

### Chris Hadfield PS

211 West Park Avenue  
Bradford, ON L3Z 3B9

School phone #: 905-778-4323  
(#1 for safe arrival)

School Website: <http://had.scdsb.on.ca>  
Twitter: [@ChrisHadfieldSc](https://twitter.com/ChrisHadfieldSc)



# HAPPY

Happy Holiday Season! December is an exciting month!

# HOLIDAYS

We will be cheering on our Intermediate Boys Volleyball team as they move on to the county finals on Dec. 6th! They were successful in bringing home a first place, area banner! The Intermediate Girls played their hearts out only to have the final game slip away in the last quarter. Congratula-

tions to all our athletes on a job well done!

Our Intermediates will be enjoying their first field trip to the Metro Toronto Zoo on Dec. 9th, our School Council meets on Dec. 12th and all our students are busy practicing for our holiday concerts on Dec. 15th.

Please join us in thanking our educators who are volunteering their time to coach and run our various clubs that keep our students engaged and excited about coming to school. We currently have Music clubs, an Equity Team, a Technology Team, Yearbook Team, Assembly Team, Executive Leadership Team, PALs Leaders, Eco Club, Student Ambassadors, and many sports teams. Chris Hadfield PS has something for everyone!

The winter weather is now upon us and it is important to remember to send students dressed appropriately for when they are outside. It is also helpful to send extra socks and mitts as these are the most common items that may become wet from one recess to another. As the snow arrives and the plows remove it from our parking lot and deposit it in our yard, the snow hills will begin to grow. We would suggest that students wear snow pants and boots etc. to ensure they remain warm and dry when on the hills during recess times. This will help to prevent them from getting wet and needing to make calls home for a change of clothes.

We thank you for your continued partnership with our school. From our school family to yours, we would like to wish all our school community a safe and happy holiday season!

Sincerely, Mrs. Rocca and Mrs. Telesco



## Character Trait for December is EMPATHY

**Principal** - Heather Rocca

**Vice-Principal** - Francesca Telesco

**Sr. Admin. Support** - Allison Varley

**Office Assistant** - Janet Trimis

**Office Assistant**—Danielle Brouckxon



### CHPS School Times

Morning Arrival - 8:55 - 9:10 AM

Instructional Block - 9:10 - 10:50 AM

Nutrition Break - 10:50 - 11:30 AM

Instructional Block - 11:30 - 1:10 PM

Nutrition Break - 1:10 - 1:50 PM

Instructional Block - 1:50 - 3:30 PM

Dismissal - FDK begins - 3:15PM



**December 9th** - Intermediates - Field Trip to the Toronto Zoo

**December 12th** - School Council Meeting - 6pm in staffroom

**December 15th** - CHPS Holiday Concert  
Primary (Gr. 1-3) at 6:00pm  
Junior (Gr.4-6) at 7:30pm

**December 21st** - Character Assemblies Courage & Empathy  
Kindergarten - Gr. 3 at 9:30am  
Grades 4-8 at 11:40am

*Families are welcome to attend!  
Please remember to sign in at the office.*





### **Chris Hadfield Holiday Concert!!**

We are having a *Holiday Concert* at Chris Hadfield P. S. on December 15! Come and join us for an evening of holiday music from around the world! All of our grade 1-3 students will be performing during our Primary Concert at 6:00 PM, all our grade 4-6 students will be performing during our Junior Concert at 7:30 PM! Please arrive at least 15 minutes before the start time so that students can be ready to perform! Looking forward to seeing you there. It's going to be a great night!

### **Cell Phones use at School**



In an effort to ensure the responsible and safe use of mobile devices in school, we are sharing this messaging with families.

Students who bring mobile devices (e.g. cell phone, tablet, or any other internet-enabled device) should leave their mobile device powered off, and upside-down on their desk. Staff will support students to access the device for the purposes of supporting their education.

Mobile devices are not to be used in hallways, bathrooms, change rooms, during lunch or recess, or in the gymnasium.

If students use technology inappropriately, they may be asked to store their device in a secure place in the office until the end of the day.

We would ask that families discuss appropriate use of technology to support safety and learning while at school. Students and families are always able to communicate through the main office should there be any need. Guidelines for safe and responsible technology use from Simcoe County District School Board can be found at:

[https://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/use\\_of\\_technology\\_for\\_learning](https://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/use_of_technology_for_learning)

### **Early Learning and Child Development**

How is your infant, toddler or preschool child developing? Is your child meeting their milestones? Age-appropriate speech and language skills are critical to your child's ability to read, write and be successful in school as well as to their ability to engage with their peers. Free services are available to support you with your child's development. Preschool speech and language programs are located across the County of Simcoe. Call 705-739-5696 or 1-800-675-1979 to complete a developmental screen. The earlier we work together, the better!



### **High School Information Events for Grade 8 Students**

Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information events will take place in-person this winter! Student leaders and staff at the school will give an overview of what's new and what to expect. Learn about courses offered, as well as information about teams and clubs. Please visit the SCDSB website at [www.scdsb.on.ca/secondary/planning\\_for\\_high\\_school](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/secondary/planning_for_high_school) to find details on Bradford District High School's info night, contact the school directly for more information at 905-778-2262.



### **Ontario Ministry of Education Tutoring Services**

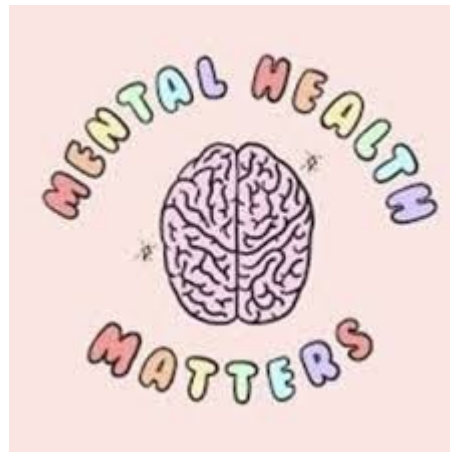
The Ontario Ministry of Education is supporting tutoring services in schools and in the community until the end of March 2023. Schools offering after school tutoring services will advertise this service directly to parents/guardians. Community tutoring agencies provide free of charge tutoring to Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) students after hours in the community and online. Contact information for community tutoring agencies can be found at [www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/tutoring\\_programs](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/tutoring_programs). Tutoring is available to all SCDSB students from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 12. The SCDSB is also seeking members of the community to act as tutors in our schools during the school day. All candidates must apply through Apply to Education Posting #3361243. Candidates are required to be interviewed by SCDSB administration, provide professional references and complete a Vulnerable Sector Screen through their local police service. For more information, please email [tutoring@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:tutoring@scdsb.on.ca).

## 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.

Dec. 8, 2022	How to Manage Another's Anxiety
Feb. 9, 2023	Guide to Attuned Limit Setting
March 2, 2023	Emotional Regulation for Kids and Adults
April 27, 2023	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](http://www.pineriverinstitute.com).

### Council Corner!



All are welcome to join our School Council Meeting at CHPS on December 12th, 2022 at 6:00pm in the staffroom. Our School Council chair is Melissa Wilson and our Vice Chair is Jayme Del Greco.

School Council meets once a month to discuss various topics that involve our school. Thank you in advance to everyone for your support and dedication. We appreciate you!

Future School Council dates are:

February 13th, 2023 , March 27th, 2023, May 8th, 2023 & June 12th, 2023

### Inclement Weather and Bus Cancellation Information 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](http://www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca). Our school is in the **SOUTH 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) 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 for bus cancellations and other information. You can also subscribe to receive bus delay notifications here: <https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions/Login.aspx>.*





## School Playground Structures are Closed for the Winter

Every winter, school playground structures are closed. Students are made aware of this during school hours through announcements and staff reminders during breaks. This may not be well known throughout the community, despite signs indicating that playground structures are a winter hazard and are closed. The Canadian Standards Association regulations make recommendations for the depth of ground cover required to minimize injuries (e.g., sand, pea gravel or wood chips). These surfaces cannot be maintained when the ground freezes. Injuries from falling would be more significant on frozen ground. We strongly recommend that you do not allow your children to play on any structures while the ground is frozen.



## Math

### Support your Child's Mathematics Learning at Home

Looking for ways to support your child in their math learning at home? The Ministry of Education has a page with ideas on how to support your child and make math part of your day-to-day routine. There are general routines and grade-level ideas to explore.

Learn more: [www.ontario.ca/page/support-your-childs-math-learning](http://www.ontario.ca/page/support-your-childs-math-learning).



### New Schools and Construction Projects

The Simcoe County District School Board has a variety of projects on the go, whether it's building new schools, renovating older schools, or completing additions on existing buildings. For more information about how new schools are planned and funded, visit the capital planning page on our website ([www.scdsb.on.ca/about/capital\\_planning](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/about/capital_planning)). If you are interested in information about recently completed projects, projects under construction and new projects, please visit the new schools page on our website ([www.scdsb.on.ca/about/capital\\_planning/new\\_schools](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/about/capital_planning/new_schools)) or our Capital Priorities Overview ([storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/bbeca797d75f4aef933c79047ff2a28c](http://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/bbeca797d75f4aef933c79047ff2a28c))



### Right to Read Inquiry Report



Beginning in 2019, the Ontario Human Rights Commission conducted a public inquiry into human rights issues that affect students with reading disabilities in Ontario's public education system. The report ([www.ohrc.on.ca/en/right-to-read-inquiry-report](http://www.ohrc.on.ca/en/right-to-read-inquiry-report)), released this past spring, issued 157 recommendations. Among these recommendations is the need for an updated language curriculum that includes explicit, systematic, and direct instruction in foundational reading skills, including phonemic awareness, phonics and decoding, and word reading proficiency. The Simcoe County District School Board is committed to shifting our instructional practices to align with these recommendations.

What does this mean for my child? Primary educators are shifting from using leveled texts 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 and phonics. 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. To support your child at home, the following documents provide activities that may help foster these foundational skills:

#### **Phonological awareness activities for families**

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mrSSU-HhNzjSRv6\\_CKiJBue32B-n6ggy/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mrSSU-HhNzjSRv6_CKiJBue32B-n6ggy/view?usp=sharing)

#### **Supporting reading development at home**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/12jf50KLLzZP9q82HN-w39jrHFgYEIf45/view?usp=sharing>

## The Season of Giving

December marks the season of giving, and is a great time to teach your little ones about the benefits of giving back to their community and others. Many people think the only way to help their community or support their favourite charitable cause is with a financial donation – think again! While financial donations are integral to non-profits, there are many other ways that you and your family can give back, make a difference in your community, and have fun – all at the same time!



Here are three ways your family can make a difference this giving season:

- **Volunteer as a family**

Volunteering is a great way to teach kids about empathy and compassion. It shows them that a simple act can make a big difference, and helps them practice valuable life skills. Start small, like spending an hour helping a neighbour, and work your way up to bigger commitments, like going to a shelter or animal rescue once a week. Some families pick a favourite project and make it a yearly tradition, like filling gift baskets for seniors around the holidays. You're never too young to help others!

- **Get crafty for a cause**

A fun way to get the whole family involved is to make arts and crafts to share with others. Many retirement homes and long-term care homes collect handmade cards, drawings, and crafts from the community to share with seniors during the holidays. This is a fun activity that lets kids be creative, and brings great joy to those receiving the handmade items.

- **Give old clothes or toys a second life**

Have your kids outgrown any of the items they used to love? Consider giving gently worn clothing or used toys a second life by donating them to a local nonprofit. Many shelters that support struggling families, refugees, or immigrants rely on clothing and toy donations. Have your family collect any items they want to donate, and explain to your little ones that their once loved items will be going to a new home to bring joy to other children that need it. Basic items that many of us take for granted can make a huge difference in a person's life.

Local charities, like the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka, run on the generous support of individuals and families like yours. If you'd like to learn more about the ways you can give back to the YMCA, visit [www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca](http://www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca). No matter how you decide to give back to your community, you and your family can feel good knowing you are making a positive difference in the lives of others. Your giving changes lives!


*Content provided by the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka*

## School Approved Food Vendors available on School Cash Online

**School Cash Online**

Paying school items just got easier!  
Sign up to get started today.

What is School Cash Online?  
School Cash Online is an easy to use, safe way to pay for your children's school fees.



[Get Started Today](#) [Sign Into Your Account](#)

Thank you to all the families who order from our Hot Lunch Program through Lunch Box on School Cash Online! Not only does this program help with fundraising for our school, but it ensures that hot lunches are warm. We encourage lunches to be purchased through School Cash Online from the Lunch Box ordering system, rather than outside food purchases from unapproved food vendors. *Fast food vendors other than those offered on School Cash Online are not approved by the board.* We have many food allergies that can be harmful to affected students by cross contamination which can be life threatening. *We would ask that lunches from other food providers are not dropped off at school as we can not verify if there are any allergies that could come in contact or delivered to the school with affected students.* Any students that have forgotten their lunch are welcome to help themselves to the classroom snack bin. Thank you for your co-operation and assistance in ensuring that our students and staff are safe.