



Erickson Elementary School

NEWSLETTER

Graham Edwards, Principal

Encouraging Everyone to Succeed

December 2, 2010

Lunch Calendar for December:

Mondays-Grilled Cheese

Tuesdays-Hamburgers

Wednesdays-Perogies

Thursdays-Chicken Fingers

Fridays-Pizza

KIDS CAN SHOP

Erickson Collegiate is again hosting “Kids Can Shop” on December 21. New or gently used items are collected by the collegiate so the elementary students can shop for their families. Money collected is donated back to the elementary school for their foster child. If you have any items especially items suitable for brothers and dads, please drop them off at the collegiate. Clothing is gratefully declined.

COATS FOR FAMILIES

The Gr. 6 Class is working together with the Gr.4, 5, 6, class of Onanole School to collect gently used donations of winter clothing for individuals and families that may need them this winter.

There are drop-off boxes located at Erickson Co-op, The Library, The Town Office, our School, the Erickson Health Centre,

Rolling River Band Office, West Region Child & Family Services and Southquill Health Centre.

If you have any winter clothing (coats, ski-pants, boots) that you no longer use, please feel free to donate them to one of our drop-off locations.

Thank you for your support!

Principal’s Message

The time continues to fly by. The first three months have gone by very quickly and the holiday season is just around the corner. I am sure everyone will be on their best behaviour during December because someone in a jolly red suit is watching extra close at this time of year.

With temperatures getting colder, it is imperative that our students are dressed appropriately. Students need to bring and wear a winter coat, ski or splash pants, head gear, and mittens or gloves. Please make sure your child brings these items to school each and every day. If your child is not feeling well and you would like them to stay in for recess, please make sure you send a note stating this.

When dropping children off in the morning, if we could have parents park their vehicles ahead of where the buses drop their students off, it would be greatly appreciated.

Our Parent Advisory Council has been very busy this past month and will continue with some fundraising activities in the next few weeks. The craft sale/cake walk on November 27 was quite successful. Thanks to our PAC for all their hard work, and thanks to students and staff of EES for their unique Christmas crafts. Cookbook sales have been going very well, and there are only a few left. If you need a last minute stocking stuffer, these keepsakes are a great idea.

Parent Teacher interviews were very successful this year. Thanks for all that made it out in that wintery weather and thanks to all that have rescheduled. Our goal was to have 100% parent/guardian turnout and we only have a few more rescheduled interviews left to reach that goal. We really appreciate all the parental support.

At Erickson Elementary, we are teaching the importance of helping others without expecting something in return, but just because it is the right thing to do. To that end, we are encouraging all students to bring in a non-perishable food item for our Christmas hampers. Also, we are still accepting winter wear for "Coats for families". A big thank you to Mrs. Warrington, Mrs. Hanson, and the grade sixes for spearheading this effort. The grade 5's are travelling to the Samaritan House in Brandon next Monday to volunteer their time. Great work EES.

Our Christmas Celebration is being held on Thursday, December 16th 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. Ho Ho hope to see you there!

Have a great holiday season, and stop by any-time or give me a call if you have any concerns.

Sincerely

Graham Edwards

Principal, Erickson Elementary School

Grade 1 News

Well a few more days till Christmas and the grade ones are busy. This is a very busy time of year for everyone. Thank you to the parents who came to parent teacher interviews it was nice to meet you all.

On November 10 our grade 5 reading buddies treated us to some very healthy snacks and activities. Thank you Mr. Lamb and the students it was fun.

Dec. 16 is our Christmas Concert.

In math we are doing addition and subtraction. In ELA the students are doing Spelling, Printing and reading. They are also doing lots of writing.

In Science we are going to start working on The Five Senses.

Grade 1's will be having their Christmas party on Tuesday, Dec.21. I will be sending a letter home about it.

Now the weather is cold students should be wearing snow pants and mittens. These are the items some of the students are without.

Thank you parents for helping your child read. They enjoy reading when they know the story.

Until next time.

D. Gaywish

Kindergarten

The last month has certainly been a busy month for Kindergarten!

We are nearing the end of our Jolly Phonics program. Many students are beginning to blend sounds together to read words from our morning message! Please continue to practice the letter sounds with your child at home nightly as it will help your child with their reading skills in the new year.

A special thanks to Shannon Shannacappo for the donation of the pumpkin to use in the Kindergarten class. Kindergarten students completed the pumpkin experiment weighing, measuring, and drawing the inside and outside of the pumpkin. We later cut the pumpkin open and counted the seeds.

Kindergartens have also enjoyed working with their Grade 6 buddies on projects throughout the month of November. December's projects will be around the theme of Christmas.

We completed our first math unit on patterning and sorting in early November and have started a math unit on exploring numbers. Key concepts in this unit are comparing sets of objects (more, fewer, the same,) counting and making sets of 1-5 objects, recognizing the arrangement of dots on the face of a die, and counting from one to five forward and backwards.

We will begin working with letters in the mornings to better understand how words are formed. Please continue to have your child read the tricky words they are writing daily in their planners. These words contain letters that do not follow the rules for the letter's sound.

The Kindergarten students are getting excited for the Christmas concert. We will be performing two songs this year.

Reminder book orders are due on December 8th.

Stay warm out there J
Ms. C

Grade 4 News

Thank you to all the parents who came to the Parent Teacher Interviews. If you missed the scheduled interview time and would like to meet with me please contact the school and an interview time will be arranged.

On the last day of classes we will be having a class party. If you wish to send treats on that day please feel free to do so. I am sure the class will enjoy any treats sent from home.

Some students still need PE clothing. Please ask your child if they need PE clothing.

Please make sure you read the planner every night. It will keep you up to date with the activities happening at the school and in our classroom.

Frank Sokoloski

EES PAC

We have a new website! For information about the PAC activities, please go to:

<http://eespac.wordpress.com>

We are no longer sending out copies of our meeting minutes. The minutes are available on our website, and soon will be posted on the bulletin board at the school.

Thank you to everyone for your support for the EES Craft Sale

Grade 2 News

Wow! ! Winter has arrived and snowy weather is here. Thank you for venturing out on that story Thursday night and also the Friday morning to attend your Parent Teacher interview. It was great to discuss your child progress. EES welcomes Meagan Smith to our school. She will be student teaching in the grade 2 classroom until Christmas. The students are really enjoying the activities she plans for them especially her focus area of Physed. Here is a look at what the grade 2's are busy working on:

1. Science: studying characteristics of the six animal groups
2. Gym(P.E.): practicing throwing rolling and catching a ball
3. ELA: starting a novel called "The Best Christmas Ever", writing letters to Santa, starting a new readers workshop character study, practicing "word families" in our weekly spelling as well as learning Tubs, and of course **READING READING READING!**
4. SS: this week we begin a unit of study on our communities-Sandy Lake, Rolling River First Nation and Erickson.
5. Arts/Crafts: thank you Miss Smith for leading the Grade 2's in creating their cool animal crowns they can't wait to take them home to show their parents. The Gr. 2's were proud of their "Yule Logs" they made for the craft sale and we hope you like them too.

We have just started Christmas concert practice. Watch for a special note in your child's planner explaining what they need for a costume.

We look forward to this Friday when we travel to Brandon to watch the production at the WMCA called "Honk Jr."

Have a terrific week everyone,

S. Hall

Grade 3 News

Hello winter! It sure has been cold lately, and there is lots of snow on the ground to help bring in the Christmas season. Thank you to all of the parents who braved the snow and cold to come out to parent teacher interviews. I truly enjoyed speaking with all of you, and encourage you to contact me at any time if concerns or questions arise.

We have had a very busy November month. The Grade 3 students took part in the Remembrance Day service by singing with the choir, as well as reciting a poem. Great job Grade 3! In ELA we have started working on guided reading, as well as continuing with our Daily 5 program. Students are becoming exposed to a large variety of literature, and enjoy sharing interesting books that they have found with their fellow classmates.

As the Christmas season gets under way students will be spending time preparing for their Christmas concert, as well as participating in many holiday activities in our classroom. Students have just finished writing a letter to Santa, and will look forward to his reply soon! Look in your child's planner for a photocopied version of the letter to Santa.

I would like to thank all of those who have cared for Bowser so far this year. Everyone who agreed to help watch him will get a chance in the year. Watch for a note home in your child's planner as a request to take him home on the weekends. Also, I would like to find a home for him over the Christmas holidays. If anyone would like to volunteer, please indicate so in your child's planner, and we will set something up!

Intramurals

We are currently playing floor hockey for intramurals. The floor hockey league consists of six teams of grades 4, 5 and 6.

Grade 5 – Mr. Lamb

In Science we are finishing up our unit on the human body. We have studied all of the major systems in the body (Digestive, Urinary, Respiratory, Circulatory, Skeletal, Muscular, Nervous). The class will be making a PhotoStory on each of the systems to show how they work.

In Social Studies we are currently working on the major physical regions of Canada as well as the people who were living there before colonization. Students will be researching one of these groups of people and presenting it to the class using PowerPoint.

Grade Six News

We have new class jobs as follows: Attendance: Keisha, Calendar: Raylene, Planners: Dawson, Lunch orders: Kieran and Aaron, Fish Feeding: Jeremy, Planner Board: Kaylee, Clipboard Carrier: Daytona, Classroom monitor: Megan, Basket: Corbin, Homework collector: Dawson and Maia, Lunch buddy coordinator: Daytona, Pd.3 buddies coordinator: Teyanna, Milk Program: Jennifer and Emily.

There ARE SO MANY SNOW FORTS outside and it is fun to play in them. Just a reminder to all the students, though, please be respectful of others' forts. If the snow forts are causing too many arguments and hard feelings, they will have to be dismantled. One more reminder, PLEASE dress for the weather and bring extra clothes if you tend to get wet! Last week Leon came back to join our class. Welcome back!

We started a fundraiser called Coats for Families. There are boxes set up all over Sandy Lake, Onanole, Rolling River and Erickson. These coats will be available for families in our community who need them.

Parents please remember to sign your child's planner EVERY NIGHT!

Mrs. Warrington would like to meet with those of you who could not attend the Term One conference. Please call the school to arrange a

time that works for you. She is available most mornings from 7:00 – 8:15 in the morning and 3:30 – 4:30 after school. Other evening times could also be arranged.

Until next time!

By Jennifer and Megan

Grade 5 News

The grade 5's are currently working on the mathematics unit on multiplying whole numbers. Early next week we will be having a test on what we have learned so far. After this we will start into division of whole numbers. In this unit your child will:

- Recall basic multiplication and division facts
- Use different strategies to estimate products and quotients
- Multiply and divide numbers mentally
- Multiply a 2-digit number by a 2-digit number
- Divide a 3-digit number by a 1-digit number
- Pose and solve problems using whole numbers
- Solve problems with more than one step

Students are encouraged to use a variety of strategies to multiply and divide whole numbers. Calculating with number sense means that children look at the numbers and operations involved, and choose the strategy that is most efficient. Make sure you ask your child to show you some different strategies that he or she uses.

In ELA, the grade 5's continue to work very hard. We have spelling tests each Friday, so students should be studying during the week. We will be working on a variety of writing assignments with a holiday theme. Students will also be writing a children's story that they will share with their reading buddies in grade one.

Just a reminder that the grade 5's will be volunteering at the Samaritan House in Brandon on Monday, December 6. The students will be submitting an article to the South Mountain Press about this experience.

Our Christmas Concert is on December 16th at 7:00 pm. Students should be practicing their songs at home. We hope to see everyone there.

Have a great December and I hope everyone has a great holiday season. Stop by anytime or give me a call if you have any questions.