

WELCOME BACK OCTOBER 2023

SOUTH BRANCH



SCHOOL UPDATE

We have had a wonderful return to school and everyone has settled into school routines nicely. The September weather has made recess times enjoyable but with the arrival of October we want to remind everyone that weather can vary from day to day and even from morning to afternoon. Please dress your children in layers so they can enjoy playing at recess comfortably. Please label each item to ensure it can be returned to you.

October will bring the return of our Hot Lunch Program. It has already been distributed through MFR. All orders must be processed before the deadline. Please enter your order early in the event you require support. Sufficient funds must be placed into your PayPal account before you process your order or it will not go through. This order will run from Oct. 10-Nov. 10. On this order you will see the option to donate money to sponsor a lunch for a child not participating in the lunch program.

SPIRIT WEEK is coming next month. Please watch the calendar so you don't miss out!



COMMUNICATION-Stay in the Know



Our school relies on specific communication sources to ensure that accurate information is communicated to our families. The school encourages you to follow our School-UCDSB page so you can refer to it for information updates or upcoming events.



The school newsletter is sent via email each month with a calendar that you can post and reference. Both of these items are also posted on our School Website southbranch.ucdsb.on.ca All school and staff communications are distributed through MFR distribution lists. Please ensure you are receiving emails from your child's classroom teacher and the school to ensure you are connected.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

DROP OFF

School Supervision begins at **9:15 a.m.-9:25 a.m.** Student drop off cannot be prior to 9:15 a.m. to ensure student safety.

END OF DAY PICK UP

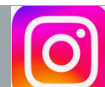
Please call the office by 2:00 p.m. if you are picking up your child at the end of the day. Pick up lists are distributed and we want to make sure our lists are accurate. This reduces interruptions to the classroom learning.

MIDDAY PICK UP

Once you are buzzed into the school, please report to the office and wait for your child to be brought down.



South Branch Elementary School - UCDSB



southbranch_ucdsb

SOUTH BRANCH ELEMENTARY

We are pleased to have HEBL as our partners again to support our breakfast & snack program at school. Each day snacks are delivered to classrooms to help ensure students have the food they need to be successful for their learning.

Thank you HEBL for supporting our school nutrition program.

Thank you also to Kilmarnock Orchard for donating apples this fall to our snack program.

Social Media

We love to capture photos of our students learning and enjoying special events throughout the day so we can share with our families. In order to post pictures of your child on our social media platforms we must have signed media consent. This permission provides consent for photos of your child to be shared on our social media platforms (public) and our UCDSB Facebook may also share them. We never use student names with our photos.

There is a new media form this year to help clarify your preference for your child. If you have already signed and provided consent/declined for social media there is nothing required. If you are new to our school we require this form to be completed to add to our records. Parents can ask to modify their preferences at any time. Please speak with your classroom teacher if you have any question.

The 2 options for Media Consent are:

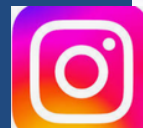
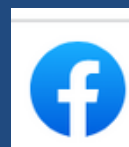
1. Social Media consent yes/no
2. Photovisions Photo for OSR and Yearbook yes/no

Healthy Eating for Better Learning



Healthy Eating for Better Learning (HEBL)

provides funding for food and ongoing support to run healthy breakfast or snack programs for children and youth who live in Stormont, Dundas, Glengarry, Prescott and Russell counties. Nourishment programs are available to all students, ensuring they feel welcome and comfortable. Children and youth who are well nourished are less tired, concentrate better and are better prepared to participate in academic and physical activities. Helping students get the nourishment they need to succeed supports healthy development, contributes to prevention of diet related health concerns and promotes healthy lifestyles.



SOUTH BRANCH ELEMENTARY

Safe & Accepting Schools Team

Schools are required to establish Safe and Accepting Schools Team and set a date for the first meeting. The Safe and Accepting Schools Team must meet at least once in each term. The Team must consist of at least the following - one student, one parent, one teacher, one non-teaching staff member, one community partner, and the principal/vice principal).

Our Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan is updated annually and posted on our South Branch Website.

Our first meeting will be in October prior to our monthly Parent Council Meeting.

Please join us 6:00 Thursday, Oct. 12 in the Learning Commons.

Safe Schools Team



Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan

SCHOOL TIMETABLE

9:25-11:55 Instruction Block 1

11:55-12:35 Break 1
(K-3 outside, 4-6 eat 20min)
(K-3 eat, 4-6 outside 20min)

12:35-1:55 Instruction Block 2

1:55-2:35 Break 2
(K-3 outside, 4-6 eat 20min)
(K-3 eat, 4-6 outside 20min)

2:35-3:40 Instruction Block 3

3:40-3:45 Dismissal



STEO

There are occasions throughout the year when bus service is interrupted and either unable to run or there is a delay. It is important that you register to receive notifications from STEO directly so you are always up to date on your bus status. Bus delays will no longer be communicated via SB Facebook to ensure accurate information is directly sent to all parents. Please make sure you are aware of your child's bus number.



School and Transportation Information is only a Click or Call Away...

You can access STEO's Transportation Information and Guidelines for Students and Parents at www.steo.ca under Student Information.

#staytuned

Parents can register for email notifications through the STEO Parent Portal at transportation.steo.ca. Follow STEO on social media for transportation related updates throughout the summer.

SCHOOL COUNCIL
THURS. OCT 12
6:30-7:30P.M.

School Council

Our Voice counts....



The voting membership of the council typically consists of 10 to 15 members. This year's voting council consists of 13 members. Of those 13 there is an executive (chair, vice-chair, secretary, and treasurer) and two committee leads (hot lunch lead and fundraising lead). Your executive includes:

Chair – Steve Ibbotson
Vice-chair – Laurel Cardy
Secretary – Serena Bobbitt
Treasurer – Ashley Beland

Additionally, we have two leads that oversee fundraising and the hot lunch program. These two leads also organize the volunteers for all of the amazing activities that take place at South Branch Elementary through the school year:

Hot lunch lead – Jarek Anderson
Fundraising lead – Katie O'Connor (with some help from Lisa Lockhart)

Council meetings will continue in-person for the duration of the academic year and will generally take place on the second Thursday of each month. The exceptions being December (where we'll move it forward to help set-up the Glitter and Glee event) and March (where it falls during March Break). Meetings will be one hour long and start at 1830. The schedule is below:

- Thursday, October 12
- Thursday, November 9
- Wednesday, December 6
- Thursday, January 11
- Thursday, February 8
- March meeting (TBD if required)
- Thursday, April 11
- Thursday, May 9
- Thursday, June 13

Reaching the school council executive, committee leads, or directing inquiries from parents is simple too. All inquiries related to school council business can be sent to southbranchcouncil@gmail.com