

Twin Lakes Secondary School

Thunderbird News December 2022

Principal: Julie Richardson

Vice-Principals: Michael Fogarty and Katie Prentice

Sr. Boys Volleyball

GB champs defeating Huntsville in Huntsville in a tight match.

OFSAA had 2 wins in the round robin including an upset win.

Lost narrowly in the playoffs to the team that won the consolation championship.

Incredible group of students, skill and dedication.



High School Information Events for Grade 8 students

We are excited to begin the transition to Twin Lakes with the grade 8 students in our family of schools. To ensure this process promotes a smooth transition and successful start to high school, a number of events are planned (and more to follow):

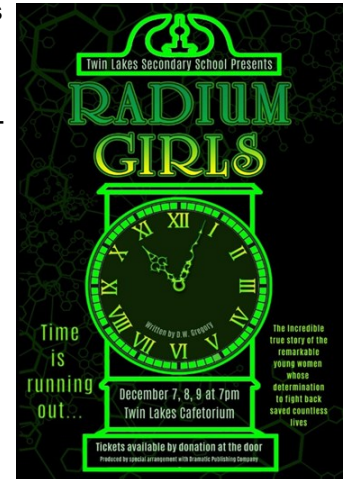
- December 5 – Grade 8 day at Twin (11:45am – 2:00pm) – elementary schools will share details
- First week of January 2023 – TLSS guidance staff visit grade 8 classes to discuss grade 9 course selections
- January 18, 2023 – Grade 8 Open House for students and families (6:00pm – 7:30pm)

Please contact the guidance office if you have questions. We look forward to welcoming our newest Thunderbirds!

TLSS Production: RADIUM GIRLS

This year, TLSS is thrilled to be presenting a production of the play **Radium Girls**. This play tells the incredible true story of the determined young women who stood up for worker's rights in the 1920s. This engaging and fast-paced story brings to life the shocking tale of the women whose court case against the US Radium Corporation led to changes that saved countless lives.

This production has been in rehearsal since October and features over 30 students from grade 9 to 12 in roles on stage and behind the scenes. **Radium Girls** will be presented on December 7, 8, 9 at 7pm in the TLSS Cafetorium. Admission is by cash donation at the door. Come out and support these talented students!



Sounds of the Season

Thursday, December 15th marks the return of live music performances with our annual "Sounds of the Season" concert, featuring our school bands, choir, and music classes.

Admission is by donation at the door with the baton dropping at 7:00pm sharp.

Please come and support our hard working and talented Thunder musicians, as they perform their festive songs.



Register Now for Night School (Semester Two) to Complete High School, Prepare for Post-Secondary Education

Night school offers secondary school credits in a variety of subjects for students completing their Ontario Secondary School Diploma, and for students who are preparing for post-secondary education. Subjects include Math, English, Chemistry, Biology, Physics and Social Science. All night school courses this year are offered as teacher-led, synchronous online classes using Brightspace/D2L. Classes are held two nights per week from 6:00pm to 9:00pm on either a Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday schedule, with online student attendance being mandatory. Night school classes run given sufficient enrolment. Learn more at: <http://www.thelearningcentres.com/>.

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
Mar. 2, 2023— Emotional Regulation for Kids and Adults
Apr. 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 <https://pineriverinstitute.com/>

Significant Days, Holy Days, Holidays and Heritage Recognition Occurring in the Month of December

For information regarding holy days and holidays, visit the SCDSB website here:

www.scdsb.on.ca/about/equity_and_inclusion/holy_days_and_holidays_calendar

For more information on heritage days, visit the SCDSB website here:

https://www.scdsb.on.ca/about/equity_and_inclusion/heritage_recognition

School Bus Status



Please visit <https://www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca/> to sign up to receive email notifications for when your school vehicle route is delayed 15 minutes or more.

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 <https://www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca/>



Our school is in the **North** 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 6:00am and make every effort to post announcements before 7:00am. 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.

Feedback, Recovery and Improvement Days

At the end of each semester, all secondary schools will run feedback, recovery and improvement days for students. Culminating assessments such as portfolios, essays, examinations, and interviews will take place during instructional days and will be returned to students with feedback.

The last day of regular instruction for students in semester one is Monday, Jan. 30, 2023. The period from Tuesday, Jan. 31 to Thursday, Feb. 2, 2023 is reserved for students who require an opportunity to receive feedback from an assessment, to rescue or recover a credit, or to improve on an area of missed expectations.

Teachers and support staff will communicate with students who will benefit most from attending this opportunity; however, all students will be invited to attend. There will be no new instruction these days. Feedback, recovery and improvement days are an opportunity for students to work closely with their teacher if they require feedback, credit recovery or an opportunity to improve on an area of missed expectations.



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).

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) or our Capital Priorities Overview (storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/bbeca797d75f4aef933c79047ff2a28c).

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. 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.



Adult English as a Second Language Program

Looking to improve your English skills? Join our adult English as a second language (ESL) classes to improve your listening and speaking skills through class discussions and presentations. Develop your English skills to advance in your current job or open the door to new employment opportunities. Learn more about your local community and explore Canadian culture and history. Adult ESL classes are offered year-round with a continuous intake. To register for the program, please contact the Barrie Learning Centre at 705-725-8360 ext. 45151, or email ganderson@scdsb.on.ca.

**Please note all students starting ESL for the first time must be assessed prior to starting the class. Fees apply for visitors to Canada and work/study permit holders.*

Character Attribute for the Month of December

Empathy - we strive to understand and appreciate the feelings and actions of others.



More information about character education can be found here: www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character_education.

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 gently worn 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. 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