



# The Sandhills Scoop



Monday, Dec.14.....Kindergarten Vision Screening  
 Tuesday, Dec.15.....Kindergarten Vision Screening  
 Friday, Dec.18.....Spirit Day - Pajama Day  
**Monday Dec.21 – Friday, Jan.1...Winter Break (school is closed)**  
**Monday, Jan.4.....Back to School**  
 Monday, Jan.4.....School Council Meeting 6:30 in the library  
 Tuesday, Jan.19.....Primary Symphony Trip  
 Friday, Jan.29.....PA Day

## From the Office:

Although there is no snow on the ground, it is almost time for our Winter Break! As you know, the way we share news with our community has been changing over the last year. Parents who have signed up for School-Day are used to getting regular email announcements and the weekly "What's the Scoop?" along with information from teachers. Similarly, parents who check our school website regularly get informed of events or news. Twitter and Instagram have also been excellent ways to stay abreast of daily happenings and have also given you a daily look into classrooms and what students are learning. As a result of this regular and ongoing online communication, paper newsletters from the office have become largely obsolete as sources of news. We will continue to share our newsletters for the rest of this year, with the intention of eventually phasing them out for more timely (daily and weekly) online updates.

## Sandhills Hours for 2015 - 2016

Playground Supervision	8:20 - 8:35 a.m.
School Day Begins:	8:35 a.m.
First Nutrition Break:	10:35 - 11:15 a.m.
Second Nutrition Break:	12:45 - 1:05 p.m.
School Day Ends:	2:55 p.m.

## Parking:

As our school population grows, so does the traffic congestion around the school area. To that end, our School Council has developed a Parking Subcommittee to start a conversation in addressing the traffic congestion and current parking situation. Please contact one of the following School Council members for more detail:



Katherine Serwin ([Katherine.serwin@gmail.com](mailto:Katherine.serwin@gmail.com)), Della Sousa ([Della\\_Sousa@wrdsb.on.ca](mailto:Della_Sousa@wrdsb.on.ca)) or Beth Robson ([Robson.beth@gmail.com](mailto:Robson.beth@gmail.com)) if you have any questions/concerns. Student safety is our number one priority, so please remember that at entry and dismissal times, the school parking lot is unavailable to families. Please respect the direction of our friendly staff, Ms. Jones and Mrs. Unsal-Aranton, whose role it is to keep our students safe. We ask that families kindly adhere to our staff members' direction and not enter/park in the school parking lot at the busiest times of the day (entry and dismissal). Thank you to all of those families respecting the parking lot guidelines, and special thanks to all of those families choosing to walk or carpool to school. This really helps to reduce the traffic and



parking congestion. Please note that our community resource officer, along with by-law officers, is assisting us by regularly monitoring our parking situation to help keep our students and their families safe.



Good work, Sandhills! We have reached a School-Day participation rate of 86%! Using School-Day is very easy and will help families keep up-to-date with classroom and school-wide activities. There are many great reasons to sign up to School-Day including approving and paying for field trips online - no lost forms or cash to come up with on busy school mornings! School Day is available in many languages. And remember, Pizza Lunch Orders are only accepted on School-Day this year. The next orders will be taken in early March for lunches starting after March Break. If you have any questions or need help signing up for School-Day, call or stop in at the office. We are very happy to help!



### School Council:

It has been a busy few months for Sandhills School Council members. The Greening Committee as well as our students is very pleased with the new playground! We are asking parents to give their feedback to the greening initiative by completing a survey at the following link - [bit.ly/sandhillsgreening](http://bit.ly/sandhillsgreening) If you have not had a chance to see it, make your way around to the back of the school by the new Kindergarten wing.

School Council members have also been busy heading up the Chocolate Bar fundraiser. Many thanks goes to our Sandhills' community for supporting that effort. Thank you also to families for attending the ESQ parent engagement science night -



another fun event enjoyed by students and parents alike. Watch for more events in the New Year!

### Global Issues:

Our Global Issues group is getting very excited! It looks like by the end of this school year (June, 2016) we will achieve our goal of raising \$10,000 for building a school in Kenya!

A huge thank you goes out to all the families and visitors who generously donated cash while attending the recent Winter Concerts! Global Issues would also like to thank everyone for helping out with their other initiative of collecting non-perishable items for the K-W Food Bank. Your support and generosity both locally and globally is truly appreciated!

### Keeping up with Sandhills:

Don't miss out on any of the activities, news and events happening at Sandhills! You can keep track of the daily happenings on our school website, as well as on Twitter and Instagram



(@shlwrdsb)



Instagram

Be sure to check out the new "What's the Scoop" every Friday when the Office will provide tips, tricks and other helpful information on the school website. Keep up with us! There's something new posted every day!!

<http://shl.wrdsb.ca> (school website)



*Wishing all of our families a safe and joyous holiday season! See you Monday, January 4, 2016*