

Erickson Collegiate

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

WEDNESDAY,
OCTOBER 27, 2010

From the Desk of Mr. Lee....

Hello, everyone! It just seems like yesterday that we were putting out the first newsletter – boy, how time flies! A lot has been happening at the collegiate since the end of September though.

We had a great day for the Terry Fox Run and there was fantastic participation by students and staff. Mrs. McLaughlin took some awesome pictures of the event and they have been posted on the television screen at the front office. There were some great buddy pictures of our students. Speaking of pictures, we also had picture day on September 29. Do not worry if your son or daughter missed that day, as retakes are scheduled for

November 3.

We have also met with the graduating students and they have formed their committees. The two student chairs are Dusty Pratt and Laura Ferguson and they are doing a great job at getting things organized. Mrs. Robson and Mrs. Collyer are the staff volunteers that are assisting the students. We had a grad and parent/guardian meeting the first week in October and outlined some of the changes to this year's graduation ceremony and banquet. Please read Mrs. Robson's update regarding graduation further in this newsletter. If you have any questions regarding graduation please contact one of the staff supervisors or in-

formation may also be found on the school's webpage.

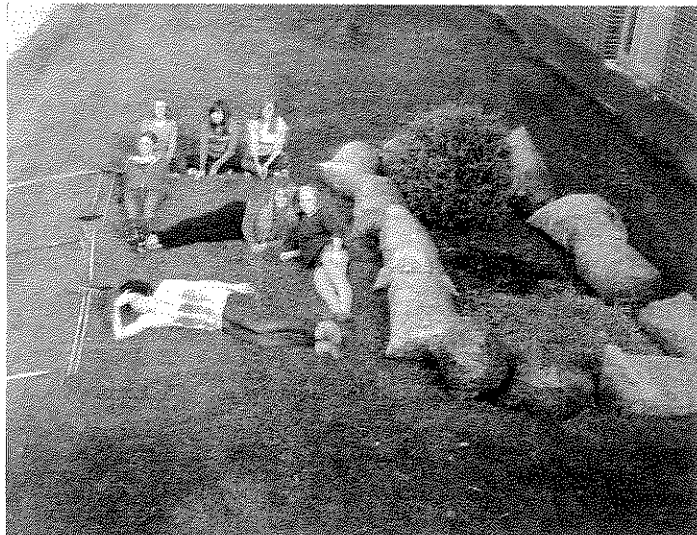
Erickson Collegiate now has a Parent Advisory Council. On October 5, ten parents/guardians attended a meeting with Mrs. Robson and me to discuss the formation of a council. The next meeting is Thursday, November 18 at 7:00 p.m. at the school. Come for Parent – Teacher Conferences and then stay for the meeting. We will be discussing the constitution among other things. The chair for the council is Mrs. Denise Schmidt.

Continued on Page 2

ECI joins Global Work Party.....

By Cate Watrous
South Mountain Pres

On Sunday, Oct. 10, at 10 a.m., Students Making A Difference (SMAD) were joined by town residents to clean up the Friendship Garden and the flower beds at the collegiate. This event was one of thousands that took place around the globe as part of the "Back to 350" project which endeavours to educate the public about climate change.



Continued on Page 3

ERICKSON COLLEGIATE

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schools/
erick-
son_collegiate/
index.html**



From the desk of Mr. Lee...

Interim reports were mailed out last week. All students in Grades 7, 8, and 9 were to receive a report, and those students in Grades 10, 11, and 12 that are experiencing academic, social, or behavioral difficulties also received one. **If your daughter or son has an incomplete on the interim report, that means he or she has not completed all of the required/ essential assignments needed to receive a credit for that course. Please contact your daughter or son's teacher to discuss the incomplete assignments, and I also ask you to encourage your son or daughter to complete those assignments. If a student still has incomplete assignments at the end of semester one, he or she will not be receiving a credit until all essential work is satisfactorily completed.**

Just a reminder, there is no formal midterm exam period as there has been in the past. Teachers may have an exam but the exam must take place in the regularly scheduled time and over a period of two days (if need be). Report cards will be ready on November 16 or 17. Parent – Teacher interviews are November 18 between 4:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. and again on Friday, November 19 from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

Academically, teachers have been providing some excellent opportunities for students to extend their learning. Mrs. Robson had her Grade 11 History class board the Martese for an historical tour of Riding Mountain National Park, and Mr. Waterman had his photography class to a local farm to take pictures for the current unit they are working on. (If you get a chance, there are excellent examples of students' photography posted in the northwest hallway. There are some talented photographers in the group!) Mrs. Dalton and Mr. Carefoot and the Grade 7 and 8's had Brookdale stu-

dents here as part of the Mamopimink Project – a project of integration, understanding and appreciation of equity and social justice. Mrs. Young, the school's Aboriginal liaison worker, was also involved. I was so proud of our students; they did a great job of working with and mentoring the younger students from Brookdale. (Please read Mrs. Dalton's entry further on in the newsletter.) Mr. Waterman, Mrs. Tiller, and a group of students from the Food and Nutrition class provided lunch for the principals' meeting in Rivers and they will be asked to do the same for the next month's meeting, which is to be held at our school. They are also going to bake snacks for a divisional in-service for Grade 10 – 12 students in November. Mrs. Boyd took the Grade 7 – 10 French classes to the park for an Elk interpretive hike that was conducted in French. On October 25, as part of Manitoba School Library Day, Mrs. McInnes signed the school up for the "Drop Everything and Read Challenge". All students and staff "dropped" what they were doing at 10:55 and read for fifteen minutes. Mrs. Frey combined baking with math for her Grade 10 Essential Math students and the result was some excellent tasting cookies! Mr. Sansom has invited a guest to his Grade 10 Geography class to work with the students on GPS, and the art students were treated to a presentation by the Art Institute of British Columbia. Mrs. Collyer is taking a group of girls to the Young Women's Conference in Brandon, and she is also taking our TADD group to the SWAT (Students Working Against Tobacco) workshop. I appreciate the extras that staff does in assisting with making ECI a great place for our students.

I also need to congratulate some of our students for some of the various activities they are participating in; it is

a great opportunity for these students and it results in some fantastic public relations for the school. The Collegiate's Students Making A Difference group (Rebecca Kingdon, Morgan Dobroski, Tya Waterman, Katrien Kingdon, Jordyn Maduke, Breanna Waterman, and Mac Robertson) organized a cleanup as part of a global campaign intended to inspire the fight against global warming. The students cleaned the Friendship Garden and the school without using power tools that contribute to greenhouse gases. I had Mayor Cate Watrous stop by to say how much she appreciated the students' help and what a wonderful group of people they were. Breanna Waterman has been accepted to participate in "Encounters with Canada" – Canada's largest youth forum. Every week of the school year, 120 to 148 teens from across Canada (ages 14 – 17) come to Ottawa, where they discover their country through each other, learn about Canadian institutions, meet famous and accomplished Canadians. Explore exciting career options, develop their civic leadership skills and live an extraordinary bilingual experience. Breanna will be participating in March 2011 and her focus will be science and technology. Jordyn Maduke and Ashley – Anne Schmidt will represent ECI at the Education for ACTION Conference in Winnipeg on November 18 and 19. At the annual conference sponsored by Youth Citizenship, Jordyn and Ashley – Anne will hear plenary addresses and attend workshops by Stephen Lewis and Jennifer Correiro (co-founder of one of the world's most successful youth-oriented not-for-profits: TakingITGlobal). Thanks for being great ambassadors for our school and for being good citizens. I also sat in on a presentation by Dusty Pratt in Mr. Carefoot's Family Studies class.

Continued on Page 4

ECI joins global work party continued from page 1...

"This event is all about helping our world and lowering our greenhouse gas emissions," said SMAD founder Jordyn Maduke who is in grade 12 at ECI. "Today the SMAD group along with a few community members made a difference. We did the small stuff but the small stuff will eventually add up."

Leading scientists say 350 parts per million (ppm) is the safe upper limit for carbon dioxide (CO₂), one of main greenhouse gases produced by burning fossil fuels. Currently, the atmosphere is burdened with closer to 390 ppm of CO₂. A growing number of experts in the field feel that the world needs to get back to 350 ppm as soon as possible to avoid runaway climate change.

The students' work party had several elements that made it an environmentally-friendly event. All the labour was done by hand. Preparing the beds for winter was done with rakes and hand tools not power tools. The leaves and plant litter were collected and will end up in Erickson's community compost pile at the waste disposal grounds. In all, 12 bags of leaves were collected. In the spring, the leaf litter will have decomposed and residents will be able to pick up free compost for their own yards.

"It's a chance for everyone across the world to unite and work towards the same goal," said Breanna Waterman. She hopes this global work party will help send a message to the government saying that more environmental laws are needed.

Raising awareness

The more than 7000 work parties around the globe were an opportunity for people to learn about and discuss ways they can make a difference.

And as is the case with a growing number of environmental initiatives, social media plays an enormous role in spreading the word. People are able to share their plans and successes with one another in real time. When an idea catches on, it goes viral and take the Internet world by storm. Weighty discussions take place not in conference centres and meeting rooms, but from the laptop of every connected person in the country. In this way the debate becomes of truly democratic by returning to the grass roots. Photos are uploaded as the event takes place and savvy media outlets monitor blogs and Facebook pages to get a jump on their competitors.

"We all have stories to tell," explains environmental activist Celes Davar from Onanole. "We often tell those stories to our friends. What's happened is things like Facebook, Flickr galleries and other ways to share our passions about the things that are important to us. In the past they have not been easy to access but now we can. We can share photographs or quick posts and see the results of people making a difference right away."

Putting fewer greenhouse gases into the atmosphere means making small choices every day that add up to big change for the planet. Choose to cycle or walk

rather than drive your car. Carpool or take a bus to school or work. Plant trees instead of clear cutting forests. Recycle and consume less. Protect the natural places that we still have left. Restore the areas that have been damaged by human activity.

Once a person puts their own time and energy into a global work party or they take some other step to protect the environment, they get engaged in the issue. They become concerned about the outcome because they have invested their efforts and their emotions into making it succeed. For a lot of people, being a part of something that is bigger than themselves makes them feel like their efforts count for something when they stand together with a larger community.

"This is important," explained Waterman, "because even though we may speak different languages and say different prayers we all have a future together and we all have to work together so that we can have that future together."

A video of the Erickson event can be seen at www.vimeo.com/celesdavar.

[Tya & Breanna Waterman] Breanna Waterman, a grade 11 student at Erickson Collegiate rakes leaves while her sister Tya, in grade 9, holds the bag. These leaves and plant trimmings will be taken to Erickson's community compost pile. By next year, this garden waste will become a welcome addition to Erickson and district gardens. Breanna, a member of Students Making A Difference (SMAD) organized this event as one of thousands of Global Work Parties taking place around the world at the tenth hour on the tenth day of the tenth month (10/10/10) to raise awareness about environmental issues [Photo by Cate Watrous]



From the office of Mr. Lee...

Each student had to do a presentation on an addiction and Dusty's was on smoking. I really enjoyed the information, her passion, and the personal connection to the subject. Well done, Dusty! I hope you have an opportunity to make your presentation to more students. It was very effective.

While I am on congratulations – congratulations to Crystal Erickson and Terryl Maduke on being the school board trustees for our region.

On October 22, many staff from Onanole Elementary and ECI focused their professional development on technology and how to use it more effectively so our students may benefit. We worked with Mr. Grant Butler (the division's IT person) in the morning, and in the afternoon staff had time to work with what they learned in the morning.

Staff will carry on with their professional development on November 12. The four high schools are coming together that day to work on assessment. As a staff we are also working on assessment at our staff meetings.

I have been working with Mrs. Young and Team Awesome to help determine what activities the RRFN youth would like to see in their community. They have come up with some great ideas! Two weeks ago, they held an open gym that was well attended. If you want more information, please phone Mrs. Young at the school. It would be great to see it kept going.

The school was locked down on Friday, October 15 because there was a drug search conducted by a dog and his owner. I am pleased that no traces of any types of drugs were found.

We are looking for community assistance with one of our programs. Mr. Robertson and a group of students are soon going to begin constructing compost bins; it is part of their math program and a great idea and practical for our hands – on learners. Here is the difficulty we have: we did not have any tools (hammers, drills, screw drivers, etc). If you have any old or extra tools around the house or shed that you no longer use, we would very much appreciate a donation to our program.

Grade 9 students were part of the Safeworkers of Tomorrow presentation in order to prepare for their Take Your Kid to Work Day (November 3). Grade 11 students go out on work experience on November 18 and 19 – mark it on your calendar! Ask your son or daughter where they are going. It is a school expectation that all students participate in this program. The benefits are tremendous for our students. Our Grade 11 and 12 students attended a session at Minnedosa Collegiate in which universities, colleges, and the apprenticeship board made presentations and entertained questions. I encourage people to find out more about the apprenticeship program. It is excellent for those students that are not academically interested in school, and it is a great way to keep them enrolled in school, make money, count hours towards a trade, and in the end receive their high school diploma. If you would like more information, please phone Marlies Soltys or myself at the school.

Sports continue to be busy. Mr. Sansom and the players for the ECI/MCI hockey team played in a tournament at Hamiota on the weekend. Both girls' volleyball teams have participated in tournaments and leagues games, and they have shown improvement throughout the season.

Get out and support our teams; it would be appreciated by the players and coaches.

This is Halloween Week and student council has organized a dance for the students from 7 – 11 p.m. on Wednesday, October 27. They have also organized some fun activities for the students throughout the week.

November 15 – 19 is Addictions Awareness Week and the school is planning different presentations and activities for our students. On the 16th of November, a troupe from the Manitoba Theatre for Young People is going to be at ECI to perform "Liars" – a play about the far reaching and devastating effects that alcoholism may have on families. Students in from Grades 10 -12 are also going to attend a divisional presentation in Minnedosa on November 17. Our TADD group and some staff are also looking at organizing other possible and relevant activities and presentations for our students that week.

Our Remembrance Day service is scheduled for November 10th at 9:00 a.m. The public is welcome to attend.

As you can tell from my report, there is lots of great things happening at ECI and I am very proud of the students and staff.

Respectfully,

Barry Lee

Principal



Trick or Treat for UNICEF Lunch

WHEN: Thursday, October 28th

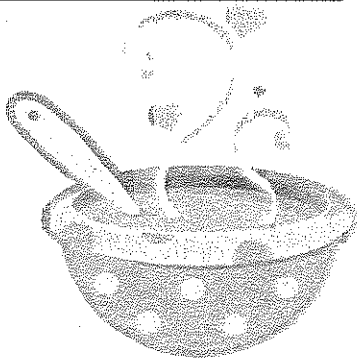
WHERE: Onanole Elementary School Gym

TIME: 12:00-1:00pm

We will be holding a food drive for our local food banks as well. Over 700 new families enlisted the help of Samaritan House over the summer. So you can stop by the school and donate some of your canned goods on the day of the U.N.I.C.E.F. lunch. Even if you cannot make the lunch, we will gladly accept your donations.



Onanole Elementary School would like to invite you to a community lunch on **Thursday October 28th** from 12pm-1pm. They will be serving a variety of homemade soups and biscuits along with various desserts as well as coffee, tea and juice. The charge is \$7.00. All proceeds will be going towards UNICEF which is a foundation to help stop hunger and promote education in the African countries Rwanda and Malawi. Please **RSVP by Monday October 25th** by calling the school at 848-2402.



HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE.

YOUR SUPPORT WILL HELP SO MANY
CHILDREN HAVE THE SAME
OPPORTUNITIES AS WE DO!

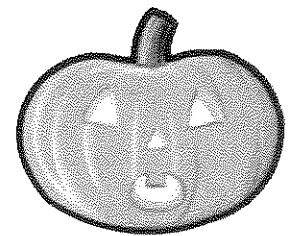
UNCLE CARL'S

November Menu

"Classic Menu" items include: Soup, Salads, Cheeseburgers, Hamburgers, Chicken Burgers, Pizza Pops, Subs, Egg Salad/Turkey Sandwich

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	¹ CLASSIC MENU	² CLASSIC MENU	³ PEROGIE DAY	⁴ CLASSIC MENU	⁵ PIZZA DAY	⁶
⁷	⁸ CLASSIC MENU	⁹ CLASSIC MENU	¹⁰ PIZZA DAY	¹¹ NO SCHOOL	¹² NO SCHOOL	¹³
¹⁴	¹⁵ CLASSIC MENU	¹⁶ CLASSIC MENU	¹⁷ LASAGNA DAY	¹⁸ PIZZA DAY	¹⁹ NO SCHOOL	²⁰
²¹	²² CLASSIC MENU	²³ CLASSIC MENU	²⁴ TACO IN A BAG PHYSICS FUNDRAISER	²⁵ CLASSIC MENU	²⁶ PIZZA DAY	²⁷
²⁸	²⁹ CLASSIC MENU	³⁰ CLASSIC MENU	¹ HOT DOG DAY	² CLASSIC MENU	³ PIZZA DAY	

Student Council Happenings



October has been a busy month for Student Council! Work has been put in place for our ECI Halloween Day. The Halloween Dance will be Wednesday, October 27th from 7-11pm. There will be a \$5 entrance fee, with hotdogs, drinks, popcorn, and glow sticks also for sale. **Four parent chaperones are needed for the dance.**

Please contact Ashley-Anne at the school if anyone is interested. The Halloween activities Wednesday afternoon will include our famous Food Fear Factor, Pumpkin Pie eating contest, Pumpkin Olympics, and Movie Trivia. Some of these activities will be house team competitions and points will be awarded for those who participate and dress-up for the day. We would like to get everyone out for a great afternoon and evening. Average size pumpkins will be needed for that afternoon so if any one has any to donate to the school, please contact Ashley-Anne. Student Council is also looking into School Clothing, a School Pride Project, and more fun House Activities. Watch for more information to come in mid November.

P.S. Our Terry Fox fundraising challenge resulted in twice as much money donated this year as last! Good work everyone!

Physics Club continues fundraising efforts...

On December 11th, the Physics class will be hosting "Breakfast with Santa." Come join us at Erickson Collegiate between for a delicious pancake and sausage breakfast. Not only will you get a great breakfast, but bring your cameras because Santa is going to be making a guest appearance before Christmas!

Please remember to bring your own cameras! See you there!

The Physics class is selling Old School Catering as a fundraiser toward their trip to NASA. All items are homemade by Bruce Manuluk. If anyone is interested in ordering, please contact Kimberley Ferguson at the school.

Times and prices for plates will be announced at a later date. Cookbooks and "Dainties by the Dozen" will be on sale at that time as well.

If anyone has recipes they would like to contribute, email them to kferguson@rrsd.mb.ca.

The cookbooks will be for sale before Christmas.

And in Junior High....



Left: On October 2, the Junior High soccer team took part in the divisional soccer tournament in Onanole. The team put in a great effort and had lots of fun. Special thanks to Mike, Colten, Austin, and Katrien for reffing.

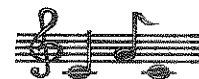
Below: On October 14, 2010 Students from Brookdale came to Erickson Collegiate to take part in making dream catchers as the two schools are taking part in the Mamopimink project. "Gathering Together"

French students visit Lake Audy...

On October 5, eighteen Grade 9/10 French students went to Lake Audy to enjoy a day of fresh air, beautiful weather, and an intense hike - trails were almost non-existent! Most importantly we spent two hours listening to Patrick McDermott share his wisdom and enthusiasm about the elk of Riding Mountain in French. The students saw many 'indices' (clues) that elk were abundant in the area but unfortunately the elk did not make an appearance. Upon return to the school, students were asked to create a brochure about the park and the animals who live there.



ECI Music Project welcomes donations....



The ECI Music program will gratefully accept donations of almost anything musical (especially guitars and electric keyboards). Currently we have no need for electric organs, although we will accept any type of keyboard (regardless of

age or size). We are also trying to build a collection of percussion instruments (hand percussion and kit drums). ECI is continuing to develop the capabilities for recording student music, so we are also looking for older stereo ampli-

fiers and speaker donations for a permanent control room. Contact Mr. Mathews for more information.


Many thanks to the Bernes family for your donation! Your support is much appreciated.

**PICTURE
RETAKES**

NOVEMBER

3

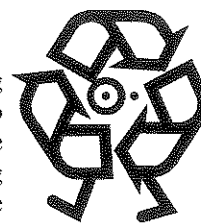
9 A.M. SHARP



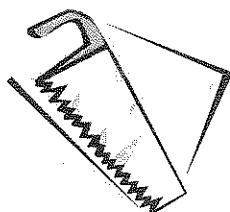
Please bring your original package the day of retakes!

If you wish to purchase a new package, prepayment is required - forms are at the office!

Composting Project at ECI...



The ECI Resource program is looking at reducing the amount of waste we put into our local landfill. To accomplish this we decided to start a school wide composting program. Students will be constructing compost bins that will be used to collect organic waste at the school. The students in each class will take responsibility over ensuring that their compostable go into the classroom bins. This is an extension of our current recycling program at the school.



The Resource Room is looking for any tools that can be used in the construction of the compost bins and a number of other small woodwork projects. We currently need saws, hammer, drill and bits, measuring tapes, screw drivers, and any other woodworking tools. If you are willing to loan or donate tools to Erickson Collegiate please contact Mr. Robertson @ 636-2605. *A special*

thank you goes out to RONA for their donation of lumber and materials for our projects. Community support like this provides extra educational opportunities for our students at ECI.

SV Volleyball

The 2010 varsity volleyball season is under way and the ECI girls are currently sitting at one win and two losses in league play. One of those losses came against Neepawa losing in the fifth and final set. To date, the girls have taken part in two tournaments. The girls lost in the quarter finals to Dauphin in Dauphin on October 10, and this past weekend in the Minnedosa Tournament, the girls lost in the third and final set to Notre Dame in the semi finals.

The girls play against Gladstone on Tuesday October 26, 2010 after school in Erickson.

This year's team consists of Stephanie Willey (Captain), Laura Ferguson, Janine Hosmann, Shane Bergeson, Melissa Gusdal, Jordyn Maduke, Breanna Waterman, and Heather Bialas.



Mr. Waterman and his Photo 21G class took to the dirt roads recently to take pictures at a nearby farm. Below are some of the photos taken by students and some editing techniques used. Thanks to Monty and Leona Johnson for allowing our students to visit.



Photo & editing by Jesse Woloshen



Photo & editing by Jasmine Amyotte

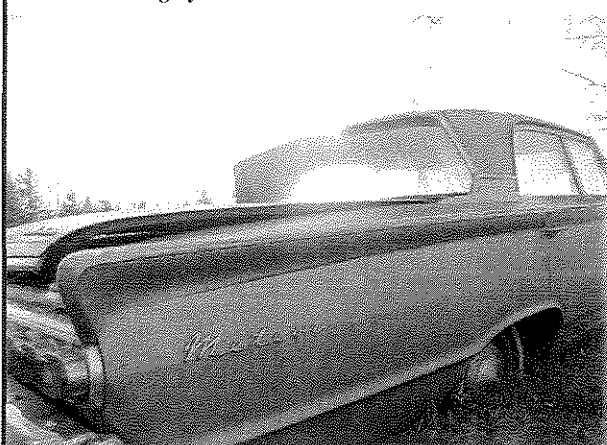


Photo & editing by Colton McKillop

History class heads out...

On Tuesday October 5th Mrs. Robson's History Captain Sheldon Willey's tour of Clear Lake and history of RMNP. The weather turned out to be fantastic during the Martese boat ride.

Did you know?

- There is a cold case in RMNP: a park warden was shot to death in his home and the case was never solved;
- A steam engine is believed to have fallen through the ice, and hidden somewhere at the bottom of the lake.

Just a reminder to students to start filling in your Student Recognition Program forms.

Don't leave it until June!

Grade 11's are still in the process of selling chocolate bars. Students are reminded to bring in their cheque for \$120 so they can sell their boxes.

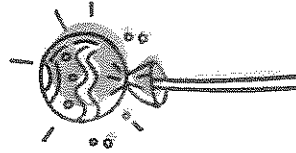
Grad 2011 Update...

The clothing committee has been busy pulling together design ideas and pricing for this year's grad clothing. Hoodies and sweatpants were once again the popular choice. Sample sizes have been ordered from the company, and sizing/ordering will be done once they arrive at the school. Order forms will be sent out at that time, and will specify the cost and when the orders need to be returned. It is the goal of the committee to have the clothing in time for Christmas, so parents this might be a good present idea. Contact Kristen Kologinski, Stephanie Willey, or Meghan McKillop if you have any questions.

The decorating committee will be meeting this week to begin talking about themes. We have some pretty excited students that are ready to start looking at décor!

Reminder that the next parent grad meeting is on Thursday November 18th at 7 p.m.

Your tootsie pop brain!



My name is Rebecca Gray, and I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself and my new role at ECI. I am a Behaviour Specialist, which means my area of expertise is in understanding why we do the things we do, and how we can make changes when things aren't working for us so that we can experience more success. My job at ECI is to support staff, students, and parents in understanding our own and other people's behavior and solving issues that may arise in our day to day contact with each other.

Each newsletter for the rest of this year, I will be including a tidbit of information that I hope you will find useful in navigating your own relationships.

An incredibly valuable thing I've learned is an understanding of the way the brain functions. An easy analogy is to think about your brain as being like a tootsie pop! There are three major parts to a tootsie pop – the stick, the inner soft centre and the outer hard candy coating. Similarly, there are three major parts to your brain.

Just like the tootsie pop, we have a stick too – it's called our brain stem, and it's found in that spot where the spinal cord enters your brain. This is where the messages that have been gathered from the rest of our body (what we see, hear, smell, taste and touch) enter the brain for processing. The job of the brain stem is really to keep us alive. In order to allow us to make those quick life or death decisions when necessary, this part of the brain does not analyze this information other than to decide if we are in danger or not. This is the part of the brain that makes us run away from the growling dog – even though if we thought about it, that's probably not the smartest thing to do. The problem

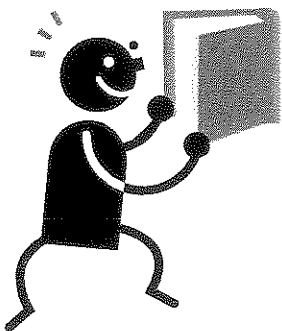
is – in this part of our brain, we don't think – we just act!

The second part of the brain is that mushy inside, like the tootsie pop centre. This is the part that we process the information and decide how we feel about the messages we are getting. If we are overwhelmed by emotion, we get stuck here, or maybe even move back to the brain stem. But if we experience positive emotions, then the messages travel to the hard outside candy coating, or in scientific lingo, the frontal cortex. This is the part of our brain that does all our planning, goal-setting, problem-solving.

So why does this matter? Anytime we feel threatened or angry or frustrated, we can't access the real thinking part of our brain. That's why when we've been in really stressful situations, we so often think after we've calmed down, "Wow, I can't believe I did such a stupid thing!". Once we can access that front part of our brain, we can assess the situation better, and realize we made a bad choice. It's also why when we are really stressed out, we have trouble finding solutions to a problem, but the solution will come to us easily when we have given up and move on to something else.

So, when you recognize that you or someone else is functioning in their brain stem, remember – they can't think! No effective problem-solving or learning has ever been done when a person is in that state. Take a break, do something else for awhile, sleep on it – you'll save time in the long run!

If you have any questions about behavior, please don't hesitate to call me at the school, and I'll be happy to help you!



Library Links with Mrs. McInnes

Monday, October 25, 2010 was Manitoba School Library Day!

ECI, along with eight other schools in the division, took the D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything and Read) Challenge. At 11:00 a.m. all staff and students dropped everything and read for 15 minutes!

55 new books have arrived this month so far, 23 of them donated by Ashley-Anne Schmidt! Thank you Ashley-Anne! The new books are displayed around the Librarians' Desk.

Students have borrowed a total of 307 books already this school year! Keep Reading!

November Scholastic Book orders catalogues are in and available in the Library.