

# The Southwood Source

FEBRUARY 2024



IF YOUR CHILD IS ABSENT  
OR LATE PLEASE SUBMIT  
ABSENCE ON EDSBY OR  
CALL: 519-969-3470.



## Southwood Staff

### 2023-2024

JK/SK (EYA)- C. Djelebian

ECE - C. Woschenski

E.A. - F. Sami

JK/SK (EYB)- S. Tessier

ECE - A. Dinham

E.A. - A. Carter

Grade 1 (1A)- A. Mamo

Grade 1/2 (1/2A)- C. Coulter

Grade 2 (2A) - S. Forget

Grade 3 (3A)- Z. Hamadani

Grade 3/4 (3/4A) - M. Pfaff

Grade 4 (4A) - J. Piescic/S. Clark

Grade 5 (5A) - M. Dragicevic

Grade 5 (5B) - A. Noble

Grade 6 (6A) - K. Trudell

Grade 6 (6B)- J. Scherer

Grade 7 (7A) - J. Dunlop

Grade 7 (7B) - M. Cichon

Grade 8 (8A) - D. Chisholm

Grade 8 (8B) - N. Fitzsimmons

LST - D. Edgar

Library/LST - V. MacDonald

GAINS A - A. McKane

DSW - T. Mickle

E.A. - A. Kaur

GAINS B - A. Bonadonna

DSW - A. Quinn

E.A. - A. Parent

GAINS C - S. Lysay

DSW - D. Branch

E.A. - V. Lopez

E.A. - M. Ashton

French - T. Laurendeau

French- S. Ruffolo

Prep Coverage - S. Drouillard

Gains Prep - A. Seibel/S. Curley

ESL Itinerant - B. Beneteau

Integration EA - A. Renaud

CYW - J. Glover

Day Custodian - G. McMullen

Afternoon Custodian - M. Roy

Clerk - A. Slade

Secretary - J. Millar

Vice Principal - T. Dugan

Principal - M. Lowes

## FROM THE DESK OF THE PRINCIPAL AND VICE PRINCIPAL ...

Dear Southwood Families,

We hope this newsletter finds you well and that the new year has started on a positive note for everyone. February brings with it a sense of excitement and anticipation as we embark on new adventures and opportunities within our school community.

Upcoming Events:

- Term 1 Report Cards & Parent-Teacher Interviews: We are pleased to announce that Term 1 report cards will be sent home on Monday, February 12th, 2024. Parent-Teacher interviews will be held on Thursday, February 15th, 2024 from 4:00 pm to 6:30 pm. This is a wonderful opportunity for parents and guardians to connect with teachers, discuss student progress, and set goals for the remainder of the academic year. Interviews can be scheduled on Edsby, starting Monday, February 12th.
- Kindergarten Registration and Open House: Entering Kindergarten is an exciting time! If your child is 4 years old by December 31, 2024, they are eligible to register to enter Junior Kindergarten this September 2024! Our Kindergarten Open House is on Wednesday, February 21st, 2024 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.
- Black History Month: February is also Black History Month, a time to honor and celebrate the achievements and contributions of Black individuals throughout history. Each class will be involved in various educational activities and discussions to commemorate this important occasion.

Extracurricular Activities:

- Sports Update: Our school teams have been hard at work practising and competing in basketball and floor hockey events. We encourage all families to show their support by attending games and cheering on our Sabres! Please be reminded that students attending games need to be supervised by an adult. Go team!
- Clubs and Organizations: Our diverse range of clubs and organizations (Chess, Eco-Team, Student Council, GSA, etc.) continue to thrive, offering students the chance to explore new interests and develop valuable skills outside of the classroom. We appreciate all our Sabre Educators for volunteering their time to support our students.

As always, we encourage open communication between home and school. Should you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please do not hesitate to reach out to us by phone, email, or Edsby. Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our school community!

Your Partners in Education,

Mrs. Lowes  
Principal

Mrs. Dugan  
Vice Principal

## School Bell Times

Supervision Begins - 8:00 AM

Instructional Time Begins- 8:15AM

1st Nutrition Break - 9:55 to 10:35

2nd Nutrition Break - 12:15 to 12:55

Dismissal: 2:35PM

Scan this  
QR code to  
access our  
website!



Promoting Spirit, Strength,  
Success and Kindness!



# Congratulations to Eco-Stars!

Families are welcome to join us on February 13th for our Environmental Stewardship Assemblies with Guest Speakers from GECD SB!



Last out?  
**LIGHTS OUT!**



Our Sabre Community wants to remind everyone that we continue to focus on developing positive habits for ourselves AND the planet.

Our Boomerang Lunch Program fosters healthy eating, the elimination of single use plastic and the reduction of waste. Remember that what comes to school in your lunch, returns home each day. Look for green Eco Stars in your classrooms when there is no lunch waste in the garbage.

## School Advisory Council

School Advisory Council continues to welcome parents/guardians to join Southwood School's School Advisory Council. New SAC members are welcome to attend. Our next SAC Meeting is **Thursday, February 29th at 5:30pm** in the school library.

### SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCILS HAVE THREE MAIN GOALS:



**We need your help!**

We are looking for: • **Bingo volunteers**

## Attendance

The school must follow a very strict protocol as established in the Ontario Safe Schools Act 2000, that requires us to attempt to make contact with parents/guardians of absent students.

**Please remember to enter your child's absence in Edsby or call the office to advise us of your child's absence.**

Alternatively, parents/guardians can also leave a note in their child's agenda the day before an absence. By working together, we ensure the safety of our children.



Please ensure that the school has at least **2 emergency contacts** for your child. If your information needs to be updated, please contact the office at **(519) 969-3470**.

## SNOW AND ICE

To keep everyone safe we must insist that snow and ice stay on the ground. Please partner with us to ensure everyone's safety by reviewing with your child that at school snow is to be shared by all and that it stays on the ground to keep ourselves and other students safe and free from injury. Thank you for your support!



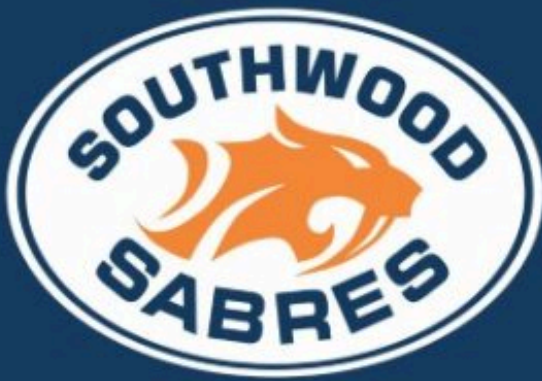


Kindergarten  
Registration  
February 20th -  
March 1st!

# WE ARE SABRES PROUD!



Kindergarten  
Open House is  
February 21 from  
5-7pm at  
Southwood!



“I like my teachers. I like to play with my friends. I like to dance and sing. I have fun at school!”

*Southwood Public School*



[publicboard.ca](https://publicboard.ca)

SCAN TO REGISTER  
@PUBLICBOARD.CA

SCAN ME



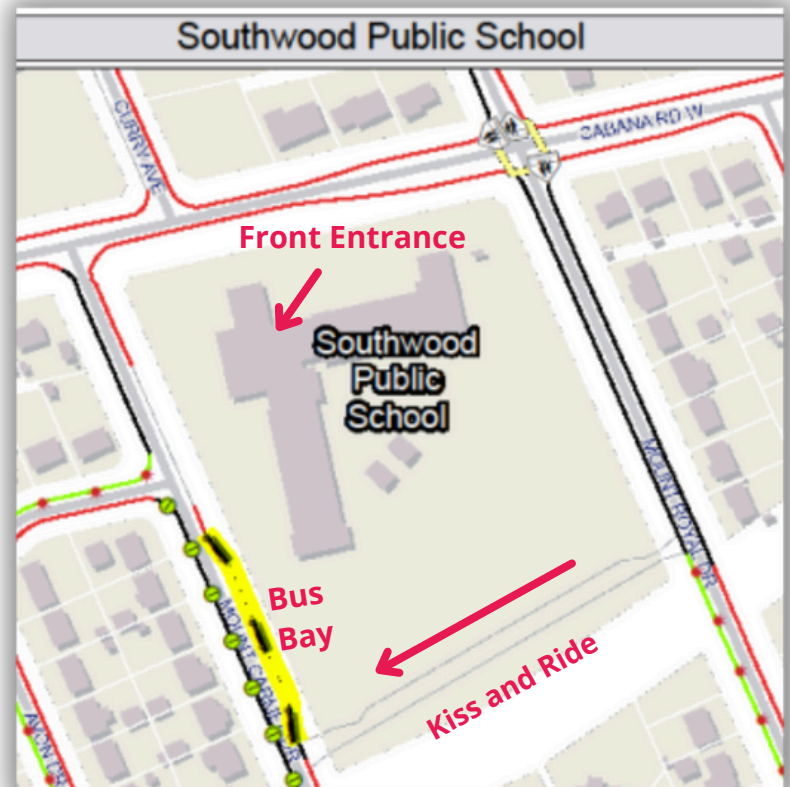
Follow us on Twitter @SPSSabres

<https://www.publicboard.ca/en/southwood/index.aspx>

## Kiss and Ride/Pick up & Drop off Safety Routines

- If you are using the Kiss and Ride please fully stop at the stop sign at the end of the Kiss and Ride before proceeding and watch for pedestrians using the sidewalk. There are a lot of students and other pedestrians who are walking near our school grounds during our drop-off and pick-up times.
- It is very important that all drivers wait their turn in our Kiss and Ride. Weaving in and out of the line to pull into a closer spot in the Kiss and Ride creates unsafe conditions that endanger children, parents, and staff who are in the area.
- For safety purposes, please ensure your children **exit the vehicle from the door that is on the same side as the sidewalk**. Exiting from the left-hand side and walking to the other side of the vehicle may cause unsafe conditions.
- Please do not use the parking lot if you are picking up or dropping off your child during pick up and drop off times. Students and parents should not be accessing the parking lot during this time as it is reserved for school and board personnel and not safe for students to be traversing due to traffic that may be in the parking lot.
- Please ensure that students are coming to school in the morning between 8:00am and 8:15am. **Supervision does not start until 8:00am.** Students will not be permitted on the yard prior to 8:00am and should not be gathering at the gate before 8:00am. We encourage students to come closer to 8:10am if possible. To avoid congestion we remind our Sabres to use their designated entrance when coming to school. We thank our parents/guardians for waiting at the gate when they are walking students to and from school.

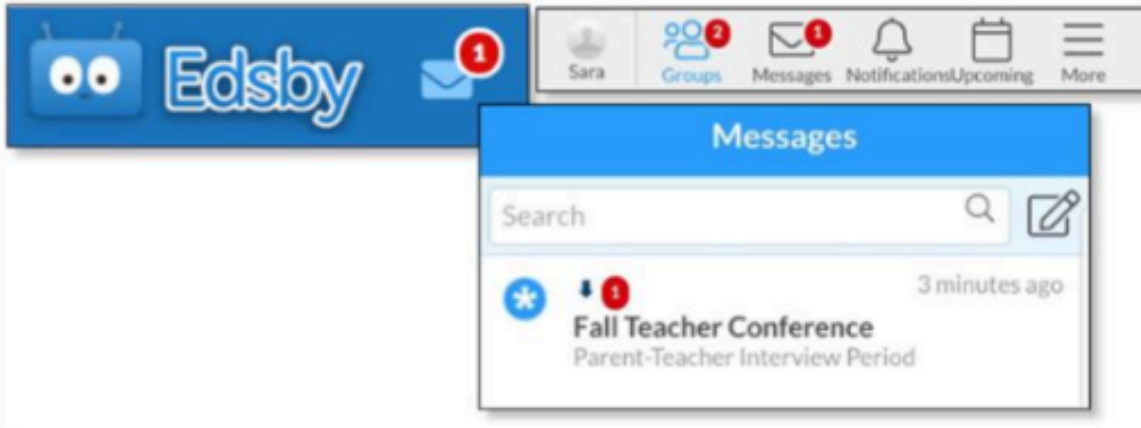
**Thank you for your patience and cooperation during this time as we continue to work together to make school a safe place for everyone!**



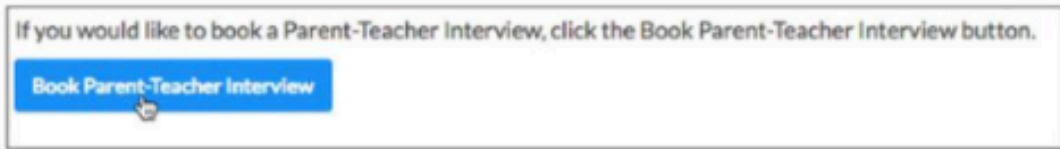


# Report Card and Interview Information

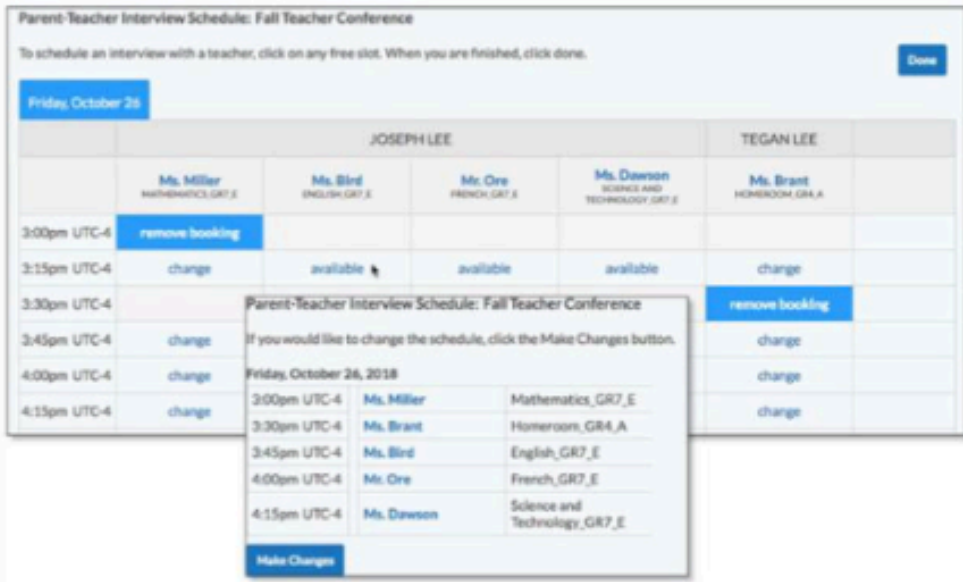
Report cards and IEPs for Term 1 will be going home on **Monday, February 12th**. These reports represent learning from September until the beginning of February. This report, unlike the progress report, will provide you with more detail on how your child is progressing at school. Please review the report with your child and acknowledge the suggestions that are made for improvement. Parent/Guardian - Teacher Interviews will be held on **Thursday, February 16th from 4:00pm to 6:30pm**.



Click the message and then click Book Parent-Teacher Interview.



To book an appointment, click on any available slot. Click Done to complete the process.



Edsby provides parents/guardians with the ability to book their own teacher conferences through your computer or mobile device. You can also log in by navigating to publicboard.edsby.com. There will be a new Parent-Teacher Interview booking form in your Message area (see below).

**Parents/Guardians will be able to book an in-person interview beginning on February 12th using Edsby. If you do not have an Edsby account, you can call the office at (519)969-3470.**



# February 2024



Follow us on Twitter @SPSSabres

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Pizza Day	2	3
4	5	6 	7	8 Pizza Day	9	10 Happy Lunar New Year!
11	12 Pizza orders due	13 Environmental Stewardship Assembly	14	15 Pizza Day Parent-Teacher Interviews 4:00 - 6:30pm	16 PA Day - No school for students 	17
18	19 Family Day - No school 	20 Kindergarten registration begins 	21 Kindergarten Open House 5-7pm 	22 Pizza Day	23	24
25	26	27 	28	29 Pizza Day School Council Meeting 5:30pm in library		



Every February, people across Canada participate in Black History Month events and festivities that honour the legacy of Black people in Canada and their communities. In 1995, Canada’s government officially recognized February as Black History Month. Black History Month is a time to celebrate and remember all the ways that Black Canadians have contributed to Canada’s history and culture.

The 2024 theme for Black History Month is: “Black Excellence: A Heritage to Celebrate; a Future to Build”. This theme celebrates the rich past and present contributions and accomplishments of Black people in Canada, while aspiring to embrace new opportunities for the future.

No matter where you live, we invite all Canadians to learn more about these communities, and how they continue to help shape Canadian history. Please take time throughout the month to ask your child what they are learning about Canadian Black History.



Girls Basketball Coach: Coach Chisholm



Boys Basketball Coaches: Coach MacDonald, Coach Fitzsimmons



Floor Hockey: Coach Trudell & Coach Renaud



Chess Club: Coach Cichon



Eco-Team: Coach Edgar





# Spotlight

ON OUR PHENOMENAL KINDERGARTEN TEAM!



**Mrs. Djelebian - Teacher**



**Mrs. Tessier - Teacher**



**Mrs. Woschenski  
ECE**



**Mrs. Sami  
EA**



**Ms. Dinham  
ECE**



**Mrs. Carter  
EA**

We are delighted to take a moment to express our heartfelt appreciation for our amazing kindergarten team. We are filled with gratitude and admiration for their dedication, passion, and unwavering commitment to the growth and development of our youngest learners.

Our kindergarten team embodies the spirit of excellence in early childhood education. They create nurturing and stimulating environments where our little ones can explore, learn, and flourish. With boundless energy, creativity, and patience, they foster a love for learning that will last a lifetime!