

APRIL 2023

Angus Morrison Elementary School



HOME OF THE
DRAGONS!

91 Simcoe Street, Angus, ON, L0M 1B5

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Website: ang.scdsb.on.ca

Twitter @AngusMorrisonES

Mrs. Suzanne Laybolt, Principal

Mrs. Moxam, Vice Principal

April Character Trait: Optimism

• ALWAYS •
BELIEVE THAT
SOMETHING
Wonderful
IS ABOUT
TO HAPPEN
- anonymous -

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Optimism - We maintain a positive attitude and have hope for the future.

Important Dates And Events For April

Easter Break—April 7-10

AMES A&W Night—April 19

SK/Grad Photo Retakes—April 17

Character Day Spirit Day —April 27





mabel's labels

We're fundraising with Mabel's Labels! Go to campaigns.mabelslabels.com and search for **ANGUS MORRISON**. Shop and personalize your labels and they will be shipped directly to you. Angus Morrison will receive 20% in funds from your order! Proceeds from this fundraiser will be used to subsidize and support Field Trips at Angus Morrison. Thank you for your support!

Tense And Relax Coping Strategy

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 tense and relax. Parents/guardians can guide their child/youth through a tense and relax muscle relaxation exercise to help them notice whether they feel tense or relaxed in a particular area and understand how their body feels when they are tense and relaxed. This helps children/youth to learn to sooth their body and mind, and assists with regulating emotions during times of stress.

To practice tense and relax at home, have your child/youth get comfortable by either standing or sitting. Encourage them to keep their back straight, and shoulders and head relaxed. If they're comfortable, ask them to close their eyes. Have your child/youth intentionally tense and relax isolated body parts and be aware of how they feel when they tense their muscles and when they relax them. Children can be encouraged to: bring their shoulders up to their ears, hold for a count of 3, and relax; squeeze their hands into fists, hold for a count of 3, and relax; squeeze their stomach in as if fitting between a fence, hold for a count of 3, and relax; and, pushing their feet down to the ground, hold for a count of 3, and relax. Repeat the actions a few times and discuss how these body parts felt before, during, and after the exercise.

Parents/guardians can practice tense and relax at home any time with their child/youth to help them learn how to relieve tensions. Click on the following link to watch a guided video of tense and relax together: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J4mQm0hux1Q&t=1s>.

Follow along the SCDSB's mental health and well-being social media accounts (@SCDSB_MHWP) to see how well-being is being supported in our schools.



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.

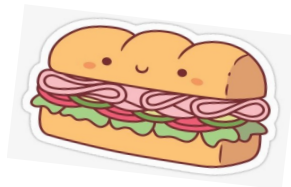
Payment can be made by credit card, electronic cheque or using visa/debit style cards. To create an online account, go to

<https://simcoecounty.schoolcashonline.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.

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

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



Keep Connected With Our School And With The SCDSB

It's important to get accurate information about what's going on at your school and at the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB). Here are some ways to do that:

Subscribe to our school's website by visiting the 'What's New' section at <http://ang.scdsb.on.ca>. You can sign up to receive emails about school news updates and information during emergency situations. It's easy to subscribe – visit our website and click the 'Subscribe' link at the very top of the page. Provide your email and click 'Subscribe'; a message will be sent to your inbox with a link to click to confirm that you want to subscribe. You can unsubscribe at any time using the link at the bottom of each email.

Sign up to receive SCDSB media releases by clicking the 'Subscribe' button at www.scdsb.on.ca.

Follow the SCDSB on Twitter (@SCDSB_Schools) , AMES on Twitter (@AngusMorrisonES) , Facebook (facebook.com/SCDSB) and Instagram (instagram.com/scdsb).

April PA Day

Please note that Friday, April 28 is a PA Day for all SCDSB students. Please refer to the 2022-23 School Year Calendar on the SCDSB website for more information: scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/school_year_calendar.



Parent Involvement Committee

Join the SCDSB's Parent Involvement Committee for 'Safe connections: navigating a digital world'

On April 25, the Simcoe County District School Board's (SCDSB) Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) is hosting a virtual learning session for parents/guardians. *Safe connections: navigating a digital world* is a virtual event focused on digital mindfulness and well-being, and Internet safety.

This virtual event will run from 6 to 8:30 p.m. via Zoom. Presenters include:

- Chris Vollum, CMV SocialMedia
- Sergeant Aaron C. Arnett, Ontario Provincial Police
- Abby Zantingh, Imani's Place

Participants are asked to register in advance: <https://bit.ly/40tEg22>. Information to access the session will be shared via email with individuals who have pre-registered.

The PIC is a county-wide advisory committee made up of parents/guardians and community representatives from across Simcoe County. The committee works with SCDSB staff and trustees to support student success through parent/guardian engagement. Visit scdsb.on.ca/elementary/parent/parent_involvement_committee for more information on the PIC.

Join Us! A Learning 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, staff and within the SCDSB's broader school communities.

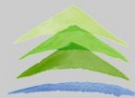
There were five webinars in the learning series specifically planned for parents, guardians, and other caregivers during this school year. The final session:

April 27, 2023

The Biology of Stress

We hope you join us for this learning opportunity. 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.



Pine River Institute

EarlyON Child and Family Centres

The Simcoe County EarlyON Child and Family Centres have locations throughout Simcoe County. These centres offer a variety of services, including programs that help prepare children and parents/guardians for kindergarten. Programming will be offered in the spring of 2023. Check with your local EarlyON provider for dates and times. <https://linktr.ee/earlyonsimcoe>



Licensed Summer School Age Child Care Programs

Child care programs for children in Kindergarten to Grade 6 are provided by independent, third-party child care operators in some SCDSB schools. To support your child care needs, some operators offer child care over the summer holidays. Registration in advance is required. Please contact the child care operator directly to discuss fees and to register. More information and contact numbers can be found at [scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/childcare_before_after](https://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/childcare_before_after).

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: https://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/registration

A colorful graphic with a black border. On the left is a pink heart with a floral pattern. To its right, the words "Welcome to Kindergarten" are written in a playful, bubbly font. Each letter is filled with a different vibrant color and pattern, such as stripes, polka dots, or solid colors. The background is white.

♥ Welcome to Kindergarten

Mrs. Brown's Library Corner



Happy Spring to our Angus Morrison Families!

Our Library/Learning Commons will be hopping around with STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics) Challenges using nests, Makey Makey, Scratch and other building materials to solve design problems. We will be celebrating Poetry Month, researching about animals and continuing to support students as a multi-faith hub celebrating Passover, Easter, Eid, Sikh Heritage month and other days of recognition such as Earth Day, Autism Awareness Day and International Day of Pink. Our Library/Learning Commons is made available for any students and staff who need a place while fasting or for prayer.

Blue Spruce 2023 Update

Voting begins April 23 – April 30th

Our students from Kindergarten to Grade 4 are continuing to read the amazing **Blue Spruce 2023** nominated books and will be officially voting the week of April 23. We can't wait to share our school results with you and to celebrate in May where we will learn about the official winner of Blue Spruce.

April is Poetry Month - Canadian Slam Poet Star

Wali Shah is visiting AMES on April 11th!

Wali Shah will be presenting to our students in Grades 6, 7 and 8 on April 11th. Check out his website lifeaswali.com. Wali is a renowned Slam Poet who will be teaching our students about Slam Poetry. Slam poetry is a form of performance poetry. It combines the elements of performance, writing, competition, and audience participation. It is performed at events called poetry slams, or simply slams. [Click here to find out more!](#) Thank you to Mrs. Laybolt for securing a special grant to cover the expense of Wali's visit for our students.

Happy Reading to all,
Mrs. G. Brown (she/her)
Teacher-Librarian
glbrown@scdsb.on.ca

The Science Of Reading And Structured Literacy

The science of reading is a body of research that focuses on how students learn to read, what parts of the brain are utilized when learning to read, and what skills are ultimately required to be successful readers. Structured literacy is how educators take the knowledge gathered through research and apply it. There are five key components that make up an effective literacy program. Students need explicit instruction and repeated opportunities for practice with phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. Visit the following link to support your child's reading at home: <https://bit.ly/LiteracyHomeSupport>

Join Us For A Virtual Special Education Outreach Series

Interested in learning more about the ways that the SCDSB supports students with special education needs and their families?

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. The remaining sessions include:

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.

Math @Home Parent Series

Fostering a strong school-home partnership is an important part of reinforcing math learning at school and extending the learning beyond the classroom. Families are a child's first educator and help build a strong foundation for future success. The virtual math series outlined below is intended to support a positive attitude towards mathematics, enhance motivation and ultimate success.

The SCDSB math department is pleased to offer three evening virtual sessions for families and caregivers of SCDSB students. These sessions will focus on practical and fun ways to support students with their mathematics learning and engagement at home. The first 200 registrants will receive a path pack of resources to use at home. Participants must pre-register for each of the sessions.

Making Math Connections @Home

Wednesday, April 12

7 – 8 p.m.

This session will explore where we find numbers, patterns, measures, and shapes in our daily lives. Participants will learn about practical ways to help their child notice and wonder about the math in their world.

Problem Solving @Home

Tuesday, April 25

7 – 8 p.m.

This session will explore how to encourage children to be active thinkers and problem solvers, both in math and around the house. Participants will learn about how solving problems at home can help their children solve problems in math class.

Having Fun with Math Facts @Home

Thursday, May 11

7 – 8 p.m.

This session will explore practical, intentional, and fun ways to practice math facts at home. Participants will leave with ideas, games, and activities to support their child with becoming fluent with their math facts.

Participants must pre-register for the sessions they wish to attend. Registered participants will receive a pack of hands-on resources that will be sent to the school indicated on their registration form. Use this link to register:

<https://bit.ly/23MathAtHome>



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.





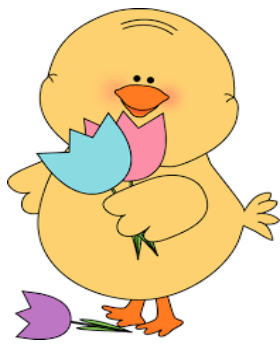
Potential Student Transportation Delays

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/default>



April



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
WE ARE IN THE CENTRAL ZONE FOR ALL BUS CANCELLATIONS						1 April Fool's Day
2 	3 School Council Meeting	4	5	6	7 No School Good Friday	8
9 	10 No School Easter Monday	11	12 International Day of Pink	13	14	15
16	17 SK Celebration and Grad Photo Retakes	18	19 AMES A&W Night	20	21 Earth Day at AMES	22
23 30	24	25	26	27 Character Day - Dress like your favourite Character	28 PA DAY	29 

Upcoming Dates To Remember

- Victoria Day May 22
- Welcome to Kindergarten Night May 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