



Fairvale Elementary June Newsletter



June 2014

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

Student Placement/ Class Configurations

Each spring, classroom teachers, in collaboration with our specialty teachers and administration, create classes to ensure the best possible learning environment for every child. The team puts a great deal of time, effort, thought and collaboration into the process. We base this process on three foundational beliefs and understandings:

- ◆ First, all our teachers are competent and provide appropriate learning situations for children.
- ◆ Second, teachers reflectively adjust to accommodate to the needs of the students they serve.
- ◆ Third, we apply a team approach to working with children. Your child works with a number of teachers who support each other and work together to meet the needs of your child.

The following are some of the factors considered during the class building process:

Although each factor is important, each is weighted differently depending upon the individual circumstances under discussion. We consider placements balancing each child's needs with a more global view of class composition and school organization. Teachers review all available information regarding a child and his or her class placement.

◆ Classroom teacher, and school based team recommendations	◆ Need for additional services
◆ The overall make up of the class being created	◆ Pre-existing conflicts between children
◆ Learning styles	◆ Pre-existing supportive relationships between children
◆ Gender balance	◆ Behaviour issues
◆ Intellectual, emotional, social, and physical development	◆ Parent input

Classroom configurations for next year include 27 classrooms

ENGLISH

- 4 Kindergarten
- 5 Grade 1
- 5 Grade 2
- 3 Grade 3
- 2 Grade 4
- 3 Grade 5 Intensive French

FRENCH IMMERSION

- 2 Grade 3
- 1 Grade 4
- 1 Grade 4/5
- 1 Grade 5



Please Mark Your Calendar!



- ⇒ June 4 Pancake Breakfast for Kindergarten
- ⇒ June 4 Wetland Field trip 4-5 Roul
- ⇒ June 5 Crazy Hair Day in support of Juvenile Diabetes - Cost \$2.
- ⇒ June 5 Big Brother/Big Sister party at RNS
- ⇒ June 6 Kindergarten Transition Day—Current K students stay home
- ⇒ June 6 Wetland Field trip 4 Bonner and 4 Costello
- ⇒ June 9 Transition to middle school - Grade 5 students go for 1.5 hour visit
- ⇒ June 5 Home & School Meeting—Potluck 7:30
- ⇒ June 10 Pen pals field trip to K Park School— K Reevey/Veale
- ⇒ June 11 Grade 3 Field trip to qPlex
- ⇒ June 11 Grade 1 Musical—Arf- 6:30
- ⇒ June 12 Happy Day—A day to celebrate Mrs. Perkins Love as she retires after 35 years of teaching
- ⇒ June 12 Lazy River Boat Races 12-12:45
- ⇒ June 12 PSSC Meeting
- ⇒ June 13 Kindergarten Concert 12:30
- ⇒ June 13 Fun Run for students in grades 3-5
- ⇒ June 13 Grade 1 field trip bowling and picnic
- ⇒ June 13 Grade 2 O'Brien and Blanchard Father's Day breakfast 7:30-8:30
- ⇒ June 16 Grade 5 Aquatic Centre/BBQ
- ⇒ June 16 Grade 4 field trip—bowling and DQ
- ⇒ June 16 Grade 2 field trip—bowling
- ⇒ June 17 District Track and Field Day—for selected grade 5 students
- ⇒ June 17 Kid Sing Performance—9AM
- ⇒ June 18 Field Day K-Gr. 2 8:30-9:45 Gr.3-5—10:30-11:45
- ⇒ June 18 1 McNeill Poetry Recital 10:45
- ⇒ June 19 Moving up Ceremony 8:45
- ⇒ June 19 Kindergarten field trip—Museum and Rockwood Park



Free The Children

Thank you to all families who supported "Free The Children". We had many children wearing PJs today and we raised \$816.87. On Friday, June 13th children will be able to purchase a Popsicle for \$1 with all funds going directly to this worthwhile cause.

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.

Summer time is such a great opportunity to read and write in an informal and relaxing way with your child. Research shows that without consistent reading over the summer holidays, reading levels may significantly drop.

Here are a few tips that you might try:

Try different forms of text with your child such as comics, joke books, or magazines. Owl, Chickadee, National Geographic Kids, or Les Explorateurs are some good examples of high interest magazines.

Set a good example by reading a few good books yourself. Try to choose a consistent time during the day for everyone to "Drop Everything And Read."

Find a book to read aloud to the family. As a suggestion, maybe read Charlie and the Chocolate Factory or Mr. Popper's Penguins and then watch the video together. This might also lead into a discussion of the differences between the book and the movie.

Write a book together by writing a sentence or two a day. At the end of the summer, you have a fun way of remembering all of the great things that you did.

Find books or information to tie into experiences that your child will have. If you are going on a boat or whale-watching, find a book on that subject to share. If you are visiting a new area, then get brochures or booklets from the tourist bureau.

Above all enjoy some quiet time with your child and read, read, read!

Mrs. Debbie Gillis EST- Literacy

Math Corner - *(Ends Policy #3—Students at FES will demonstrate continuous improvement in numeracy skills, striving to meet or exceed the standards set by the Province of New Brunswick)*

Problem Solving Strategy of the Month: ACT IT OUT

Some problems are difficult to "see" even if you draw a picture. For these problems, it can be helpful to actually act out the problem. When you role-play with friends or people at home, you may discover the solution as you act out the problem. Or you may recognize another strategy that will help you find the answer. Try acting it out to solve these problems:

K-2 Freddy Frog is at the bottom of the stairs. He can move up three steps each time he hops. The pool is at the top of the stairs. If Freddy Frog hops four times before he is in the pool, how many stairs are there to the pool?	3-5 There are four boys in the Grant family. Alex is older than Terry and younger than Stuart, Ross is not the oldest or the youngest. Alex does not have two older brothers. Write the names of the boys from oldest to youngest.	Challenge! The students were in line at the movie theatre to buy tickets. There was a student in front of two students, a student between two students, and a student behind three students. What is the least number of students that could have been in line?
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Leaving or Joining our School Community?

Please inform the school if your family will be moving this summer and your child/ren will not be returning to our school community in 2013-2014. Also, if you have new neighbours, friends, or relatives who have or will be moving into our serving area, please have them contact the school. Having up to date, accurate information allows us to plan accordingly for next year and results in fewer changes and headaches at the commencement of the school year.



Class Placement

The feedback from parents has been overwhelmingly in favour of finding out class placement in June instead of September. It alleviates a lot of stress and uncertainty for students over the summer. Children will again receive next year's class placements in the June report card. Please keep in mind that minor changes in class composition may be required in September depending on movement of families in and out of our school community over the summer months.

Back To School Open House/ Barbeque

Back By Popular Demand!!!

Wednesday, August 27

Classroom Visits: 5:45-6:30, then BBQ from 6:30-7:15



At this event, parents will have an opportunity to learn about curriculum and expectations for the school year. Information about classroom rules, procedures, homework and communication will be shared. School supplies can be dropped off at this time.

In addition, we will be hosting an **orientation event** for new families to our school community on **Tuesday, August 26th** at 6:30. This will be for families who have moved into our school community and who were not part of the "Transition to Kindergarten" program. Tours will be offered and we will answer any questions new parents may have.



Grade 3-5 Fun Run

Friday, June 13th



Please drop by and support our dedicated running club members. All are welcome to cheer them on. This spring 165 students participated in running club—Well done FES Falcons! Thank you to our parent volunteers. Marathoners will receive medals and grade 5 runners will receive ribbons. We encourage grade 5 participants to purchase a t-shirt for \$8.

We Value Your Feedback

We have created a brief parent online survey. Please take the time to complete the survey to let us know what has gone well at FES this year and what areas need improvement. We value your feedback and suggestions. Please complete the survey by Friday, June 13th. Please go to:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/YYTNLQ2>

Counsellor's Corner - Mrs. Perkins Love's Final Newsletter June 2014

Has it really been 35 years since I accepted a position at Fairvale Elementary School, first as a Grade 4 teacher, then moving to Grade 3 and, finally, a few years after receiving my Master's degree in Guidance and Counselling, assuming the position of guidance counselor 35 years sounds like a long time and it is, but I must say it has been an amazing journey!

I loved being a classroom teacher but I found my true passion when I became the school's guidance counsellor fifteen years ago. The learning curve has been steep throughout my career but thankfully I am an avid life-long learner and I've had tremendous support along the way from staff, students and parents.

It is with gratitude that I look back. I entered a profession dedicated to assisting young people achieve their potential, to revealing or finding their best selves. Every year as a counsellor, I received a multitude of referrals and one of my biggest challenges was how to meet the requests in a timely fashion. I am truly honoured that so many students, parents, and educators opened their hearts to me.

As I leave I am taking many of you with me - you will have a special place in my heart. As a child advocate I've had a lot of support for the tough decisions I've had to make regarding children's welfare and I want to thank those involved.

I've been asked what I am going to do now because, as so many children have expressed to their teachers, I'm not old. (Thank you!) Not known as one to sit on my laurels, I am embarking on an exciting adventure that involves only one small aspect of my present position - parent consulting and child counselling. Instead of trying to juggle a dozen or more different responsibilities, I will have one, okay maybe two, and on my own time schedule! Having recently completed Intensive Levels I and II with the Neufeld Institute, I will be applying to their two year Advanced Studies Program. Gordon Neufeld is a renowned developmental psychologist from Vancouver, B.C. and I am totally enamored with his work so I will be using his developmental paradigm as the foundation for my practice. As well, I plan to travel, read, spend time with friends and continue to learn new things.

I want to pay tribute to all my colleagues throughout the years, for their support, friendship and for being exemplars of what it is to serve faithfully and with humility. I will always remember our shared laughter, our joys as well as our struggles. Thank you for your encouragement, kindness and time, but mostly for your sincerity and trust.

It may seem odd, but I want to thank the educational system, for giving me the space to grow, for allowing me to make my own decisions, and then learn from my own mistakes, and for honing my personality to a point where I have developed a strong faith in my own abilities. Rather than feeling like a cog in a giant machine, the faith entrusted to me has shaped me into the person I am today.

And lastly, I want you to know that I leave you and yours in good hands. My dear friend, Kerry Casey, guidance counsellor at Quispamsis Elementary School will assume my position in the fall. Plans are in the works for a matchmaking visit where Kerry will come to FES and I'll introduce her to all the children. She'll need some time to get acquainted but I'm sure she'll love it here as much as I have.

Thank you to those who have been my traveling companions along a large and important part of my journey. I will always cherish everything this school and the many students, staff and parents have given me. Thank you everyone!

When you speak for children we all build a better tomorrow. www.OECTA.on.ca

Jane Perkins Love BA BEd MEd CCC

Guidance Counsellor

Home and School News

This month your child will be bringing home an order form for our popular busy families calendar - this calendar has become a Fairvale tradition! Pre-orders will be taken in the month of June with the calendar arriving in early September. We still have one month available for advertising, if you know of anyone who may be interested in advertising in our calendar please have them email us fairvalehomeandschool@gmail.com

Our last home and school meeting of the year will be on Monday, June 9th, it will be our annual pot luck meeting and social. If you are planning on attending please email Amanda.fairvalehomeandschool@gmail.com so we can be sure to have enough goodies on hand.

The Home and School would like to thank the many volunteers for another successful school year. Without all of your time, dedication and support we would simply be unable to offer the many programs that we are proud to organize. To those volunteers who are moving on to middle school next year we wish your families much success and you will be missed. Our executive team will be taking some down time with our families this summer but will be back to planning another awesome year in August, please keep your ideas coming - feel free to email us or send us a message on Facebook if you have any suggestions for next year. Have a safe and happy summer - see you in September! Charlotte, Amanda, Liz and Katie

Saturday, June 14th 9am - 2pm Dreamland Playground Spruce-Up

We need many parents to come and help us with our big Spruce-Up that is taking place on Saturday, June 14th.

We need to do a great deal of sanding, cleaning, painting, sealing of the wood and installing new swings. You may have heard from your child that there are lots of splinters on the Dreamland. We have to do our part to fix that.

Kent Building Supplies has graciously offered to sponsor our spruce-up and this is very kind as we need to do quite of bit of sanding, sealing of the wood and painting of all the peaks and special parts of the Dreamland. A big thank you to Kent Building Supplies.

Please come if you can. We could really use the help. If you have any questions, please contact Charlotte Pierce at 977-1346 or email fairvalehomeandschool@gmail.com

Farewell and Goodbye

- ◆ We would like to wish our D contract teachers all the best next year. With staffing not complete, we are unsure who will be with us. Best of luck to Wendy Romeo, Ashley Creamer, Andrew Jones, Michelle Hanson, Diana Millar, Peter Wallace, Jill Hossack, and Bertis Sutton. We hope to have many of you back with us in the fall.
- ◆ Julie McNamee will be on Educational Leave next year studying mental health issues in children. We are pleased to announce that Ashley Dobbin from Quispamsis Elementary will be replacing Julie in her absence.

Gabriel Kuling Memorial Fun Run

Thank you to all families who participated in the 3rd Annual Gabriel Kuling Memorial Run. Despite the chilly temperatures, the event was hugely successful because of the commitment of our school community. With sponsorships, registrations, donations and profit from the post run BBQ, the Gabriel Kuling Memorial Run raised \$3682.

Thank you to our Sponsors Atlantic Superstore, Promen's, Tim Horton's, Fundy Speech Pathology Clinic, CFM, qPlex, Grant Thornton, Eastern Credit Management Services, Oakville Lane Dental, Vision Coaching, Saputo, Clean Air and Water, Ken Val Rehab, Saint John Ale House, P.C. Butler, Evolving Solutions, DQ, 97.3 The Wave, and Kennebecasis Drugs. Thank you to Sarah Dorcas for leading the warm-up.

HAPPY SUMMER to everyone! We trust you have a wonderful, relaxing summer—filled with whatever your family needs to refresh, restore, and relax during the beautiful summer days! We look forward to seeing everyone back in September! We wish the best of luck to our grade five students venturing off to Middle School.