



Erickson Elementary School

NEWSLETTER

Graham Edwards, Principal

Encouraging Everyone to Succeed

April 7, 2011

DATES TO REMEMBER:

April 13-Wear Pink Shirt Day for Anti-Bullying Day.

April 13, 20, 27-Swimming Lessons for children who have registered.

April 21—Inservice Day-No School

April 22—Good Friday-No School

April 25-Students return to school.

Swimming Lesson Update

Swimming Lessons at the Sportsplex in Brandon will start on April 13th and run every Wednesday morning for the next six weeks. We will be leaving the school at 9am sharp and will be returning at 12:45pm. Students will need to bring a bag lunch as we will be eating on the bus on the way home. There will be no hot lunch available at the school on swimming lesson days. Students will also be required to bring a swim suit, towel, life jacket if required, and proof of levels achieved (if your child has taken swimming lessons in the past.) Students that are not participating in the lessons will remain at the school.

Wear something PINK on April 13th

Next Wednesday is International Day Against Bullying. EES will once again be participating in activities to raise awareness against bullying. We will be joining the highschool in a

March down main street, leaving our school around 1:15pm. Parents and community members are welcome to join us. To help raise awareness throughout the community as well, local businesses downtown will also be challenged to wear pink that day in support of standing up against bullying. Wear Pink on April 13th!!

Kindergarten

I hope everyone had a wonderful Spring Break!

Special thanks to Anna, D.J, Riley, Dawson who were our stars of the week in March. Each student shared special pictures, their favourite story and brought in someone special for lunch. This month's stars are Robbie, Kyra, Briseis and Keagan. We look forward to learning all about them!

Mrs. Huntinghawk is completing her final teaching placement in our Kindergarten classroom this month. She has taken over the teaching in the classroom and will be with us until May 6th.

This month Kindergarten will be finishing up their math unit on geometric shapes and measurement. They are learning about concepts such as height, length, capacity (full and empty,) weight, and 3-D shapes.

Students will also be exploring color with some nifty art projects that Mrs. Huntinghawk has planned. Students will manipulate colors, make colors and learn about the shades of col-

ors. **Please have your child bring in 2 boiled eggs on April 18th.**

Please continue to check your child's planner nightly and have your child read to you the tricky word of the day. These tricky words do not always contain letters that make their normal sounds and need lots of practice to recognize.

As the weather continues to grow warmer please insure that your child has an extra pair of socks, pants and a top in their bag just in case their clothing gets wet during recess.

- Swimming lesson permission forms and money need to be returned as soon as possible.
- Please check April's Show and Tell schedule for your child's day and the theme of the week
- Book orders will be sent home shortly – orders will be due April 20th.
- Wear pink on April 13^h for anti-bullying day
- Bring 2 boiled eggs on April 18th

Happy Easter everyone!

Mrs. Huntinghawk and Ms. Carlson

Grade 2 News

I hope everyone had a terrific Spring Break and is ready for our last term of school. Today was the 124th day of school!!!! It is great to have Ms. Smith back in our classroom. She has begun a MEASUREMENT unit with the students and they have been actively involved in measuring time in days, weeks and months. This week the students are busy using pennies, toothpicks, paperclips and various non-standards units to measure items in the classroom. Our focus in S.S. is "Our Families Long Ago". The mural in our classroom is looking better and better each day. Ask your child what is on the "Families Long Ago" mural or drop in and have a look. In Science, we are beginning a new unit called – Position and Mo-

tion. Please watch for notes in your child's planner. They may be asked to bring a toy or an item for this Science Unit. This week, the students will once again be signing out books from the Grade 2 Library for their Reading Log Homework. Please continue to encourage your child to READ, READ, READ and help them by listening to them read and please sign the Reading Log sheet (purple or blue). Thanks. Reminder: The Primary Choir (Gr. 1 – 3) will be performing at the Rolling River Festival of Arts on April 6, in the afternoon. The students will be leaving at 12:15 for the festival in Minnedosa. Have a terrific week everyone.

S. Hall and Ms. Smith

Grade 3 News

It was so nice to see all the parents at parent-teacher interviews in March! I enjoyed speaking with all of you, and encourage you to contact me at the school if any questions or concerns come up. March seemed to fly by! Students had a very successful unit in math studying measurement. We have now moved onto fractions.

In ELA we have just started the novel Charlotte's Web. So far students seem to be enjoying it. We also continue to work on daily five, and weekly spelling assignments. Students no longer have tests every week, so don't be concerned if you do not see words in their planners.

In Social Studies we are continuing our tour around the world. We would like to thank Mrs. Warrington for her informative presentation on Taiwan. Currently we are in Laos, learning all about the culture there. Soon we will be heading back home, and started a new science unit.

Students took part in the Rolling River Festival of the Arts yesterday. The choir performed

beautifully, and students should be very proud of their hard work. Swimming lessons start next week. I'm sure it will be a very enjoyable experience! Until next time...

Ignite Camp

The Ignite Camp was modeled after IBM's successful EXITE camps that encouraged young women to pursue careers in technology. IGNITE stands for **IGN**iting **I**nterest in **T**echnology and **E**ngineering. Ignite Camp is designed for Grades 4,5,6 students.

The IGNITE camp is designed to:

- a. Build an awareness of the variety of opportunities in engineering, computer science and technology;
- b. Provide an environment that facilitates learning and excitement about engineering and computer science;
- c. Introduce children to role models who can help mentor them and encourage them to consider careers in the Information Technology industry. Demonstrate that technology can be fun and exciting.

The challenging hands-on science and engineering activities are designed to provide students with an opportunity to build confidence in their technical abilities.

This is the first Ignite Camp ever held at Erickson Elementary. The workshop includes:

- a. LEGO Mindstorm Robotics programming, where the students have to program their robots to complete many tasks, as well as an obstacle course,

- b. Smart Circuits, an exploration of electrical circuits
- c. Stickman animation,
- d. a computer tear down and the exploration of the computers parts,
- e. the creation of a stop-motion movie, and a tutorial on MS Movie Maker and Photo Maker.

When the camp concludes the students will walk away with an insight into ICT career fields.

We believe that by bringing an Ignite Camp into the lives of our students we are making a significant impact on each of our student's futures and we are moving them closer to the digital world they will be experiencing in today's 21st century economy. Our students through exposure to the Ignite Camp will gain many ICT skills and will be even more prepared to excel in an world that is increasingly becoming information driven.

Ignite Camp will run from April 4th to April 15th. Please feel free to drop in and see the Ignite Camp activities.

Yours,
Grade 4, 5, 6 Teachers

