



Encouraging Everyone to Succeed

Erickson Elementary School

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STAFF

- Kindergarten— Miss Jen Carlson
- Grade 1— Mrs. Lisele Lindsay
- Grade 2— Mrs. Sandra Hall
- Grade 3— Miss Courtney Newton
- Grade 4—Miss Debra Gaywish
- Grade 5—Mr. Frank Sokolowski
- Grade 6—Mrs. Colleen Warrington
- Saulteaux Instructor—Mrs. Darlene McKay
- Resource— Mrs. Karyn Klassen
- Guidance Counsellor—Mrs. Dana Hanson
- Physical Education—Mr. Graham Edwards
- Music— Mrs. Nicole McLenehan
- Librarian— Ms. Nancy Miller
- EA—Miss Melissa Gaywish
- EA—Mrs. Connie Huntinghawk
- EA—Mrs. Karen Shindruk
- EA—Mrs. Catherine Trueman
- EA/Successmaker—Mrs. Shirley Sheeshka
- Custodian Mr. Roy Hulley



A big thank you to all of our parents, students, staff, and community members who made it out to our Community Feast on December 1st. As always, there was excellent food and great conversation. Our next potluck will be taking place in early February. Look for a confirmed date in our next newsletter.

A thank you to all the business and organizations that sponsored our school sign. This will help us achieve better communication with the community. The sign is scheduled to arrive this Friday or next Monday.

On Wednesday, November 30, our grades 4, 5, and 6's did a vow of silence to show their support of children's rights across the world. We appreciate your dedication to helping others.

Our Christmas Concert is on Thursday, December 15th, starting at 7:00 pm. All students will be involved and we hope to have a great turn out. Make sure you bring your singing voice because there will be some audience participation. A rumour has it that a certain person with a long white beard will be making a surprise visit. Thank you to the Chamber of Commerce for providing treats for the children in attendance and to the Parent Advisory Council for providing dainties for the after concert tea and cookies. Ho Ho hope to see you there!

On Monday, December 19, our students will take part in the annual "Kids can shop" at Erickson Collegiate. A big thank you goes out to Erickson Collegiate staff and students for providing this opportunity. We are still looking for donations to make this event a success. Please drop off any new or gently used items to either Erickson Collegiate or Erickson Elementary School.

Starting later this week, we will be asking students to bring in non perishable food items for our local Christmas Cheer Board. On Monday, December 20th our grade 6 class is travelling to Brandon to volunteer their time at The Samaritan House and Helping Hands Soup Kitchen. We will also be bringing in a hamper to help out this organization. They have told us that they are really short on pastas this year so if you are able to send these types of items it would be greatly appreciated.

On behalf of all Erickson Elementary staff and students, I would like to wish everyone a safe and fulfilling holiday season. We appreciate your support. Classes resume on Monday, January 9th.

Enjoy your holiday and I look forward to seeing everyone in the New Year.

Sincerely,

Graham Edwards, Principal of EES

**..we learn by
teaching...**
by James Howell

BELL TIMES

- 8:55am—O'Canada
- 10:15am—AM Recess
- 11:50—Lunch / Noon Recess
- 1:50pm—PM Recess
- 3:15pm—Dismissal



The Kindergarten classroom has been busy preparing for the upcoming Christmas Concert on the evening of December 15th. The lyrics to the two songs we will be performing will be coming home in planners so that students can continue to practice at home. Details about what your child should bring/wear for the concert will be coming home closer to the date of the concert.

We have completed our math unit on Patterning and Sorting and have started investigating the numbers 1 to 5. Students will be printing the numbers 1 to 5, making groupings of one to five items, and pulling apart the numbers one to five to make number sentences. Watch for a note coming home with ideas for families to support your child's learning.

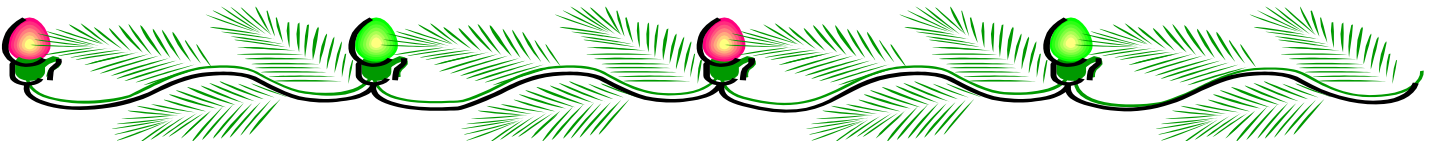
Students have been enjoying the new technology in the classroom with the addition of a SmartBoard and two I-Pad's to the activity centers. They are by far the most popular centers at this time!

Please continue to practice sounds in the sound book nightly. Your child is now also bringing home a home reading book that they can read to you. These books will help with the recognition of sight words, use of picture to tell a story, and recognition of letters. Help your child by reminding him/her to point to the words as they read. Talk about the words on the page by asking questions such as which word starts with the letter __, where is the word ____, how do you know that word says ____, how many words are on that page, or how many letters are in that word?

A star of the week schedule will be coming home with your child indicating which week will be your child's. Please check to see that this week works for you and please let me know if changes need to be made as there are some available weeks later in the school year.

I hope everyone has a relaxing holiday break!

Ms. Carlson



Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way! I guess it's that time a year again...holiday season. So many fun and exciting activities can happen in a school environment getting ready for Christmas. We've already written our letters to Santa to be sure to give him enough time to respond to our letters. We've also written letters for the South Mountain Press indicating what the students would like for Christmas this year. Please keep your eyes open for your child's letter in the Christmas Edition coming up before the holidays. I'm sending home copies of these letters so you can have a sneak preview.

For our Christmas concert on the 15th of December we will be singing "Susy Snowflake". The students have beautiful voices and I'm certain they will have a lot of fun.

Just a reminder: Scholastics orders are due on Friday, Dec. 2nd. Prices are great and our classroom benefits from all orders, so thank you very much for your support.

With the cold weather upon us children are spending more time indoors, it's a great time to encourage them to snuggle up and read, read, read. Some students consistently renew their books every morning and some still haven't returned their books in quite some time. Please remind them to read daily and to exchange their "Just Right" books every day.

Have a wonderful holiday season.

Mrs. Lindsay

"The great aim of education is not knowledge, but action."

—Herbert Spencer



“Hats for Harold” a Huge Success

Thank you to everyone for making Hats for Harold a HUGE success!!! You helped Grade 2 raise \$210 for our Foster Child.

The month of December began this week and the Christmas countdown is on. HURRAY!! We have already written our letter to Santa and much of this month will focus on a Christmas theme.

Quick Tip:
Help your child
connect with three
caring adults.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT: We have begun practising for the concert. The Grade 2s will all need to be dressed in a red shirt, black pants and their winter boots. (They are all Santas.) They also need a Santa hat. If you have one at home, please send it to school with your child. If you DO NOT have a Santa hat and are unable to borrow one please send a \$1 and I will buy one at the Dollar Store.

Our Science unit, Growth and Changes in Animals, has been a lot of fun. Ask your child about “Bill Nye the Science Guy”. We have just finished watching the on-line videos about the characteristics of the 6 animal groups- mammals, reptiles, amphibians, fish, birds, and insects. As part of the assessment of this unit, the students will be designing a poster about all the animal groups. I can’t wait to see the finished products.

ART: The students have been asked to bring a wire coat hanger A.S.A.P for an art project, please and thank you.

Have a terrific week everyone.

S. Hall

GRADE 2 NEEDS: If you have any old ADULT mittens (gloves won't work) that we could use for a craft project, we would greatly appreciate them. We do not need matching pairs as each child only



Beginning on Wednesday, December 7th the Junior Curling Program will begin.....

For Grade 3 and up, the cost is \$50 per child. It runs right after school until 5, each Wednesday that there is school between now and the end of February.

The \$50 includes snack, but parents must participate in the rotation to donate/provide this healthy after school snack.

Anyone with any questions can call either myself (636-7857), or Scott Gray (636 7733).



November was a whirlwind month in Grade 3! Mrs. Sawchuk started her maternity leave on the 10th, and delivered Summer Grace Sawchuk on November 25th. Miss Newton was very lucky that Miss Kienas, our student teacher had one more week in her practicum at that time so she could help Miss N sort out how the Grade 3 room ran. We are still in a transition right now, and the students are getting used to having a new person in the room.

We are continuing on with learning about numbers to 1000, working to make good choices in Daily 5 and learning new spelling words each week. Miss Kienas finished up her unit on Charlotte's Web before she left. We got to watch the movie and write some poetry about each other. We have been reading *Fantastic Mr. Fox*. We have been writing letters to Santa Claus and also working on pieces that will appear in the South Mountain Press. In Social Studies, we are very close to the end of our study of Thailand, and we will be headed to a new country soon. We are excited about the Christmas concert coming up and also Christmas vacation!

The students get new spelling words at the beginning of every week. They have a set that is to be kept at school and one to go home. If a set does not come home, please send a note in your child's planner so a new set can be sent home. Please practice these words at home to prepare for the test on Fridays or the last day of the week.

As the temperatures continue to drop, please make sure that your child is properly dressed for the conditions. Ski pants, mitts, toques and scarves are necessary in these conditions. Also, please check your child's planner each night for notes and reminders. If you have any questions, please contact me at the school (636-2266) or by e-mail (cnewton@rrsd.mb.ca).

Miss Newton



Christmas Concert Dec 15 at 7pm

NEWS FROM THE PAC (Parent Advisory Council)

The Dainty Walk and Craft Sale was a lot of fun this year! It was a very successful day and many thanks are due to those that helped out, those that came, and those that donated so many wonderful dainties!

For the Christmas Concert being held at the school, please bring a non-perishable food item as admission to the door or make a monetary donation. In past years, we have been really proud of the amount of food donated to Christmas Cheer by our school community, and we hope to repeat that again this year.

Also don't forget that Car Raffle tickets will be available at the Christmas Concert!! \$20 per ticket, or \$50 for 3 tickets. There are a limited number of tickets available, so get yours soon!!

Have a wonderful holiday season everyone!



Wow! What wonderful weather we are having for this time of year. Happy belated birthday greetings going out to Seren Mazur and Orlene and Owen Brandon who celebrated their birthdays in November.

There were so many things that happened in November. We had a Remembrance Day Service on the 10th. Our class read the poem **Why Wear A Poppy**. We also did posters for a Remembrance Day poster contest. Two students from our class got their posters pick to go to the Zones. They were Julia Sanchez and Bowen Wallis. Way to go! On Nov. 14th Gage Geletchuk got this hair cut after four years. He is donating his hair to cancer. He raised over two thousand so Mr. Edwards had to shave his hair. Also in November we raised \$860.00 in The Peak Of The Market Fundraiser. On the 25th we wore hats for \$1.00 to raise money for Harold our foster child. It was great!

We started to practice our songs for the Christmas Concert on Dec. 15th which is just around the corner.

We also had chocolate chip cookies and milk (white) for the student who had birthdays this month. (we always celebrate at the end of the month with a snack for the students that had a birthday)

Until next time.

Seren Mazur and Julia Sanchez
Miss Gaywish

Note: If you are thing of getting rid of old magazines, Christmas decorations please send them to our class. Thanks.

BOTHWELL CHEESE FUNDRAISER

A SPECIAL THANKS TO STAFF AND FAMILIES WHO BOUGHT AND SOLD CHEESE IN AN EFFORT TO RAISE MONEY FOR OUR FOSTER CHILD HAROLD IN HONDURAS. A TOTAL OF 191 BRICKS OF CHEESE WERE SOLD, RAISING \$382 FOR HAROLD. ORDERS CAN BE PICKED UP UPON ARRIVAL OR AT THE CHRISTMAS CONCERT. FAMILIES WILL BE NOTIFIED THE DAY OF DELIVERY TO THE SCHOOL.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!
MS. CARLSON

Q: My six-year-old son just can't seem to control himself. If I tell him to clean up his room or start his homework, he loses his temper. And he doesn't just get angry—he dissolves into a full-blown tantrum. It's at the point where I just let him do whatever he wants because I don't want the battle. His teacher says his behavior isn't much better in school.

A: No one in your family—and especially not your son—can be happy with his current behavior. Your child needs limits to feel safe. And while he's young, he needs you to set the limits so that eventually he can learn how to control his own behavior. Helping your child learn self-control is a slow process. But it's not too late to start. Here's how:

Give him words he can use when he is feeling strong emotions. If he gets angry, he can say, "It makes me angry to have to turn off the TV." Using these words should work as a signal to himself to stop, take a deep breath and calm down.

Prepare him for difficult situations. Tell him he may be disappointed, but it's time to turn off the TV. Then ask, "What should you do? That's right, stop, take a deep breath and stay calm."

Model this behavior as well. Say, "I'm upset because that man cut me off in traffic. So I am going to take a breath and stay calm so I am in control."

Praise him when he stays in control. Remind him he is showing mature behavior, and that you are proud of him.

—Kris Amundson,
The Parent Institute

Grade 5 & 6 News



We have been very busy in Grade 5 & 6. The grade 5 class has been doing a D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program with Mrs. Anita Hart. It teaches us to say no to drugs. We have continued with stations. We got a new station called Sumdog/Quizlets. Sumdog is a site that provides practice with basic math skills. The teachers can log in to their teacher account to see how we are doing. Quizlets lets us do flashcards and quizzes about many different subjects. The Grade 6 class went to WE DAY in Winnipeg at the MTS centre. We Day is all about changing your perspective from “me” to “we” and inspiring young people to make a difference in the world. There were many inspiring speakers and entertainers, including Hedley, Hannah Taylor, Michel Chikwanine, Craig and Mark Kielburger, Down with Webster, Sierra Noble, Spencer West, Neverest, Shawn Desmond, Rick Hanson, and Al Gore. The Grade 5 class got to watch the live internet feed on the Smartboard. We have been going to the care home every second Thursday. We read and make crafts with the elders. Four on four intramural floor hockey has started.

We are looking forward to many special events coming up. We are practicing our song “Mr. Grinch” in preparation for the Christmas concert on December 15th. The Grade Six students will be visiting Samaritan House on December 20th. On the 22nd our class is having a Christmas party with food, movies, and games.

Written by: Ayden, Cassidy, Briana, Sekoya

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER;

DECEMBER 15—CHRISTMAS CONCERT

DECEMBER 19—KIDS CAN SHOP (ECI)

DECEMBER 20—SAMARITIAN HOUSE (GR 6)

DECEMBER 22 — LAST DAY OF CLASSES

JANUARY 9—CLASSES RESUME



Don't forget to check your child's day planners every night for important information coming home on upcoming events and notices that are going on in our school!



DECEMBER HOT LUNCH MENU

Monday - Chicken Burger, Rice & Pudding

Tuesday - Grilled Cheese, Veggies & Fruit

Wednesday - Perogie Day

Thursday - Chicken Fingers, Fries & Puff Wheat Cake

Friday - Pizza Day (drink provided)

\$3.00 for 1 pc of pizza and drink

\$4.00 for 2 pcs of pizza and drink

Happy Holidays

A large, bright yellow star with multiple points, radiating lines extending from its base, and a soft shadow. It is centered on a red rectangular background.

YOGA WEDNESDAYS

12:15PM-12:35PM

Mrs. Lindsay

**Learn to relax your mind
and your body to help you
feel calm and quiet; and
ready to
learn.**