

December 2022

South Branch



TIGERS!

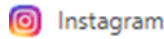


Principal
Tanya Preston
Tanya.preston@ucdsb.on.ca

Vice-Principal
Tracey Haley
tracey.haley@ucdsb.on.ca



South Branch ELEMENTARY-UCDSB



Southbranch_ucdsb



If you have any questions regarding the school, please email your child's teacher or the school.

We do not monitor Facebook for messages.



We model and maintain a positive Facebook presence. A safe school is one where students, staff and families feel safe. For accurate information please refer to this page: South Branch Elementary-UCDSB

Yard Safety—Supervision begins at 9:15a.m

End of Day Pick Ups 3:40 (Park at NGDHS)

Please call the office by 2 p.m. so your child's name can be added to the pick-up list. This limits class disruptions and end of day chaos.

Principal's Message

Winter Concert

We are excited for our Winter Concert on Wednesday, December 21. To keep our numbers manageable we are asking that only parents/guardians attend 1 performance either 10:00 a.m (A-L) or 1:00 p.m. (M-Z). Thank you for your cooperation.



WINTER FUN

We are looking forward to a month full of learning and fun that will lead us right into the holidays. Please see the calendar attached so you can keep track of our spirit days and special activities.



Morning Arrival:

Just a reminder that staff are not on duty until 9:15 a.m. It is important that parents ensure staff are on duty before dropping children off on the yard, especially our primary students.



Drop and Pick Up Zones:



During the winter months there will not be a groomed path from the church to the school yard. As snow accumulates it will be important to drop off ALL students using our school parking lot. **A reminder that we encourage ALL parents to use the NGDHS parking lot for end of day pick up** to reduce congestion for the safety of our students and staff.

SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENTATION:

We welcome back Paul Davis-online safety, cyber-bullying and social media educator who will be speaking to our Gr.3-6 students on **December 14**. We invite all of our parents to join us for the evening parent presentation hosted at **NGDHS at 6:00 p.m.** that evening. For more information check out his website at socialnetworksafety.net or check out his Facebook - Pauldavis



WINTER CLOTHING:

Please pack an extra pair of socks and mitts in your child's backpack. This time of year weather can be variable so dressing in layers can keep your child comfortable. Please label all items of clothing items.



Daily Schedule

9:25-11:55 Instructional Block & snack

11:55-12:35 BREAK

11:55-12:15 Eat (Gr.3/4-6) (K-2/3)
RECESS 12:15-12:35 Recess (3/4-6) (K-2/3) EAT

12:35-1:55 Instructional Block

1:55-2:35 BREAK

1:55-2:15 Eat (Gr.3/4-6) (K-2/3)
RECESS 2:15-2:35 Recess (3/4-6) (K-2/3) EAT

2:35-3:40 Instructional Block

3:40 Bus Dismissal

3:45 Pick Up /Walkers



Winter Break is from December 26-January 8, 2023.

School resumes Monday, January 9, 2023



Tues. Dec. 6

6:30 –7:30 p.m

Teams or In Person



We All Belong Survey

The We All Belong Survey is open and accepting responses until Dec.12! If you haven't had a chance to fill it out, we encourage you to take 15 minutes and complete it with, or on behalf of, your child. All students in Kindergarten to Grade 8 have been sent a personalized survey link to their school email address. Student email can be accessed from home at <http://my.ucdsb.ca>. Log in using the same email address and password that your child uses to log in to a school computer. Most students are familiar with how to log into their email. If you have trouble logging in, please contact your child's classroom teacher directly.



WE ALL BELONG Student Survey

Inclement Weather Days-no busses run but the schools remain open

Cancellation announcements will be made no later than 6:15 a.m. Parents, guardians and students can verify if transportation is cancelled in the following ways:

From STEO:

- www.steo.ca
- Bus Planner Delays App (free app)
- STEO's Facebook page or on Twitter @STEO_news and @steocancels
- STEO's inclement weather hotline at 1-866-629-0629 (updated no later than 6:15 a.m.)
- By email through STEO's Parent Portal. Register at www.STEO.ca

From UCDSB:

- Facebook (@UCDSB) Twitter (@UCDSB) Instagram (@uppercanadaDSB)
- Your school's Facebook page
- Your school's website/home page
- By email, text or phone call for those signed up with My Family Room (based on

Tiger Tuesdays (first Tuesday of each month)

Tues. Dec. 6, 2022

South Branch spirit days- wear your South Branch clothing or dress in blue and yellow. Families are invited to order from Mr. Mozzarella and send 15% of proceeds back to support our school.

December Proceeds to support South Branch Boutique-warm clothing



Reporting a Child Absence

In accordance with our Safe School Policy, all absences must be reported to the school. When a child is absent from school and we cannot reach a guardian through the numbers provided, we must notify our local OPP to investigate.

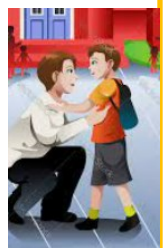
To avoid this please ensure you report any absences by either method:

- Download MFR APP
- Phone the school and leave a message any time prior to 9:20 a.m. that morning.

***To ensure consistency, please avoid emailing absences to your child's teacher.**

Parent Pick Up & Drop Off

Just a reminder that if you are picking up or dropping off your child within the regular



school day, please sign your child in/out at the main office. Parents are asked to wait in the office in accordance with our safe schools policy. **We ask that parents refrain from walking to their child's classroom.**

Managing Holiday Season Stress

With the holiday season approaching, some might be anticipating the joy, excitement, and togetherness that the season can bring. Others might be bracing themselves for the challenges that inevitably accompany the holidays. Expectations around the holidays can contribute to increased stress. Children's Mental Health Ontario offers these tips to help families through the holiday season.

- 1) **Do what works for your family** – Give yourself permission to prioritize mental health over holiday commitments. Try offering your child(ren) activities to choose from. Don't over commit your schedule and allow for personal time.
- 2) **Plan early** – Now is a good time to begin discussions with your child(ren) about holiday plans. Predictability reduces stress! Try letting your child(ren) be part of the planning. What do they feel is most important to do during the holidays.
- 3) **Find a quiet space in a busy place** – Identify a spot with your child(ren) that they can retreat to during holiday activities where they can calm down or re-group. Check in with your child(ren) regularly to see how they are doing and if quiet time might be needed.
- 4) **Manage disappointment** – Acknowledge with your child(ren) any disappointments that might occur during the holidays. Give kids a safe place to express themselves and provide validation and support.
- 5) **Support through grief** - The holidays can be especially hard for grieving families. Remembering your loved one, telling stories, and laughing about good times together are all ok to do, and can provide comfort. Working together to come up with ideas for memorializing your loved one over the holidays is another idea.
- 6) **Take care of you** - The holidays are stressful! Make sure that you are eating, sleeping and making time for yourself as well. Take time when you need it and don't feel guilty about saying no when you need to.

Children's Mental Health Ontario (2021). *Ready for the Holidays*. Family Care Centre. <https://www.family.cmho.org/mental-health-ready-for-the-holidays/>

FOOD DRIVE

Dec.12-16

Please help us give back to our community if you can by donating items to support some of our SB families and our community.

Please verify expiration dates of donated items.



SOUTH BRANCH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S GLITTER & GLEE Winter Shopping Event

Wednesday, December 7th
9:00-3:30 - South Branch Gym

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are looking for donations of gently used items - toys, books, kitchen and household items, home decor and more. Giftable items for all ages! We are also looking for any colour and pattern gift wrap. You may send your items in with your students or arrange to drop off during school hours.



Available to volunteer?
Email us at southbranchcouncil@gmail.com

December 2022

Sun

Mon










Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1 MILK PROGRAM STARTS	2	3 International Day of Persons with Disabilities
4	5 	6   School Spirit Wear Parent Council 6:30 G&G Set Up	7  Glitter & Glee Shopping	8 Jingle Joggers Add some sound to your comfy joggers.	9 Flannel Friday Plaid shirts & pants 3:00 School Wide Dance Party	10 Human Rights Day
11	12  Scarf & Hat Day Staff share favourite Winter/Christmas Story	13 Tree Topper Tuesday Decorate your head (Santa hat, headband etc)	14  Winter Sparkle (Bling!) 6p.m. Social Media Session at NGDHS	15 Candy Cane Day Wear Red & White and get a candy cane	16 Ugly Sweater Day School Bingo 3 p.m	17
Bring in a non-perishable food item to donate						
18 	19  Winter Character Day Dress as your favourite Winter/Christmas char- acter (Elsa, snowman, Rudolph, elf)	20 School Rehearsal Winter/Christmas Socks Show off your socks!	21  Winter Concert 10a.m. or 1 p.m. Dress in your finest for the show	22 Frosty Day Wear white and build a snowman with your class	23 PJ & Popcorn Last Day of School 2022	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 HAPPY HOLIDAYS



An Evening For Parents with Paul Davis

Topics Include:

- Snapchat
- TikTok
- Instagram
- Discord
- Cyberbullying
- Digital Trails
- Online Security



Empowering Parents in the Digital Age

Social Media and Online Safety

Wednesday, December 14th - 6:00pm

North Grenville District High School

