningcentres.com/programs/summer_school).

EDUTravel 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).

## **Mental Health 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 practising 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/>.



## **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.

These webinars are specifically planned for parents/guardians and other caregivers during this school year.

|                |                              |
|----------------|------------------------------|
| 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).

## **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 2023-24 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  
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

### **Reading strategies**

March 19  
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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

April 16  
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

### **Every day mental health strategies**

May 14  
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: [www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/special\\_education/special\\_education\\_outreach\\_sessions](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/special_education/special_education_outreach_sessions).

## **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.



## From the Math Department

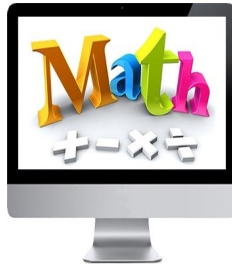
We are happy to announce that Grade 9 Math Students whether taking math in Semester 1 or 2, are invited to participate in the University of Waterloo Pascal Math Contest on Wednesday February 28. For more information, please email Mr. Nomura at [mnomura@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:mnomura@scdsb.on.ca).

### Why contests matter.

[CEMC - Why Contests Matter - Mathematics and Computing Contests - University of Waterloo \(uwaterloo.ca\)](#)

### University of Waterloo CEMC main contest site.

[CEMC - Contests - Mathematics and Computing Contests - University of Waterloo \(uwaterloo.ca\)](#)



## 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!

## 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, Feb. 6, 2024, 7 to 8 p.m.

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 resources available.

### **Tips For Engaging In Math Conversations With Your Child @Home**

Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2024, 7 to 8 p.m.

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, 7 to 8 p.m.

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 sessions 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>.

| <b>Date(s)</b>    | <b>Observance</b>   |
|-------------------|---|
| Feb. 1-29         | Black History Month                                       |
| Feb. 1            | World Hijab Day   |
| Feb. 1-2          | Imbolc (Wicca)  |
| Feb. 2            | Groundhog Day   |
|                   | World Wetlands Day  |
| Feb. 4            | World Cancer Day  |
| Feb. 6            | Isra'a and Mi'raj (Islam)                                 |
| Feb. 10           | Losar/Tibetan New Year (Buddhism)                         |
|                   | Lunar New Year/Maitreya Bodhisattva's Birthday (Buddhism) |
| Feb. 11           | International Day of Women and Girls in Science           |
| Feb. 14           | Ash Wednesday (Christianity)                              |
|                   | Valentines Day  |
|                   | Vasant Panchami (Hinduism)                                |
| Feb. 15           | National Flag of Canada Day                               |
|                   | Nirvana Day (Buddhism, Jainism)                           |
| Feb. 17           | Random Acts of Kindness Day                               |
| Feb. 19           | Family Day  |
| Feb. 20           | World Day of Social Justice                               |
| Feb. 22           | Pink Shirt Day (Anti-Bullying Day)                        |
| Feb. 24           | Magha/Sangha Day (Buddhism)                               |
| Feb. 24-25        | Mid-Sha'ban (Islam)                                       |
| Feb. 26 – March 1 | Ayyám-i-Há/Intercalary Days (Bahá'í)                      |
| Feb. 29           | Rare Diseases Day   |

