



Erickson Elementary

February 2, 2009

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Feb 12-Jump Rope for Heart Event.

Feb 16-Louis Riel Day-No School

Feb. 17-20-Book Fair

Feb. 27-Inservice Day-No School

February Calendar attached to letter.

Good Day

Another month is upon us with exciting events up-coming. As you read through the newsletter you will notice many school wide events occurring: Jump Rope for Heart, Book Fair, and a General Meeting about EES. Once again, an exciting month is upon us,

As most parents are aware, students and staff use the Virtues Project ideas to assist in encouraging one another to treat each other respectfully, get along, and the list goes on. A different virtue is chosen each month for a focus. Each school year begins with the virtue of respect. For the month of February the virtue is "Caring".

"Caring is giving love and attention to people and things that matter to you. You treat people and things gently and respectfully. Caring makes the world a better and safer place."

We would like to invite parents and community members to a General Meeting about Erickson Elementary School, on **February 25th, 2009, at 7:00 P.M.** At this time, we would like to share about various events and projects which students and staff have been involved with over the course of the year. We also would like to hear from you about the strengths of the school and ideas about areas we could put more of a focus on.

We are working towards strengthening the links between the school, home and community. We look forward to seeing you on February 25th.

Have a great week!

Mrs. K. Slashinsky

THE BOOKFAIR IS COMING.....!

Mark **Tues. Feb.17 to Fri. Feb.20** on your calendars because the bookfair will be up and running and waiting for you to check it out. There will be lots of great books at great prices ranging from preschool age to adult selections.

Family Night will be **Wed. Feb. 18** from 3:30 to 7:30pm If you can't make it during school hours to the bookfair then come with your children this night and see what they are interested in. The bookfair is open to all members of the community regardless if you have children in school or not! (See page 2)

If you can volunteer to work at the book fair please call the school at 636-2266 and let us know. The profit from the book fair goes towards new books and resources for our school.

Mrs. Topham

Kindergarten News

February is going to be busy with Book Fair, our Valentine's Party and Jump Rope for Heart.

Check for dates and times in the planners.

The month is shaping up like this:

Math - #s 6-8, sorting, counting to 50, creating patterns

ELA –Friendship, ending sounds, sight words

love, you, the, pink, purple

French – Family

Social Studies –Getting Along

Just a reminder to send lots of food in the lunchkits because when it is time for last snack they are hungry and sometimes there is nothing left. Packing more is better than not enough! The **Franklin Can** books will be coming home so enjoy reading them together. The children put lots of hard work into them!

C. Topham

Grade 1 News

February already! Did the Groundhog see his shadow? Is it going to be an early spring or 6 more weeks of winter?

The Grade 1's have been studying some of the animals that were in The Mitten. Here are some interesting facts about the animals they studied. See insert.

Grade 2 News

Here's a look at what the Grade 2 Class is busy at these days:

ELA: We are working on our poem book about snowmen, reading and learning more about dinosaurs, and enjoying the Magic Tree House book- The Knight Before Dawn.

Math: We are finishing the unit on 2D shapes and 3D solids, practicing counting money to \$1.00 and sorting and graphing a variety of items.

Science: We begin a new Science unit this week- Characteristics of the 6 Different Animal Groups.

February is I Love to Read Month. February 12th is the 100th day of school and February 13th is our Valentine's Day Party. Watch for special notes in your child's planner regarding these special days. Have a terrific week everyone.

S. Hall

Grade 3

It seems as though the flu bug has found it's way into our classroom! Hopefully everyone is feeling better and ready to kick off February happy and healthy.

As our investigations into structures and stability wind down students will complete a research project on a famous structure or structure of interest. We will also talk about jobs/careers that depend on the knowledge of structures and stability. Please be sure to ask one of the Grade 3 students about our completed "eggsperiment" frame building with different types of joints and how "easy" it is to make card towers!

Willy Wonka's candy craze had even taken over our math class over the past weeks. Students participated in a taste test and graphed the results of our favorite Wonka Candy! In February we take a look at estimation and place value as well as review the process of addition and subtraction of two digit numbers.

I hope everyone is enjoying the math games! Please be sure to return the games on Mondays and fill out the comment card included in your game with any feedback or questions.

In Health we have been reviewing the concept of respect and have completed a list of individual short term goals. Please be sure to ask your child what goals they are working on and how they are doing!

Please save and send in your empty Kleenex boxes as we will be creating some tasty treats in the near future! Watch for notes that will be coming home shortly regarding 100 Day and Valentines Day.

Miss Carlson

Grade 4 News

We are starting Jump Rope For Heart! Get your permission slips in so you can fundraise for Jump Rope for Heart.

It will be **SUPER FUN**. We now have 5 laptops and a smartboard in our room. We have been working at our stations in ELA and Math. We have been very busy at our stations. Remember to look at the planner every night and sign it. Important information is in the planner.

Devin Maia

Grade 5 News

Wow, January has flown by!! Hopefully now that January is over some warmer weather is on the way! Grade 5 students are busy little beavers working away at a novel study, new science unit and a new social studies unit as well. Students have also recently started working on a guided reading program.

Jump rope for Heart forms have gone home. Good luck with all of your pledges!

Grade 6 News

We had a very good week. By the time you read this we will have had our math test. I'm sure we'll all do great! We presented our Leaders sheet in Social Studies and we have a test next week. In science we are doing a power point and we made a science folder also. In music we are learning the "Pencil"vania Polka with cups, staplers, ratchet, and wastebasket. It's a type of stomp! Our spelling test was a crossword this time! It was harder than our fill in the blanks tests, but most of us did fairly well. Team One is leading the "points race" with 32 points, followed by teams Three and Four with 16. This means we are getting closer to redeeming our points and getting new table teams. We hope everyone has a great week!

by Skye

Language Development

The Grade 1 group has been working hard on learning spelling words and doing guided reading. We have also started to work on word families and looking for words that we already know in other books and poems.

In the Grade 2 group, the students have been showing me just how much they do know about reading by reading to one another. We have been looking at different letter sounds in our phonics work and reading "I Am Glad I Am Not an Alligator" in guided reading.

The Grade 3/4/5 group has been working hard in their phonics workbooks, reading about a boy who has an invisible friend in guided reading. We have started looking at word families and creating our own books with word family words in them. The grade 2 and 3/4/5 groups have both enjoyed playing a new game with sight words called "Bang!".

My first month at Erickson Elementary School have has been busy, but have enjoyed getting to know the students and staff so far. If you have any questions or comments please do not hesitate to get a hold of me at the school. I am at EES every morning, and then go to Onanole for the afternoon.

Miss Courtney Newton

February is “Jump Rope for Heart!” Month!!

EES is once again holding a “Jump Rope for Heart” event on **Feb. 12, 2009**.

Students have taken home permission letters to participate in getting pledges. Those that have returned them have received their pledge sheets and will be seeking pledges for the next 2 weeks. Pledges can also be made on-line at www.jumpropeforheart.ca

Last year our school alone raised over \$4000.00. Money raised goes to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Manitoba for research and equipment. Fun prizes are available to be won when students receive pledges.

On Jan. 26th, Tara Carduff (of the Heart & Stroke Foundation of Manitoba) visited our school as part of our “kick-off” to our “Jump Rope for Heart” event. She helped raise awareness about the foundation, explained the importance of fundraising, and offered some healthy heart facts and information. Tara also presented EES with a “**10 year Participation**” Banner! Way to go! We qualified and received a free CPR kit as well!

During the next 2 weeks, various activities will be happening at school:

1. Skipping ropes will be made available for the kids to practice at recess time. We will also share some favourite skipping “chants” or “rhymes” that help to make skipping more fun! Mrs. McLenahan has some fun one’s she may share in music class too!
2. If students have a loved one that has been affected by difficulties related to heart or stroke, they may acknowledge them by placing the individual’s name on a “**red paper heart.**” These hearts will be placed up on the wall in the gym to remind students of why we are holding this event.
3. Heart-healthy games and information is available on-line at www.jumpropeforheart.ca

A family activity booklet can be printed out for parents & kids to do together.

Family, friends and community members are welcome to attend our “**Jump Rope for Heart**” event at **1:30pm**. Eight groups of students (school-wide) will perform a special routine that they will be working on together from 12:45-1:30pm. Each group will be provided with music. They will choreograph their routine using various jump combos and/or hoops!

***Come out & see the skipping / jumping talent at
Erickson Elementary School!!!***