

# BURFORD DISTRICT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



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## Important Dates

Nov 1– Winter Wear Drive begins  
Nov 4– Daylight Savings Ends  
Nov 8– Picture Re-take Day  
Nov 9– Remembrance Day Assembly  
Nov 9-25– Hot Lunch orders open online  
Nov 14– Grade 8s to PDHS, Report Cards go home, CRUNCH Day  
Nov 14-16– Book Fair  
Nov 15– Winter Coat Drive Ends, Parent-Teacher Interviews (4-7pm)  
Nov 16- Parent-Teacher Interviews (8:30-11:30pm)  
Nov 22– Barlas & Mercer's class to Library  
Nov 27– Woodburn & Tanaszczuk's classes to Safety Village  
Nov 30– Boukhuyt's class to Library  
Dec 4– Turkey Dinner

## Message from the Administrators' Desks . . .

Another month has come and gone and, here at BDES, we are gearing up for fall and winter. Our school baseball and soccer teams have represented us admirably in tournaments and their play and teamwork has made their coaches and the entire Bobcat community proud. A special thanks to Mr. Scrubb, Mr. Zondag, Ms. Sorbara, Mme. Schonbacher, Ms. Soenen and Mr. Schrader for coaching teams this fall, and to the parents who volunteered to drive. Our next school sport is volleyball.

Although the weather is changing, we continue to include outdoor education and play in students' regular classroom programming. It is essential that all students come dressed for the weather every day. Packing extra socks and mitts is a good idea to ensure that students remain comfortable, warm and dry all day.

At this time of year, we can expect snow at any time. Please consider registering for Transportation Updates at <http://www.stsbhn.ca/>. Bussing delays may occur when winter weather affects driving conditions. We also tend to see an increase in illness-related absences in the winter months. If your child is ill, please contact the school secretaries. In addition, the Public Health Unit publishes fact sheets on many infectious diseases. Check <https://www.bchu.org/ServicesWeProvide/InfectiousDiseases/FactSheets/Pages/default.aspx> to see if an illness requires exclusion from school.

Our teaching staff are currently participating in "Focus on Fundamentals", a series of math training sessions that aim to boost our students' proficiency with mathematical operations. In the 21st Century, citizens and workers need to be able to approach problems in innovative ways and change course if their strategy is not proving effective. Focus on Fundamentals promotes a thorough understanding of how the 4 basic operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) are used.

We would like to thank our volunteers for helping us to run rigorous academic programs, engaging extra-curricular activities and fundraisers that help us to continue to improve our school environment. If you are looking for opportunities to volunteer, consider attending our monthly School Council Meetings, or watch for volunteer opportunities in the newsletter.



## Burford Winter Clothing Drive

Burford District Elementary School is collecting gently used winter clothing items for children and adult until November 16<sup>th</sup>. Do you have a pair of boots, coat or snow pants that don't fit? Extra hats, mittens or scarves? Donations can be sent in with students or dropped off in the bin by the office. All donations will be taken to the Brantford Wish Closet for families who wish that they could have something they need. These items are free of charge and help provide the necessities of life. Teach your children how to give to others and donate your unwanted winter wear to help others to stay warm!

# Focus on Math

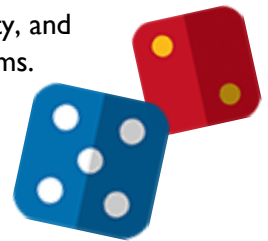
## Myths & Facts

**Myth:** The math my child is learning in school is “new.”

**Facts:**

Your child is learning the same math facts and formulas you did—such as  $2 \times 2 = 4$ , and the circumference of a circle is  $2\pi r$ . But the way math is taught has evolved in recent decades. Today’s math learning emphasizes the development of understanding of concepts and skills, so that your child is able to apply these confidently in new situations. It also focuses on developing critical thinking, problem solving, and communication skills.

Your child is learning some topics and skills that you may not have learned in elementary school. These include data management and probability, and how to use calculators and computers to help model and solve math problems. What your child is learning in math class, and how your child is learning, are equipping your child for success in today’s knowledge-based economy and our global world.



**Myth:** Now that we have calculators, students don’t need to know how to add, subtract, multiply, and divide, nor do they need to memorize the “math facts” (such as  $7 \times 6 = 42$ ).

**Fact:** Knowing how to add, subtract, multiply, and divide are essential math skills and a major emphasis in the Ontario math curriculum. Automatic recall of math facts is needed in higher-level math. Games where children need to keep track of a score or that require automatic recall of math facts are a fun way to practise. Look for opportunities where your child can develop fluency. It takes time. This is a key area where you can help your child at home, by encouraging lots of practise in a variety of ways.

**Myth:** People who were taught math the old way can’t make sense of today’s math.

**Fact:** You can learn alongside your child, and strengthen your own math skills in the process. Ask your child to explain and show you what the class is learning. Children are great teachers, and explaining math concepts and procedures to you will help your child to understand them better. Also, ask your child’s teacher for suggestions on how to quickly learn the strategies your child is using.

**Myth:** Doing well in math is only important if you want to be an engineer, doctor, scientist...

**Fact:** Math skills are needed in every career – from fashion design to filmmaking, baking to car racing. And everyone needs math skills to effectively manage his/her money and time. A strong foundation in math will open doors to a successful future.

~ from *Math Learning Today*, Council of Ontario Directors of Education



### Inclement Weather Information:

Information on Student Transportation Services can be found here: <http://www.stsbhn.ca/>

For transportation delays, cancellations or school closures, visit: [www.transinfobhn.ca/Cancellations](http://www.transinfobhn.ca/Cancellations)

If there are school or board facility closures, Grand Erie will post a notification by 6:30 a.m. on the Board’s website here: [www.granderie.ca](http://www.granderie.ca)

Information will be posted on Grand Erie’s Twitter (@GEDSB) and Facebook ([www.facebook.com/GEDSB](http://www.facebook.com/GEDSB)) accounts

Closure information will also be shared with local media (i.e. radio, television)

Find the Board’s Inclement Weather Policy here: <https://bit.ly/2HoC1YX>

Learn how Student Transportation Services makes its decision about inclement weather here: [bit.ly/2JIVSk9](http://bit.ly/2JIVSk9)

## Poinsettia Fundraiser



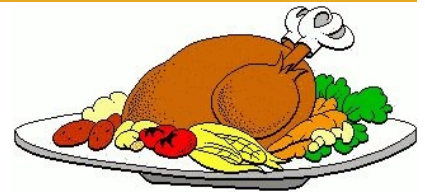
Our Poinsettia Fundraiser is underway. Forms were sent home and need to be returned to the school by November 22 and poinsettias will be available for pickup from the school on November 29th. Payment can be made via School Cash Online or

through cash or cheque made out to Burford District Elementary School.

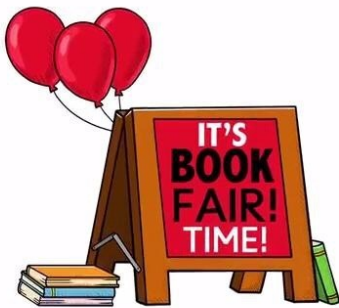
## Turkey Dinner

Our annual Turkey Dinner has been set for Tuesday, December 4th.

This has become a tradition at BDES and staff and students look forward to sharing food and good company. The dinner is catered by Greenwood. Your School Council funds the dinner, but asks for a \$2 donation per student to help to offset the cost. If you are interested in volunteering to serve food on the day of the event, please contact the school secretaries to confirm the date.



## Join us for our BOOK FAIR



Once again, we will be holding a Scholastic Book Fair the week of Parent-Teacher Interviews. Students will have an opportunity to look through the Book Fair during class time and make purchases either on a school Nutrition Break or during interview times. The hours of the Book Fair are as follows:

Tuesday, November 13– materials arrive at the school and are set up in the Library

Wednesday, November 14– classes preview the Book Fair

Thursday, November 15– classes preview the Book Fair. Students may purchase items at Nutrition Breaks. Book Fair open to public during interviews (4:00-7:00 pm)

Friday, November 16– Book Fair open to public during interviews (8:30-11:30 am)

**Consider purchasing a book for yourself, your child or as a gift. The part of the purchase price comes back to the school as cash or books for the Library.**



### Lock Down, Hold and Secure and Shelter in Place

As a part of our Safe Schools policy, we have procedures to respond to situations where student safety may be at risk. From time to time, your child may indicate that they have been in Lockdown. We do Lockdown drills once in the fall and once in the spring. In the event of a legitimate threat that requires a real lockdown, the Communications Department of the Grand Erie District School Board will make information available via the Board website.



**Lockdown**– there is a threat to student safety inside the school. Classroom doors are locked and students sit silently out of the view of doors or windows.

**Hold and Secure**– there is a threat to safety outside of the school. Outside doors are secured and students stay inside. Law enforcement usually advises when this is appropriate.

**Shelter in Place**– similar to “Hold and Secure”, but in response to an environmental event.






Crunch Day is an annual event that supports the Brant United Way. On **November 14th**, we will be provided with apples for our Snack Program. We ask that families consider a small donation that will be collected for the United Way. **The United Way is a key funder for Brant Food for Thought which provides the funding that allows us to run our Snack Program.**





# November 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Winter Coat Drive has begun	2	3
4 Day Light Sav- ings Time— turn your clocks back! 	5	6	7	8 Picture Retake Day 	9 Remembrance Day Assembly— 11:00  December Hot Lunches & Milk open online	10
11  Lest We Forget.	12	13	14 Grade 8 trip to Paris High School  CRUNCH Day  Report Cards go home  Book Fair	15 Parent/Teacher Interviews in p.m.  Winter Coat Drive Ends  Book Fair	16 P.A. Day Parent/Teacher Interviews in a.m.  Book Fair during interviews	17
18	19	20	21	22 Mrs. Barlas & Mercer walk to Burford Library	23	24
25 December Hot Lunches & Milk close	26	27 Mrs. Woodburn & Mdm. Tanaszcuk classes at Safety Village 9:30-12	28	29	30 Mrs. Bouckhuyt's class walks to Bur- ford Library	