



## Elmwood's Senior Kindergarten News

September 2011



### Welcome to Elmwood's Senior Kindergarten!

I would like to welcome all of the Senior Kindergarten students and their parents! I know it will be an exciting year of learning and fun!

As mentioned in the *Senior Kindergarten Handbook*, the best way to communicate with me is to speak to me directly, write a note in your child's Communication Folder, or send an email to [cwiley@elmwood.ca](mailto:cwiley@elmwood.ca). If you have an urgent message for me during the day, please call our receptionist, **Mrs. Sarah Hay**, at **(613) 749-2558** and she will pass it on to me right away.

I would like to introduce our Senior Kindergarten Teacher's Assistant. We are very fortunate to have Mrs. Cheryl Brownlie work with our class on a daily basis. Mrs. Brownlie is a qualified teacher and has a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Toronto and a Bachelor of Education from the University of Ottawa. She provides invaluable assistance in the Senior Kindergarten classroom.

## Monthly Newsletters and Calendars

The monthly newsletters are intended to update you on any important Senior Kindergarten news and fill you in on the many exciting things that are happening in our classroom. The newsletters will be accompanied by a monthly calendar for you to refer to, as needed. Please share the newsletter and calendar with your child, as she will appreciate your interest and enthusiasm regarding our activities.

## Curriculum Night

All parents are invited to an evening session next Tuesday, September 13 to learn about the Senior Kindergarten curriculum. The session will begin at 7 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room on the third floor of the Junior School. I hope you will be able to attend.

## Junior School Scanner

The *Scanner* is a weekly newsletter that informs you of the Junior School events. It will be sent to you every Thursday as a link in the weekly *Message from the Headmistress*. Please take the time to read both the Scanner and monthly Kindergarten newsletter carefully so that you are well apprised of all of the upcoming events at Elmwood.



## Lunch/Snack

The children have a snack in the morning and another in the afternoon. Please send snacks and lunches that are healthy as well as **nut-free**. **Some children in your child's class have life-threatening allergies.**

Kindly include appropriate utensils in your child's lunch and please pack all food items in a simple manner so that the children can manage them independently.

## Scholastic Book Club

Our class will be participating in the Scholastic Book Club this year. I will usually send the flyers home on the first Monday of the month and the order and accompanying cheque will be due the Friday of that week. The due date for each month's order will be marked on the monthly calendar for your convenience. I will send the September Scholastic flyers home on Monday, September 12. Look them over with your child and if you wish to purchase any books, please return the order form by Friday, September 16 with a cheque made payable to **Scholastic Canada**. Your child's books will be delivered within a couple of weeks.

Participation in this book club is optional. It provides students with the opportunity to purchase new books, while building an interest in literacy and earning points towards free books and other items for our classroom.

Please note that the books from the different Scholastic flyers (i.e., from the Seesaw and Elf booklets) sometimes arrive on different days, even though I always order them on the same day; so if only part of your order comes home, please wait a few days before inquiring about the rest. It is probably on its way! You only need to write one cheque to cover the total for all of the books from the different flyers.

## **Uniform**

Please refer to the uniform requirements outlined on the Elmwood website under “Parents” and scroll down to “Uniform Requirements.” Should you have any questions regarding the Kindergarten uniform, please feel free to ask at any time.

Please note that hair accessories should be in the uniform colours (hunter green, gold, black, or white). Other colours may be worn on days when uniforms are not required, such as spirit days, sports afternoons, and House days.

The Eagles’ Nest is located on the first floor in the big school and is open on Tuesdays throughout the year, usually between 3:00 and 4:15 p.m.

## **Run-for-the-Cure Barbeque Lunch**

The students are invited to participate in a barbeque lunch on Friday, September 9 in support of the Run-for-the-Cure campaign. If you would like your daughter to participate, please fill out the form and send it with your daughter to school and a lunch will be provided for her that day.

## **Primary Years Programme – First Unit of Inquiry**

The first PYP unit we will be covering in Senior Kindergarten is called *Get With the Programme* and is all about organization within the classroom. The children will participate in developing the classroom rules and will learn the routines in a way that is fun and interactive. A well-organized classroom is a happy classroom! A newsletter that provides information about this unit of inquiry will be given to you on Curriculum Night.

## **Show and Tell**

Every child will have the opportunity to participate in *Show and Tell* throughout the year on Friday afternoons. A list of suggested themes will be sent home soon and we will begin this activity on September 16. The Show-and-Tell topics will also be written on the monthly calendar. Show and Tell is an excellent way for your child to increase her self-confidence and ability to speak in front of a group. Please assist her in selecting her Show-and-Tell item each week and discuss some things she would

like to share about it with her classmates. In addition, please send her item inside a bag or container so that it remains a surprise until Show-and-Tell time.

If your daughter has something special that she would like to bring to school rather than what has been suggested for that week, that will never be a problem. Starting after March Break, the students will write out clues for their “Mystery Show and Tell” and will present them to the other students who try figure out the mystery items. I will send more detailed information about “Mystery Show and Tell” in the February newsletter.

## Library

The Senior Kindergarten students will go to the library once a week. They can return their books in the library bin in our classroom any day of the week, or they can bring them to school on library day and return them when they go to library class. They will be allowed to take one book out of the library every week, providing they have returned the book from the previous week. You will be informed of which day the girls will have library class in the near future.

## School Houses

On designated days, marked on the monthly calendars and written in the Junior School Scanner, the students may wear clothing in accordance with their House colours. The children are also encouraged to wear their House colours for events such as the Spirit Days or Sports Afternoons. You will receive a list very soon that will confirm which house your daughter belongs to and which colour she should wear on these special days.

## Assemblies

The *Whole-School Assembly* is a time when all Elmwood Students from Kindergarten to Grade 12 come together. These assemblies are usually held on the first Wednesday of each month (but not always) in the gymnasium of the Senior School. A variety of events take place during the assemblies, including skits, performances and announcements. The students are required to wear their Number One Uniform on these days. You will find a reminder about the assemblies in the monthly calendars.

I am really looking forward to working with your daughters this year! I will do everything I can to make sure that your children have a wonderful year in Senior Kindergarten.

Cathy Wiley

# September 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5 Labour Day	6 First day for new students (9:00 to 11:30)	7 First day for all students together (9:00 to 3:15)	8	9 BBQ for the Cure at lunch time (form)	10
11	12 Scholastic flyers will be sent home Ballet begins	13 Curriculum Information Night (7 pm)	14	15	16 Scholastic orders due Show and Tell	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 Junior School Bake Sale Show and Tell Welcome- Back Barbeque (4 pm)	24
25	26 School Photo Day	27	28 Pink Accessory Day Change for the Cure Run-for-the-Cure Assembly – Number One Uniform	29	30 Show and Tell	