



ERRINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

“Your 3B Community School”

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Newsletter #19

January 26, 2010

Message from the Principal

Hopefully, from reading the past two newsletters, you are aware that one of our primary classes is involved in a nutrition project. What you may not know is that we are a participating school in the B.C. Fruit and Vegetable Snack Program. Twice each month, boxes of a fresh fruit or vegetable arrive at the school, and then the fresh item is distributed to classrooms during the early morning. Students have this fresh fruit or vegetable as a snack sometime during class time. For some students, the fruit or vegetable is a new taste experience; for others, it is a treat that they had tasted before. In addition to this snack program, we have an outstanding lunch program that operates four days each week. We also have our after-school Community Kids Cook program. All students take part in daily physical education in the gym, and as an Action Schools BC member, teachers are committed to providing worthwhile physical activities for your children both in the gym and out on the playground. We have many of our grade 5 students in our Leadership group, and they help out with games in the gym, or outside, at lunchtime. Mrs. Philip has just begun the after school basketball program for students in grades 3,4 and 5. So, as you can see, student health, nutrition and fitness are things we take very seriously here at EES, and we hope that you will be able to support us through your actions at home.



As a final reminder, our virtue for January has been the **Virtue of Excellence**. Students who demonstrate **Excellence** give their best to every task and they know that **Excellence** is the key to success, both as a student and as a person. Our focus class for **Excellence** has been Mr. Henderson's combined grade 4 and 5 class. They have prepared an informative and colourful bulletin board display and they will be sharing some of their own thoughts about **Excellence** at our "Student Recognition Assembly" **this Friday, January 29** at 8:45 am. We hope you will be able to join us for the assembly on Friday.

Helping Hands for Haiti

Room 2 has begun their Helping Hands for Haiti project to help in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake. They are encouraging everyone in the school to donate a "twoonie" to the relief effort. When a "twoonie" is donated, a "helping hand" will be added to the map of Haiti in the foyer. They hope to have the entire map covered with hands, and have begun collecting donations for the cause. They hope you too will donate.



Parents Supporting Student Achievement

As I mentioned last week in the newsletter, over the next few weeks, I will be writing about our school goals and how parents can help their child or children at home. Here are some suggestions for you:

Literacy Goal - to improve students' reading comprehension and to increase their interest in reading for enjoyment. An important skill that we teach our primary students is **phonics**, which is the ability to associate sounds with letters and to use the sounds to form words. As parents, you can help by having your child point to words and say them out loud, have your child sort words by sounds, have them decode larger words by breaking them into smaller "chunks", and by playing games like Scrabble and Hang Man. Be sure to talk to your child's teacher about their progress in this area.

Social Responsibility Goal - to provide increased opportunities for students to contribute to the classroom and school community. You can help by encouraging your children to take part in the "out of class" activities at lunch and after school, and by talking to them about what "health and fitness" means to your family.

Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition

Our annual Free Throw Competition will be taking place next week in our gym. Boys and girls in grades 4 and 5 are invited to take part in the school competition, and 4 students will be selected to represent EES at the District Finals early in February. EES will then be hosting the District Finals on Thursday, February 4. Students have been practicing their shooting for the competition, and for those who take part, good luck to all.



PAC News:

Our next PAC meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 17, in the library at the school. The meeting will begin at 6:00 pm and agenda items include the Spring Carnival, PAC, school and school district budget concerns. We hope you will be able to join us!

Words on Wheels (WOW) Bus here tomorrow

The District's WOW bus is back on the road and will be visiting our school tomorrow afternoon. The bus will be here at 1:00 pm and everyone is welcome to tour the bus. We hope you will be able to make it up here to see the WOW bus back in operation, the first of many regularly scheduled visits to the community.

Dates to Remember for Parents of Errington Students

January 27	Words on Wheels (WOW) bus visits EES at 1:00pm (everyone welcome)
January 29	Student Recognition Assembly for January at 8:45 am in the gym
February 3	Parent Forum on School District Budget at 7:00 pm in the library
February 4	EES hosts the District Elementary Free Throw Competition at 11:30 am in the gym
February 12	Winter Olympics Opening Ceremony at EES beginning at 10:15 am in the gym
February 19	School Reporting Day (students do not attend school this day)
February 22	District Pro-D Day (students do not attend school this day)
March 3	Term 2 Report Cards home to parents
March 5	Student Recognition Assembly for February/March at 8:45 am
March 5	Last Day of Classes before the Spring Break
March 6 to 21	Spring Break (all schools are closed)
March 22	Schools re-open after the Spring Break
April 2	Good Friday (all schools are closed)
April 5	Easter Monday (all schools are closed)

Library News

The theme for January's Library Book Draw is "**New Year, New Books!**". Enjoy a new library book and fill out an entry form to win a book prize! Happy New Year and Reading!



Health and Nutrition at EES with Room 1

Mrs. Philip's class is doing a project on nutrition. They are learning about the Canadian Food guide and graphing their lunches. This week there is some useful information with the newsletter about "marvelous milk products". If you have a nutritious snack or recipe that your children love and you think others would love to try, please send a written copy to school and we will try to include some of them in the weekly newsletter. During the Olympics, they will be graphing lunches to see who has "Gold Medal Lunches."



Eat Well Get Moving Program

Our school is once again taking part in the annual Eat Well, Get Moving Initiative! It began last week and will run for six weeks until February 27th and will be tied into the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Games. Participation score cards have been given to all of our students, and they are encouraged to exercise, eat healthy with 5-10 servings daily of fruit and vegetables, and keep track of their fitness and healthy eating. Participating students and their families are invited to attend the Opening Ceremonies of the Olympic Games on the evening of Feb. 12th at the Parksville Community and Conference Center. Prizes will be handed out and raffles will take place at this community event.

Community Announcements

School District 69 DPAC is proud to present "Navigating Girl World" - effective strategies for parenting girls. Learn strategies to support girls to grow up independent and secure. Help girls challenge girl culture, stereotypes and social rules. Help them to analyze media and social aggression, promote positive communication and promote success at home, school and in life. Where? Parksville Community & Conference Centre (132 E. Jensen Avenue in Parksville). When? Tues., Feb. 9th (two presentations - 11:30-1:30 AND 6:30-8:30). You can purchase advance tickets by using the tear-off below for \$5.00 or buy your tickets at the door \$7.00.

✂ -----

I would like to purchase (#) _____ of \$5.00 tickets for the: 11:30-1:30 p.m. presentation
 6:30-8:30 p.m. presentation

 Your Name Home Phone # \$ enclosed

✂ -----

PIZZA DAY - FRIDAY, FEB. 5th

Sponsored by PAC

Pizza - \$3.50

Juice - .50

Ice Cream Sandwich - \$1.00

Cheese

Orange

Ice Cream

Pepperoni

Apple

Ham & Pineapple

Fruit Punch

Veggie



_____ + _____ + _____ = _____ TOTAL

REMINDER: Kindergarten class may only order ice cream due to delivery time.
 Please return orders to **your classroom teacher** by **Friday, Jan. 29th.**
 We are ordering personal pizzas.

Name _____ Teacher _____ Room _____