

## **Erickson Elementary School Newsletter**

**Thursday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

Mrs. DeVuono's cell #: 250-402-9370 (only after 11:30 am)

School Website: <http://www2.sd8.bc.ca/schools/erickson/>

Need/Want to send Mrs. DeVuono an email?: [ndevuono@sd8.bc.ca](mailto:ndevuono@sd8.bc.ca)

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### **Class Photos**

Mountain West Studios will be here on Thursday, April 29<sup>th</sup> to take class pictures and well as the school panorama. Each student will receive a complimentary print of the class photo (approx. four weeks later) and will have an opportunity to order a school print/.

### **Morning Announcements**

Thank you to Kaitlyn Ziola and Daria Roy for their excellent reading of the announcements and short Olympic stories each morning this week.

### **Readathon**

Friday marks the end of our exciting "Go for the Gold" Readathon month. Once students have recorded their final minutes we will be able to award certificates for bronze (400 minutes), silver (800 minutes) and gold (1600 minutes) medal performances. After Spring Break we will hold a special ceremony to present students with their medals. As of this morning our students have read 162,022 minutes! Thanks to our Readathon committee (Mrs. Ross, Mrs. Peel, Mrs. Edwards, Mrs. DeVuono) and all the staff for their extra efforts. Way to go students!

### **Skiing News**

What a great day the intermediates had skiing in Whitewater on their final 'Fun Day' of the school year. The sun shone and the students had the hill all to themselves. Thank you again to the PAC for sponsoring such a worthwhile event. A lot of planning and effort goes into making these days happen and they wouldn't be possible without the dedication of Sandi Bredt, Laurie Powell, and Mary Radonic. A huge thank you to the three of them as well as the parent chaperones and supervising teachers. Another big thank you to Chris Casemore and Dan Lavalley for transporting all the equipment back and forth.

If you are a parent that still needs to pay, please send your money in as soon as possible so that Whitewater can be paid before Spring Break. Thanks!

The non-skiers had a great day at school doing some fun activities such as making 'fry bread' with Mrs. Zarchukoff. That was a treat for all of us who got to sample the 'product'. Mr. Brocklesby, with help from Mrs. Zarchukoff, had the students making paper copies of First Nations cedar boxes, incorporating Haida patterns, which the students also enjoyed. Thanks to both staff members for their sponsorship of the activities and gym time.

### **Basketball Tournament**

The schedule has been posted for the grade 6/7 basketball team tournament for tomorrow (February 26<sup>th</sup>) and all players should have a copy. Both Erickson teams will play all their games at Erickson School. Come out and cheer our kids on starting at 9:00am.

### **Kindergarten Registration**

It is time to be thinking about Kindergarten registration for September 2010. We already have 18 students registered (many outside our catchment area are on the 'wait list'). We will be taking registrations next week, March 1-5 from 8:30am-11:30am. Please bring your child's birth certificate and CARE card. If you have a friend or relative with a pre-kindergarten age child in our catchment area, please remind them to

register. Remember that next year Kindergarten at Erickson will be full day – 8:30am-2:30pm. For more information on full day Kindergarten please check out this website:  
[http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/early\\_learning/full\\_day\\_kindergarten.htm](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/early_learning/full_day_kindergarten.htm)

### **PAC News**

The next PAC meeting is March 3 at 6:00pm in the Library.

### **Babysitting Course**

Don't forget that the College of the Rockies is again offering the Babysitting certificate course. The dates and times are: March 1-5, 2010 from 3:30-5:30 (Mon- Thurs) and 3:30-4:30 (Fri). The fee is \$60. Participants must be at least 11½ years old but the certificate will not be issued until their 12<sup>th</sup> birthday.

### **DPAC Information:**

A Facilities Planning meeting was held at the Creston Education Center (CEC) on Monday, Feb. 22.

Due to a potential deficit next year, the School District is considering moving the services housed within the CEC out of the facility and closing it down. They feel that the school isn't being used to its full capacity. Possible scenarios are:

HomeLinks students would attend school in the two rooms available at Canyon-Lister.

The School District Special Services team (who also provide pre-school services) would be moved to the old school board office on Canyon Street.

The district Technician would be relocated.

All Early Learning partners (Family Place, Infant Development, Pregnancy Outreach, CAPC-Community Access Program for Children), StrongStart and CBAL – Creston Literacy would be split up and looking for a new facility. This Community “hub” for Early Learning services is one that has been encouraged by the School District in the past and has been a model for other communities in the Kootenays.

None of these options are agreeable to the parties involved and would cause severe disruption to many Creston children and their families. The School District is looking for ways to garner increased revenue so that this facility can remain open.

If you have any ideas or suggestions to increase the capacity at the Creston Education Center so it can remain open, please submit your comments to Elaine Henderson, Executive Assistant by email at: [ehenderson@sd8.bc.ca](mailto:ehenderson@sd8.bc.ca) or call her at 250-505-7046 or fax her at 250-352-6686. Additional information can be viewed on the website at [www.sd8.bc.ca](http://www.sd8.bc.ca). Please attend the next Facilities Planning meeting on March 2, 2010 at 6:30pm at the Creston Education Center.

The next DPAC meeting will be held on Thursday, February 25th at 7:00pm at the Creston Education Centre.

### **College of the Rockies**

Children Growing Gardens – Kids love eating vegetables they have grown themselves. Drop off your child(ren) for a fun and educational program where they will start a variety of vegetable plants and watch them grow until ready to take home to the family garden. For ages 6 – 10. Tuesdays, April 6 – May 25, from 3:30-5:00pm. Fee: \$60. (class size is limited to 8 children)

Families Growing Gardens – You and your pre-schooler can learn to grow food together. Topics will include composting, lasagne gardening, companion planting, seed saving, planting and harvesting times and

more. Garden space is available for those who don't have gardens at home. Wednesdays, April 7 – May 26, 10:00-11:30am. Fee: \$60. (class size is limited to 8 children)