



Erickson Elementary School

NEWSLETTER

Graham Edwards, Principal

Encouraging Everyone to Succeed

February 1, 2011

DATES TO REMEMBER:

February 2-Hot Dog Day-note coming home with students.

February 3-will be Pizza Day instead of Friday..

February 4-Inservice Day-NO SCHOOL

February 14-18-BOOK FAIR-more information coming home later.

February 21-Louis Riel Day-NO SCHOOL

February 28-Divisional Inservice-NO SCHOOL.

The February Hot Lunch Calendar came home with the students on Friday, January 28.

Principal's Message

The year continues to fly by. I can't believe we are half way through the year already. February 17th is day 100. Erickson Elementary School will be celebrating this day with a variety of activities.

February and March are known for months that can produce some nasty snow/ice/rain storms. On those nasty days, make sure you listen for weather updates, and if you are away, please keep your cell phones on in case we need to contact you. If you do not have a storm billet for your child, it is imperative that you let the school know the name of someone your child can stay with.

Thank you to all that have handed in their URIS forms. It is imperative that we receive

every ones back, and we appreciate you helping out with this.

Erickson Elementary School will be selling Pride wear in the near future. We will be bringing in samples for the students to look at, such as hoodies, t-shirts, and long sleeve shirts. Order forms will be going home shortly after that. This will not be a fundraiser; we will be selling these at cost. Our students are very proud of their building and would like to have school clothing to enhance school pride. If you too are interested in purchasing some EES pride wear please let us know.

On February 10, Erickson Elementary School will be hosting the ECO Van from the Oak Hammock Marsh Facility. Our students will be presented with a variety of topics. A big thank you goes out to the Little Saskatchewan Watershed District for picking up the bill.

Swimming lessons are planned to start after Spring Break. As you are aware, EES Parent Advisory Council has fundraised for swimming lessons. They will be covering all transportation costs to Brandon and back. There will be a cost of roughly \$35 per student to cover lesson fees. Learning how to swim is a very good investment, and we are encouraging everyone to attend. Having this skill could save a life some day. More information will be coming out later this month.

Have a great month, and as always, if you any questions or concerns, please give me a call.

Sincerely,
Graham Edwards, Principal

Kindergarten

What a busy January we have had! Upon returning from Christmas Break the students were surprised to see a few new centers in the classroom as well as some new activities to go with our morning routine.

We have started our home reading program in Kindergarten where students are now bringing home books in blue bags nightly that can be read by your child. In the classroom guided reading has started where I have the chance to sit with small groups of children and monitor their reading skills. I am enjoying the opportunity to hear your children sounding out words and discovering exclamation marks!

This month we also did a lot of activities around snowmen. We created snowman art, organized snowmen from largest to smallest, wrote a class book about what our snowmen do at night, made snow globes with our Grade 6 buddies, and learned a snowman poem. In February we will focus on love, friendship and family.

We are finishing up our math unit on Exploring Number (which involved numbers to five) and will be looking at Exploring Geometry and Measurement in February and March.

A special thanks to Robbie for bringing in his pet hamster in his blue cage for show and tell last week. The students were really excited to meet squeaky. A reminder to parents that if their child would like to bring in a pet for show and tell to call ahead to make arrangements. We do have some pet allergies in the class and have to be sensitive to those students for the enjoyment of all.

Our Valentine's Day party will be held on Monday, February 14th. As always if you wish to send a class treat it is greatly appreciated but not necessary. Also the Kindergarten

students will be making Valentine's Day boxes with their Grade 6 buddies so if your child would like to hand out Valentine's Day cards at our party he/she may do so.

We will also be celebrating 100 day in February, as we will have been in school for one hundred days. More information regarding one hundred day activities will follow.

Stay warm out there and happy reading!
Ms. Carlson

Grade 1 News

Grade Ones would like to share their recipe for Friendship Salad. Each child brought a piece of fruit. 3 apples, 1 pear, 2 bananas, 1 yogurt, 1 can of fruit cocktail, 1 blackberry bunch, 2 Kiwi, 1 can of pineapple, and 2 oranges. Mix together with love. Add Oatmeal Cookies shaped as our initial. Sit down and enjoy your time with your classmates. If anyone is interested in the ABC Oatmeal Cookie recipe please send a note with your child and we will send it home to you.

J. Thoren Dinsdale

Grade 2 News

February is finally here!!!! This is always a great month at E.E.S. There are so many exciting events and projects happening this month.

The Grade 2s are well into their Dinosaur Theme and have been reading and discovering many interesting facts about these reptiles from long ago. We have just finished reading a class novel from the "Magic Treehouse" series called DINOSAURS BEFORE DARK and now we are well into one of the many "Dinosaur Cove" novels.

February is I LOVE TO READ MONTH.

This week the students will be setting a reading goal by estimating the number of pages they can read in February. I will be encouraging the students to choose "GOOD FIT" books for this project. Parents, you can help by encouraging your child to read out loud to you, help them record the number of pages they have read, sign or initial the record sheet, and send it to school each THURSDAY. We will be recording this information on a graph at school.

Watch for special notes in your child's planner regarding the Valentine's Day Party and our 100th Day Party.

Have a great week everyone.

S.Hall

Grade 3 News

Happy New Year! It is hard to believe that the end of January is upon us. We have been very busy in the Grade 3 room this month. In Social Studies we complete our "tour" of India. We were very fortunate to have Florence Carter visit us in our classroom, and share many of her wonderful stories from spending 18 years in India. Students also took part in a traditional Indian meal, where they ate white rice and Chapatti with their fingers.

In Science we have begun a unit on structures. Students are going to be putting their creative minds to work, designing and making tall, strong, wide, and interesting structures in class.

In ELA we are taking a short break from Daily 5, and studying the novel Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. We are looking forward to learning all about Mr. Willy Wonka and his Chocolate Factory. Students are continuing to work on addition and subtraction in math. Soon we will be wrapping up this unit and beginning Measurement.

Grade 4 News

Grade 4 will be doing a lot of things this year. Last week we went to the Samaritan house, we got to sort food and we also got to bag potatoes. We did 102 bags of potatoes!

We finished our book Metropolis it was fantastic and now we are starting a new book called "Kim". We can't wait to read more. It is about a boy named Kim who lived in India but was really an English boy.

Grade 4 is doing LOVE for the virtue in February. We are so excited everyone has an idea for the month we can't wait.

Everybody thought it would fit in with the month.

SO BEWARE FOR WHEN THE LOVEBUGS COME...

By Mckenzie Maduke & Trinity Nysten

Grade 5 – Mr. Lamb

In Science we are testing buoyancy (ability to float), solubility (ability to dissolve), solids, liquids, gases, etc, in a variety of hands on experiments.

In Social Studies we are studying Early European Colonization. We are learning about the different Europeans that came to Canada and how they impacted the settling of Canada.

In Art the students are practicing 1-point perspective by drawing buildings and rooms. The drawings are turning out wonderfully. We will be studying 2-point perspective this month.

Grade 5—Mr. Edwards

The grade 5's have a very busy February planned. We will be finishing up DARE presentations this month. The students have learned a lot about how to deal with peer pres-

sure and how make better choices. A big thank you to RCMP Constable Jenny of the Hamiota detachment for presenting to our students.

During February, we will be having a Valentine's theme in our ELA activities. In Math, we will be studying Measurement. In this unit, your child will:

- Estimate and measure length in millimetres and centimetres.
- Investigate the relationships between millimetres and centimetres, and between millimetres and metres.
- Explore rectangles with equal perimeters.
- Explore rectangles with equal areas.
- Construct different rectangles, given the area and /or perimeter.
- Estimate, measure, and record volume in cubic centimetres and in cubic metres.
- Estimate, measure, and record capacity in millimetres and litres.

Measurement provides a strong connection between what students learn in math and their everyday life experiences. Measurement is a skill that is used in everyday life and in building, designing, and constructing any kind of project.

Here are some suggestions to help support your child's learning:

- Have your child draw a new floor plan for a room that indicates the positions

of and measurements for each piece of rearranged furniture.

- If you are cooking or baking, have your child help measure the ingredients.
- If you are hanging a mirror or picture, have your child measure to find the best place for it on the wall.

We are planning an ice fishing field trip sometime this month or in early March. Look for a permission slip coming home. We will require some parental help for this field trip, so if you are interested make sure you let us know. Have a great month everyone!

Grade 6 News

Hello everyone! The grade 6 class has been doing many educational and fun activities.

In ELA we are learning about how to become better readers and writers. Everybody seems to enjoy that. In our ELA centers we are doing kindergarten buddies, independent reading, spelling, Monthly News, and grammar. Some students are also working on finishing their animal research projects. We also do Writers' Workshop. We can write anything we want and our teacher helps us to get better at writing. Many students are working on tall tales. We each need to choose our best piece of writing to publish and hand in to Mrs. Warrington by February 1st.

In Math we are exploring multiples, from multiples of 1 (very easy) to multiples of 12 (hard!). We are learning how to find the lowest common multiple of sets of numbers and solve problems using the lowest common multiple.

Some of the fun things we have been doing include participating in the DARE program, visiting the personal care home and we had a Gym Blast on January 20th. DARE is a

drug and alcohol resistance program delivered by the RCMP. Constable Jenny comes to our school twice per week to teach us about the dangers of using drugs and alcohol. She is also teaching us skills to say no to using them.

Mrs. Warrington is planning our ski trip for February 9th. Another very important form (sent on Friday, January 28) needs to be filled out and returned as soon as possible.

Some reminders are :

Parents please remember to check and sign planners

We are still searching for the lost pencil cases, books from our classroom and several calculators (they have EES 6 etched into the back)

By: Avery, Keisha, Jacquie and Jocelyn (with some help from Mrs. Warrington and the rest of the class to revise and edit!)

EES PAC Update

The EES Craft and Bake Sale - held November 27, 2010, from 10 AM to 2 PM at Erickson Elementary School. With the help of EES staff, the students of EES made some lovely Christmas crafts to sell at our craft table. The many tables were filled with the wares of talented local crafts-people and many wonderful products. The EES PAC served soup, buns, dainties and drinks for lunch at the sale. We also held a "Dainty Walk" where folks could purchase a tray and pick out an assortment of dainties that suited their taste! Yum! Many many people dedicated their time to make this event possible – Thank you so much. All proceeds from food related sales at the Craft Sale went towards bus transportation costs for swimming lessons. All other proceeds (table rentals, COOP gift card raffle, Cookbook sales) went towards the Playground.

The cookbooks have sold very well. There are still some left so we are thinking of ideas to get

them selling again. Thanks to all of you that were so helpful in the sales prior to Christmas! Congratulations to our big sellers – Haylee, Briseis, Elizabeth and Trinity.

The playground fund recently received a couple of generous donations – Erickson Credit Union donated \$1500 and Erickson Heritage COOP donated \$1000. WOW! Thank you so much! A complete list of donors from the past year will be published in the South Mountain Press shortly. Approximately \$11,000 has been raised so far for the playground restoration project.

On January 8th, the PAC held a Meat Draw at the Nordic Inn in Erickson. Thanks to the Nordic for their support and for the support of the patrons! Our next Meat Draw will take place on March 19th at the Nordic Inn.

All students will have the opportunity to go for swimming lessons after spring break! All fundraising is completed for the bus transportation for swimming lessons.

We plan to amend our bylaws at the beginning of our next meeting (February 10). The annual audit of our books will now be completed by the RRSB, as it is much more cost effective.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday February 10, 2011 at 7 PM at the EES Library. Please join us!

For more information, please go to our website at <http://eespac.wordpress.com>