

FEBRUARY 2023

Angus Morrison Elementary School



HOME OF THE
DRAGONS!

91 Simcoe Street, Angus, ON, L0M 1B5

Phone: 705-424-5701 Fax: 705-424-0086

Website: ang.scdsb.on.ca

Twitter @AngusMorrisonES

Mrs. Suzanne Laybolt, Principal

Mrs. Moxam, Vice Principal

February Character Trait: Inclusiveness

*"When everyone is included,
everyone wins."*

Jesse Jackson

In This Issue

- School Council
- Black History Month
- Out-Of-Area Requests
- SCDSB Character Education Program
- SCDSB Anti-Sex Trafficking Protocol and Resources For Parents/ Guardians
- Childcare Programs
- Mrs. Brown's Library Corner
- Registration for Summer eLearning
- Education Outreach Series

Inclusiveness - We include everyone in what we do and value their unique contributions.

Important Dates And Events For February

AMES Barrie Colt's Night—February 11th

AMES Domino's Night— February 16

Report Card Day—February 17

Family Day—February 20

Pattern Spirit Day—February 24



School Council

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!

mabel's labels

Declutter your life...
support your school!

AMES has partnered with Kidney Clothes to both raise money for the school and help you clean out your closets!
Kidney Clothes will be accepting clothing donations from AMES families and giving back part of the proceeds to the school.

See important details below!

LOCATION: 570 Bryne Drive Unit J.

DROP OFF TIMES: Monday - Friday 9am-4pm only. If dropped off after hours, the school will not get credit.

LABELLING INSTRUCTIONS: All clothing bags **MUST** be labelled "Angus Morrison Elementary School" or the school will not get credit.



We can't
possibly make a
fundraiser any
easier.
Get decluttering!





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).

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 and opportunity for Black students, staff, and parents/guardians, and to creating a safe and caring learning environment that promotes the human rights of staff, students, 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.

Notice Regarding Out-Of-Area-Requests

Under Simcoe County District School Board procedures (APM A7000 – School Attendance Areas), it is possible for students to apply for and receive permission to attend an out-of-attendance-area school. Students will be permitted to continue in attendance as long as there are pupil places available. They may be required to return to their home school or transfer to another school when the capacity of the school they are attending has been reached and space is required for students residing within the designated attendance areas. An approval may be revoked at any time by the superintendent of education, after consultation with the receiving school principal, for reasons related to the student's behaviour, attendance, actions or inactions. Transportation to and from school is the responsibility of the out-of-attendance-area student and/or parent/guardian.

SCDSB Character Education Program

Our SCDSB Character Education program was developed over 20 years ago. As a school board, we are moving forward to update the SCDSB Character Education program, along with the attributes. The intended implementation date for our new Character Education program will be September 2023. To make this successful, it is imperative that everyone has an opportunity to have a voice. Currently, we are eliciting student voice from our elementary and secondary students and understanding the important partnership with parents/guardians; we are asking if you could take a moment to fill out the below survey. The survey opens on Feb. 6 and will remain open until Feb. 10: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/M2BF38X>.



SCDSB Anti-sex Trafficking Protocol and Resources For Parents/Guardians

In 2021-22, the Ministry of Education directed Ontario school boards to develop an anti-sex trafficking protocol that was tailored to the needs of their community. The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) has developed a protocol and relevant training and resources for staff, students and parents/guardians. The focus of the SCDSB's protocol and resources is to protect students and empower school communities to play a key role in fighting sex trafficking and keeping children and youth safe from sexual exploitation.

More information, including a link to the SCDSB Anti-Sex Trafficking Protocol and associated resources, is available on the SCDSB website: www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/safe_schools/anti-sex_trafficking_protocol.

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, staff and within the SCDSB's broader school communities.

There are five webinars in the learning series specifically planned for parents, guardians and other caregivers during this school year. The remaining sessions include:

Feb. 9, 2023

March 2, 2023

April 27, 2023

Guide to Attuned Limit Setting

Emotional Regulation for Kids and Adults

The Biology of Stress

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.



Pine River Institute

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: www.scdsb.on.ca/kindergarten.



Early Learning And Child Care

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 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>.



Child Care Programs Available On PA Days, Holidays And March Break

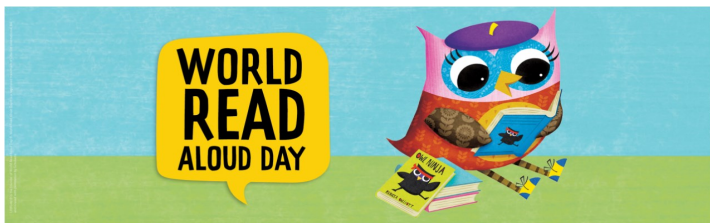
Child care programs for children in Kindergarten to Grade 6 are provided by independent, third-party child care operators in some SCDSB schools. To support your child care needs, some operators offer child care on PA days and holidays, including over the March Break (Mar. 13 to 17). Registration in advance is required. Please contact the child care operator directly to discuss fees and to register. For more information and contact numbers, please visit: https://scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/childcare_before_after.

Mrs. Brown's Library Corner



Blue Spruce 2023

Many of our classes have started reading the [Blue Spruce 2023](#) nominated books (available for Kindergarten to Grade 3) for this voting year, including our Grade 4's, who just had to stay in the program due to all of the great Canadian nominees! To see the titles, visit [Forest of Reading 2023](#).



Upcoming Events in our Library and school! Click on the links below:

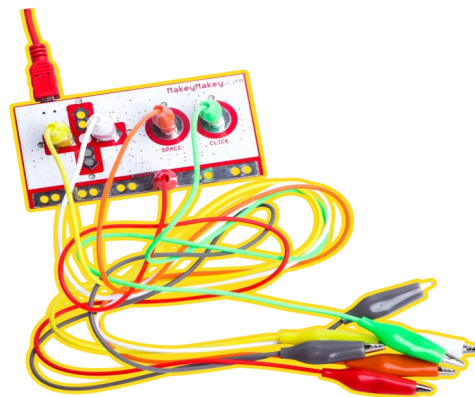
Celebrating Black Excellence in Canada in February and Beyond!

Feb. 1 – [World Read Aloud Day](#), **Feb. 2** - Groundhog Day/Shadows/Weather, **Feb. 14** – Valentine's Day/Friendship, **Feb. 15** – National Flag of Canada Day, **Feb. 17** – National Random Acts of Kindness Day, **Feb. 20** – Family Day/Winter activities, **Feb. 22** – Pink Shirt Day – Anti-Bullying

[EV3 Robotics](#) – Design, build and demonstrate – Grade 7 and 8

[Makey Makey circuit boards](#) - Coding with Scratch – Grade 6

Yours in literacy,
Gina Brown
Teacher-Librarian



Registration Now Open For Summer eLearning!

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) is offering summer school courses in July 2023 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 <http://thelearningcentres.com/high-school-student/summer-school>



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 with autism spectrum disorder

Feb. 14

6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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.

Evaluating Early Literacy

The Ministry of Education has directed all Ontario school boards to begin implementing the recommendations outlined in the Right to Read Inquiry. As a result, primary educators are shifting from using leveled texts for reading instruction as they encourage reliance on guessing strategies to solve unknown words. Instead, educators are beginning to use a scope and sequence to systematically teach phonemic awareness (awareness of the sounds in words) and phonics (understanding of the letters that represent sounds). Students may apply the phonics skills they have learned by reading 'decodable' or 'phonetically controlled' texts.

As a result, educators are moving away from using PM Benchmarks and moving towards assessments that measure foundational reading skills. For example, in Grade 1, educators will be observing a child's ability to identify the sounds they hear in a word, identify the letter(s) that represent the sound, and their ability to blend the sounds together to decode (read) the word and encode (write) the word. In later primary, educators will be observing a child's understanding of more complex letter/sound relationships such as prefixes and suffixes.

Educators will also consider a child's achievement in reading fluency, vocabulary development, and reading comprehension when assigning a report card grade for reading.

To support your child at home, the following documents provide activities that may help foster these foundational skills:

Phonological Awareness Activities for Families

<https://bit.ly/3WVsexb>

Supporting Reading Development at Home

<https://bit.ly/3X3wB9w>



Math Games At Home

Playing math games at home is a great way to reinforce math concepts that students learn at school. The YouTube channel MMMathMania has a large number of videos of math games that can be played using paper, dice, and/or playing cards.

Check out the channel at: www.youtube.com/

[@mmmathmaniamathgamesmore3985](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmmmathmaniamathgamesmore3985) or search MMMathMania on YouTube.



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.

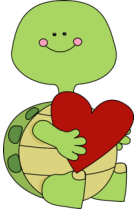




Inclement Weather And Bus Cancellation Reminder

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/Subscriptions/Login.aspx>.

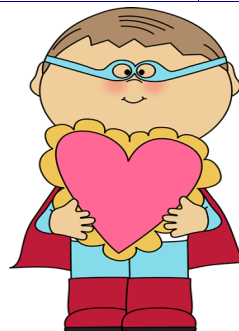


FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Black History Month 		1 Grade 8 Grad Pictures	2 Ground Hog Day 	3	4 
5	6 School Council Meeting	7	8	9	10	11 AMES Barrie Colts Night
12	13	14  Valentine's Day	15	16 Domino's Pizza AMES Night	17 Report Card Day	18
19	20 Family Day	21	22 Pink Shirt Day	23	24 Pattern Spirit Day	25
26	27	28	WE ARE IN THE CENTRAL ZONE FOR ALL BUS CANCELLATIONS			

Upcoming Dates To Remember

- AMES McDonald's Night March 8
- March Break March 13-17
- Easter Break April 7-10



(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