



Erickson Elementary

September 13, 2010

Welcome back to those who are returning and an extra large “welcome” to those families who are new to Erickson Elementary. I too am new to Erickson Elementary School and I am excited to be working with such a talented and dedicated staff in a school where parents are supportive of our efforts. The teaching and support staff are looking forward to a rewarding school year which will be marked by student success and hard work on everyone’s part.

We are very fortunate to have an active, dedicated Parent Advisory Council that supports the instructional and enrichment programs at Erickson Elementary. We invite you to join the PAC and participate in their monthly meetings which focus on topics of interest to our parents. What parents value or believe defines what is important to their children. When you value education and believe it is important, so will your children. Our partnership with you in this shared value is critical. Your child’s education is our priority!

September will be a very busy time for us with a number of events taking place. Please note that your child may discuss our Fire Drills and Lock Down Procedures with you. They are part of our emergency preparedness program that we must practice to maintain the safest environment possible for our students. If you have any questions or concerns regarding these procedures, please call the school.

Erickson Elementary School welcomes and encourages school volunteers. If you would like to volunteer, either as a regular helper, or just for an occasional field trip, there are some forms you are required to fill out. These forms don’t cost anything, but do require some time. Please don’t let this discourage you, because volunteering in your son or daughter’s school can be a very rewarding experience.

We are very excited to have Erickson Collegiate providing a hot lunch program for us this year. They will be

providing hot lunches 3 or 4 times a week with fundraising teams preparing lunches on the other days. If your son or daughter would like to purchase a hot lunch, we will be asking them to place their orders the day before to give people ample time to prepare these meals.

Again, on behalf of Erickson Elementary staff, I hope everyone has a very rewarding year. If at any time you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to drop by the school or give us a call.

Sincerely,

Graham Edwards, Erickson Elementary Principal

Welcome Kindergarten students!

The much anticipated arrival of the new Kindergarten students occurred today, as many of the Grade 1-6 students were asking last week when the “new kids” would arrive. Thanks to all of the students for their support in my transition from Grade Five to Kindergarten! I am excited about the change and look forward to the upcoming school year.

I truly appreciated the opportunity to get to know the Kindergarten students and parents last week during our one on one interviews. The students and I are eager to start the year and better get to know one another.

Over the first couple of weeks we will be participating in many activities to learn about each other, about the school, and about our classroom.

A reminder to parents: Please check your child’s planner nightly for messages, newsletters, and important forms.

Have a great week!

Grade 1 News

Welcome everyone to another exciting year in E.E.S.

The students in grade 1 have been very busy getting to know the routine of being in school the whole day. There are many things to remember. It is a long day for most of them and are ready for home by 2:30, but this will get better.

In math we are working on patterns.

In E.L.A. we are working on letters and printing them. This week we will be working on letters a, d, and g.

We will have choir and music this week.

Beginning this week we will be bringing books every night. Please read with your child and sign the sheet provided. Please return the books every day as we will also be using them here. They will be reading the same books for 2 days. They will trade the books on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. I

Until next time.

D. Gaywish

Grade 2 News

Welcome back to everyone! It's great to see all those smiling faces. The first 3 days of Grade 2 have been spent learning new classroom routines, sharing stories about the summer and beginning new units of study.

For the month of September, the Grade 2's will be working on an Apple Theme. The students have been asked to bring an apple to school, preferable their favourite kind. We will be using these apples for a math and a writing activity.

A reminder to parents to please read and sign or initial their child's planner every day. The daily planner is a terrific way for us (parents & teachers) to communicate.

Our weekly spelling practice begins this week. The spelling words are in the planner. Please encourage your child to practice by:

- saying the words in the list;
- using the word in a sentence;
- practice spelling them

Spelling tests will be on Friday of each week. Our home reading program will begin next week.

Have a terrific week everyone.

S. Hall

Grade 3 News

Hello and welcome back to school! I am very excited to be returning to Erickson Elementary after my year off, and especially excited to be teaching in the Grade 3 classroom. This year we are doing many exciting things. Right now we are learning about our literacy program daily five. Students will be rotating through five different ELA stations (reading to self, working on writing, reading to someone, word work, and listen to reading). In Science we are studying plants, and in Math we are learning about patterns. This year students need to have gym clothes for Phys-Ed, so please remember to send some if you haven't done so already. If you ever want to come by and see what is happening in your child's classroom, please feel free to do so!

A. Sawchuk

Grade 6 News

Hello and welcome back to school – that means “happy vacation” to parents and guardians! So far Grade 6 is awesome. We have 22 students in our class. Welcome to Karlee and Nolan! We have pet fish in our classroom. We named them MiniWarrington, Oreo, Halloween, Spike, Rainbow, Ace, Fish Dude, Dukey, Bambi, and Grumpy. We sit in table groups. Our classroom has a couch and a big stuffed penguin in it. So far we have had ELA, Math, and Phys. Ed. In ELA we are listening to the novel “Maniac Magee” and we've done Centers, written in our journals and made personal dictionaries. In Math we played games and wrote in our Math Journals. In Phys. Ed. We played Chinese soccer and freeze tag.

We also had our first Class Meeting, got our Classroom Jobs, and made posters about our good qualities and the people we want to be.

-written by the Grade Six Class

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Rest of Grade 6 news is on Page 3

Grade 6 News continued:

Note from Mrs. Warrington: Greetings everyone! The first few days of school have passed quickly with all the business of getting into the routine again. Parents, please check your child's planner every evening and initial it to let me know you have done so. My home phone number has been recorded in the contacts section, and I encourage both parents and students to call me at home to discuss assignments, student progress, or to let me know your child will not be in school. I also check my email regularly and can be contacted through my web page. I will be sending notes home this week regarding supplies to let you know which supplies your child still needs to bring to school.

Grade 4 News

I would like to welcome everyone back. We're presently working on Odd and Even Numbers and Place Value in Math. We are starting our Spelling and Reading Program this week.

A reminder to Grade 4 parents to please have a look at the planner every night. The planner has important notices in it, notes from the school and classroom, plus daily activities we have done in the classroom. We use our planner to communicate from the classroom to home. If you wish to send a note to me please write it in the planner.

{Please send PE clothes and a water bottle to school. I need forms sent back to the school ASAP. The Global Permission form needs to get back to school ASAP.

Frank Sokoloski

Grade 5 News

It's nice to have everyone back and see their smiling faces. I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer and is ready to get back to fun and learning. I know I am ready for an exciting year of learning.

In Social Studies we are doing an introduction on how to use our textbook and find the valuable information located in it. We are learning about Can-

ada up until confederation this year and our first chapter is on the First Peoples of Canada.

In Science class we are starting off with the Maintaining a Healthy Body unit and are learning about the digestive system. We will be doing a lot of hands on activities in class and will be needing to bring certain household items to use. We will be using our planner on a daily basis so make sure you are checking it.

Mr. Edwards and Mr. Lamb would like to welcome everyone back and wish everyone a very successful school year. Mr. Edwards will be teaching grade 5 Math and ELA, and Mr. Lamb will be teaching the other subjects. The grade 5's will be starting a mathematics unit on patterns and equations. Patterns occur regularly in mathematics. As children learn to analyse patterns, they develop powerful reasoning skills that will help them make sense of mathematics. Knowing how to create equations helps your child to solve story problems. Some things you can do at home to help your child with patterns is to look for visual patterns around your home on fabrics, clothing, wallpaper, etc. You can also discuss how you use patterns in your daily life.

In ELA, the grade 5's are very busy. We have started the year doing a variety of writing and reading activities. Soon we will be starting working with the Literacy Place program. We will be studying a variety of novels this year, tentatively they are:

- Number the Stars
- Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh
- Shiloh
- A variety of works of Roald Dahl and Robert Munsch

In addition, each Friday students will have a chance to "share" something special from home. The grade 5's will be practicing handwriting. Please encourage your child to practice this skill at home.

Feel free to stop by at any time to see what the grade 5's are working on. We will be using the planners each night, so please ensure you check these each night for homework assignments, reminders, and/or notes. Have a great year and I look forward to meeting all of our parents.

Welcome back everyone!

Great to see all the smiling faces again! For those of you that are new to our school, my name is Dana Hanson and I am the Guidance Counsellor here at the school. I work with students on an individual basis, in small groups and also offer classroom presentations. I am only part-time, and my days here at the school are Days 1, 3 & 5. Students may refer themselves to the Guidance Counsellor or be referred by their parents/guardians and/or teachers. If parents have any questions, please feel free to call me at the school 636-2266 on days 1,3 & 5 or at the Division Office 867-2754 on Days 4 & 6. I look forward to another great school year!

**Dana Hanson
School Guidance Counsellor**