



Elmwood's Junior Kindergarten News

September 2010

Welcome to Junior Kindergarten at Elmwood School!

I would like to welcome all the Junior Kindergarten students and their parents to a new school year! I am very happy to be working with all of your daughters this year. This class newsletter will be sent home monthly and is intended to update you on any important Kindergarten news, as well as to fill you in on many of the exciting things that are happening in our classroom. Please share this newsletter with your child, as she will appreciate your interest and enthusiasm regarding our activities.

Teaching Assistant and Specialist Teachers

To facilitate in the teaching and learning process in the classroom, we are lucky to have a Teaching Assistant - Mrs. Kathie Theriault.

During the day, the students will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of lessons with specialist teachers. Mrs. Pike is our music specialist; Mrs. Comerton is our teacher librarian; and Mr. Perreault is our technology teacher. Madame Gavan will be teaching the girls French on a daily basis.

Parent-Teacher Communication

Parent communication and involvement is an extremely important part of our program. We value your ideas, thoughts and contributions. The best way to communicate with me is to speak to me directly or email me at kmeadowcroft@elmwood.ca. I will do my best to reply by the end of each day.

Scholastic Book Club

Our class will be participating in the Scholastic Book Club this year. I will send the September catalogue home next Monday and each subsequent catalogue will be sent home on the first Monday of each month. The due date for each order will be the subsequent Friday. Please look over the catalogues with your child and if you wish to purchase any books, please return the order form by the due date with a cheque made payable to Scholastic Canada. Your child's book order will be delivered within a couple of weeks. Participation in this Book Club provides students with the opportunity to purchase books, while earning points towards free books and other items for our classroom. In addition, it encourages emergent readers with motivating texts.

Unit of Inquiry: I am Special

The first unit of inquiry in our Primary Years Programme is called “I Am Special.” The central idea of this unit, which we will explore as a class for approximately nine weeks, is “My personal characteristics make me unique.” This unit is a wonderful vehicle for the students to begin building self-awareness within the social context of the classroom.

Show-and-Share/Student of the Week

Every week, the student of the week will perform special tasks, such as being line leader. At any time during her designated week (see attached schedule), she may bring in a show-and-share item, a special treat for the class or perhaps a parent or family member to come and read a story! The options are limitless. Please let me know if there is something special you would like to do. Show-and-share should be curriculum focused. For example, a special treasure might start with the letter of the week (again see attached schedule) and/or our current PYP unit. Examples for our “I Am Special” unit of inquiry would be baby or summer photos, a family storybook that you made together or a baby scrapbook. Show-and-share is an excellent opportunity to increase your child’s self-confidence and ability to speak in front of a group. Please assist your child in selecting her Show-and-share item and discuss some things she would like to share about it with her classmates.

Nut-free Lunches and Snacks

In order to ensure the health and safety of all our students, please be sure to pack lunches and snacks that are nut-free. If your daughter would like to bring in treats for the class to celebrate a special occasion, **please send in Certified Peanut-Free snacks**, such as mini-chocolate bars, Teddy Grahams, Bear Paws or baked goods from a nut-free bakery, so that all the students in our class can enjoy the treat. Your care and attention to this matter is very much appreciated.

Junior School Scanner

Please read the Junior School Scanner (**distributed weekly by email**) to find out more details every week regarding special school events. Parent evenings and activity days (i.e. school photos, concerts and fundraisers) will be highlighted and explained in important detail. Please email me if you have any questions or concerns

Important Dates in September

- Tuesday, September 14 – Curriculum Information Night
- Friday, September 24 – Junior School Terry Fox Run and Bake Sale
- Tuesday, September 28 – Photo Day
- Thursday, September 30 – Pink Accessory Day