

# March Newsletter

## Fairvale Elementary School

Vision: FES students will be passionate life-long learners who contribute as responsible leaders in a global community.

### Literacy Corner

#### Ends Policy #2

*Students at FES will demonstrate continuous improvement in literacy skills, striving to meet or exceed the standards set by the Province of New Brunswick.*

#### Helping Your Child Read Nonfiction Books

As I discussed last month, helping your child choose books that are of interest to them is the best way to ensure they become enthusiastic and motivated readers. Although many early picture books are fiction, a lot of children really enjoy learning about information that can be found in nonfiction books. Reading nonfiction books is quite different from reading fiction. As most children will be more familiar with the format of fiction books, it is important for adults to talk about the various features found in nonfiction texts. It is also helpful to explain to children that they are going to read information that is true rather than a made up story. Having a discussion about the purpose for reading nonfiction (to find information on a specific topic) is also important.

Some of the features of nonfiction that can be discussed are:

#### Table of Contents

Explain that reading nonfiction is different from reading fiction. A reader might only want to find certain information and the table of contents can help. The table of contents is located at the front of the book and shows the main ideas separated into sections. If, for example, a reader chooses a book on dolphins but only wants to learn where they live, they can go to the table of contents to locate where to find that information.

#### Captions

Captions are found under a photograph, chart or map and briefly describe what that visual is about.

#### Bold Print

Bold print in nonfiction highlights important words whose definitions are often found in the **glossary** at the back of the book.

#### Visuals

With nonfiction books, information won't simply be found in the words. Readers can also locate important details in the visuals (photographs, diagrams, maps, and charts) that are included on the page. It is important to point out these visuals and talk about how to read and understand them.

Reading nonfiction or information books opens up a whole new world to children. The sky is the limit to what they can learn about new people, places and events!

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April 1st, 2016

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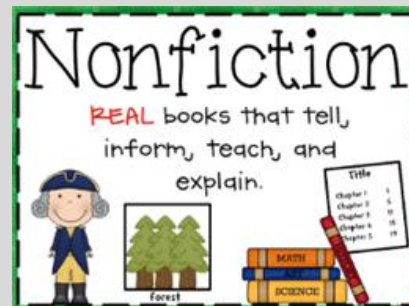
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# Guidance News

Dear F.E.S Families,

Throughout the month of March, our students and staff were working on Habit # 5 *Seek First to Understand, Then to be Understood—Listen First, Then Talk*. I had the opportunity to visit each classroom to do a lesson on the importance of listening to others. We focused on listening with our **EARS**, **EYES** and **HEART**. The school has been working on the tool, **Whole Body Listening**, throughout the past few months, both in the classroom and around the school.



When we use our **EARS** to listen, we are not just listening to what is being said, we are also listening to the *Tone of Voice* to better understand how someone is feeling.



Through modeling, students were able to see the importance of using our **EYES** to show the person you care, as well as, see how the person is feeling by observing their **Body Language**.



Lastly, we use our **HEART** by putting ourselves in someone else's shoes, also known as, empathy. This is a skill that children will work on throughout their life.

**Habit 6:**  
**SYNERGIZE**  
**TOGETHER IS BETTER**

I value other people's strengths and learn from them.  
I get along well with others, even people who are different than me.  
I work well in groups.

I seek out other people's ideas to solve problems because I know that by teaming with others we can create better solutions than any of us can alone.  
I am humble.

An illustration of three diverse children (two girls and one boy) sitting around a round table. They are looking at several purple puzzle pieces scattered on the table, symbolizing teamwork and synergy.

During the month of April, students will be working on **Habit # 6 Synergize—Together is Better!** The students and staff will focus on the concept that “*two heads are better than one!*” This is all about taking a concept and making it better. When working in a group, each person brings something valuable. We need to be able to get along well with others, even people who are different than us. We will focus on celebrating the differences that we each bring to life. This habit also allows for the opportunity to discuss the importance of staying humble.

Here are some strategies you can try at home:

1. Implement a “15 Minute Program” where everyone drops what they are doing and pitches in to work as a team to ie: clean the kitchen, wash dishes, clean bedrooms, etc. Cutting out a small block of time where everyone helps makes the work go quicker.
2. If your child has siblings, ask them to identify what they think their brother or sister is really good at, then share the lists with each other to see how they can Synergize on homework, chores, playing games, sports etc... If your child does not have siblings, you can use friends or yourself.

If there is anything I can do to support your child, please do not hesitate to contact me by email [michelle.beaudet@nbed.nb.ca](mailto:michelle.beaudet@nbed.nb.ca) or phone 847-6304. Sincerely, Ms. Beaudet <3

# Painting Party at F.E.S

## **Cherry Tree Paint Party**

**When:** Wednesday April 13

**Time:** 7:00 pm-9:00 pm

**Where:** FES Library

**Cost:** \$35

Come join me (Jennifer Russell) for a fun evening of painting blossoms. I will guide you step-by-step through the process. No painting experience necessary.

Wear old clothes and I will supply the rest of the painting gear (brushes, paints, 16x20 ready to hang canvas).

Please arrive by 6:45 to get settled.

### **Limited spaces available**

**RSVP and payment due by Monday April 11** (money can be sent in to Fairvale Elementary School with attention to Jennifer Russell or you may purchase seats online ([www.jenniferMrussell.com](http://www.jenniferMrussell.com)) or pay by e-transfer to the email below)

**For questions please contact Jennifer at [russell.jennifer@live.ca](mailto:russell.jennifer@live.ca)**

Visit [www.jenniferMrussell.com](http://www.jenniferMrussell.com) for more information



will

## **A Note from the Music Room**

**Kindergarten:** Is working on practicing high and low, loud and soft, maintaining steady beat, and singing alone. We are also learning some songs to celebrate Spring.

**Grade 1:** Are working on and practicing in-tune singing, and rhythm reading using ta, titi, and rest. Students will also be learning to sing some songs about rain for Spring.

**Grade 2:** Will be working on reinforcing rhythms using ta, titi, ticatic, half note and quarter rest. Students will also be learning about tempo (speed of the beat). Students will learn to sing harmony beginning with a round called Pizza Hut.

**Grade 3:** Will learn a round called "I love the Mountains", where they will sing in 3 and 4 parts. They will also learn a song from Australia called "Waltzing Matilda" and learn about the Didgeridoo. Students will continue to work on rhythm reading through games and song.

**Grade 4 and 5:** We will be starting a 6 week Ukulele Unit. Students will learn about the parts of string instruments, comparing them to each other. How to hold a ukulele, strum, some chords we will focus on are C, F G, A minor. Throughout the unit we incorporate rhythm reading and singing. We will be using standard C tuned ukuleles.

# What's Happening In the Gym?

## Grades K-1

### Outcomes for the month:

- Doing:**
1. Students will be expected to send objects using different pieces of equipment, as well as different body parts (ie: hands, feet, arm, etc).
  2. Students will be expected to receive objects by themselves and with a partner.
- Knowing:**
1. Students will be expected to know the importance of exercise.
  2. Students will be expected to know what a warm up and cool down are for.
- Valuing:**
1. Students will be able to help others and show skills that they have learned.

### Lessons:

We will be continue with our sending and receiving theme. Students have been practicing sending a variety of objects, bean bags, balls, scoops, etc.

We, also, will be introducing the students to some floor hockey skills. We will spend a few lessons learning how to hold a stick, stick handle, passing and receiving.

## Grades 2-3

### Outcome for the month:

- Doing:**
1. Students will be expected to show different ways to send and receive objects.
  2. Students will be expected to demonstrate ways to retain and move an object with control.
- Knowing:**
1. Students will be expected to explain how they can have fun by being physically active.
- Valuing:**
1. Students will be able to explain why it is important to be persistent and not give up when trying to meet a goal.

### Lessons:

We will continue to work on sending and receiving objects in the gym. We will be using various pieces of equipment.

We will be covering a floor hockey theme for a couple weeks. Students will learn and practice passing and receiving skills, stick handling and lead up game activities.

## Grades 4-5

### Outcomes for the month:

- Doing:**
1. Students will be expected to demonstrate ways to send and receive an object with accuracy.
  2. Students will be expected to demonstrate ways to send and receive an object, using a piece of equipment.
- Knowing:**
1. Students will know how to make goals for themselves.
- Valuing:**
1. Students will be expected to willingly participate in a variety of activities.

### Lessons:

We will be finishing up with our volleyball unit at the beginning of the month. Students will be assessed on the ability to control the ball with their bumps and volleys. A lot of our students have been enjoying the intramurals, which allows them extra (optional) time in the gym playing volleyball games.

We will be starting a badminton unit after Easter. Students will learn and practice how to do a forehand, backhand shots, serves, how to keep score and how to play the game.



## PSSC

The FES PSSC hosted an Internet Safety Awareness Night. The PSSC members encourage all of you to take some time to learn more about Internet Safety. There are some excellent resources on the ASD South web site, or you can google helpful sites. It is important to do this to keep our kids safe in the online world, and ensure that those they may encounter online cannot come into “the real world” and harm our children. If you need more information, please feel welcome to talk to the PSSC member or the FES Administration or visit <http://web1.nbed.nb.ca/sites/ASD-S/Pages/Welcome.aspx> > Parent Resources

Here are some simple tips you can do TODAY!



Set a cut off time each night to promote boundaries and proper rest. Monitor your child’s device and set up computers in common areas of the home. Also, set parental controls on every device and for the e-mail accounts.



Kids don’t need to be on social media until a certain age. When they do go on, talk about limitations. Also, be aware of what you are posting about your life, your kids and activities. Would people know when you have left your home for an extended time? Be mindful of your privacy settings and what you are sharing.



Check your children’s games and apps for chat options and talk to your kids about strangers online. If there is a chat option – delete it. Even “safe” chat games could allow strangers.

## **BE A PARENT and SAY NO**

Deleting your child’s Snap Chat, online chatting app or inappropriate game from their device may not make you popular with your child, but keeping them safe is the top priority.