

# September/October 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.*

#### How to Foster a Love of Writing at Home

Children are creative and imaginative and given the right tools, all students can begin to enjoy writing. At FES, we focus on a variety of different types of writing. Students have the opportunity to write:

**Personal Narratives-** writing about an event that has happened in their life

**Fictional Narratives-** writing an imaginary story

**Procedures (How To)-** writing instructions or directions (students usually complete these after creating a hands-on project in class)

**Reports-** writing information about a favourite animal, famous person etc.

**Persuasive-** writing with the intent to convince someone

#### Poetry

The teachers at FES use many different tools and activities to help foster a love of writing and allow students to feel confident when taking risks with their writing. Below are several ways you can also encourage writing at home:

**Have the Right Material-** students feel more inspired to write when they have access to a variety of material. Stock up on blank cards, envelopes, fancy writing paper (free printables are found on the internet), journals as well as fun pencils and pens.

**Encourage Oral Language-** Before students can write a story, it is often beneficial to tell it. Playing games such as *who can come up with the wildest story* or *story circle* (where one person begins the story and the next person continues it) will create motivation when students are asked to put their ideas on paper.

**Talk about Ideas-** Much of the writing students will do in school will be based around personal experiences. Find time (perhaps over the weekend) to discuss some things your child has done or has an interest in that they might like to share with others.

**Create Authentic Purposes for Writing-** It is important that children see the value in writing and that they connect it to their own lives. Having your child help you write a shopping list or a thank you card when they receive a gift is a great way to do that.

**Provide them with the Tools for Success-** One great thing about a classroom is the environmental print that the students can see every day. Word walls and labels for example, help children feel confident as they try to spell unknown words. Although we can't replicate a classroom at home, asking your child's teacher for the words they have difficulty spelling is one way to help. If your child has access to these words, they won't be so concerned about the spelling and will have more opportunity to let their ideas flow.

**Celebrate, Celebrate, Celebrate!** Every child should see themselves as an author. Allow them to read their writing out loud to you and celebrate their success (even the small ones).

October 2nd 2015

11 School Avenue

Rothesay, NB

E2E 1Z9

Telephone: 847-6206

Fax: 8476267

Bonnie Hierlihy Principal

Ashley Dobbin Vice-Principal

Tara Cowan Admin. Assistant

Twitter: @FairvaleFalcons



# Guidance News

Dear F.E.S. families,

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our open house earlier this month, and I would like to extend a warm welcome to families who are new to our school. If your child has transferred into F.E.S., they can look forward to the **Newcomers' Party** which is coming up on October 6th. This celebration is an opportunity to welcome new Grade 1-5 students and help them settle into their new school environment.

Speaking of new beginnings, I'm thrilled to share that I will be welcoming a baby boy into my family in October. While I'm on maternity leave, F.E.S. is very lucky to have Ms. Michelle Beudet as our guidance counsellor. Ms. Beudet looks forward to supporting our students and families and providing a wide range of guidance services and programs including the Rainbows program and our 7 Habits of Happy Kids initiatives. Java and I know you'll be in great hands!



In the meantime, I look forward to kicking off October with Habit 1, Be Proactive: I'm in Charge of Me. This habit will be the focus of our first habit assembly on October 7<sup>th</sup>. At this assembly, we will be encouraging students to develop and practice thinking **green thoughts**; thoughts that help us feel better and move forward during challenging times. Next time you are at F.E.S., I invite you to check out Java's bulletin board located across from the music room.



I will miss my F.E.S. family when I begin my maternity leave beginning October 10<sup>th</sup>. Until then, please don't hesitate to contact me at 847-6304 if you have any questions about guidance programs and services.

I wish you and your children a wonderful school year. I look forward to working together again in September 2016!

Take care,  
Ms. Casey

## 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)

### “A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words”

Turning the words of a problem into a picture or a diagram can help you "see" the problem. By using the part of your brain that visualizes a situation or object, you may see relationships or information that helps you solve the problem. When someone tells you a story, try turning the words into a motion picture or a cartoon. When reading a description, try "seeing it in your mind's eye." If you can do these things, this strategy may be for you! Try using a picture or make a diagram to solve this problem:

G3-5: In the restaurant there are 12 square tables. Only one person can sit on each side. What is the greatest number of people that can be seated if the tables are pushed end to end into one large rectangle?

GK-2: If a square has four sides, how many sides will four squares have? Six squares? Eight squares?

Tim McRae  
Numeracy Lead Teacher  
Hampton Education Center  
Anglophone District –South

## A Note from the Music Room

September was spent reviewing beat, rhythms from previous year, and singing name games. Grades 3-5 have worked on the song 'Everything is Awesome' from the Lego Movie, and have learned about the origin of Sock Hops using the song 'Rock Around the Clock'. All classes are also working on the FES version of Katy Perry's 'Roar' called 'Soar'.

Choir is just starting up for upper elementary and grade 2. We have one practice under our belt as we get ready for the Christmas choir concert being held December 10th at 6:30. There will be auditions held by Dr. Langford for grade 4 and 5 students who would like to be a part of Honor Choir, on October 7th during the school day.

### October:

Kindergarten will be focusing on keeping beat, and finding their singing voice which we call sky voice—a high voice, as well as experiencing musical movement games, and listening to composers. This month will be Edvard Greig.

Grade 1 will be continuing to differentiate between beat and rhythm using various songs. They will also be introduced to ta and titi.

Grade 2 are reinforcing the differences between beat and rhythm, and learning to read the notes so and mi

Grade 3 are working on expressive singing and rhythms using ta, titi, rest and ticatic

Grade 4 are learning about syncopated rhythms (when the strong beat falls on the normally weaker beat), as well as singing expressively

Grade 5 are working on expressive singing and singing game with complicated partner hand patterns.

# What's Happening In the Gym?

On October 28th we have our annual "Take Me Outside Day." This is the 5th year of this initiative and it has grown to involve over 200,000 students and teachers across Canada participating. Fairvale will once again be participating. This Fall the FES Physical Education Teachers will be hosting a **"Take Me Outside Week"** for our physical education classes. For 1 week (October 26th -30th) all students will attend their regularly scheduled physical education class outside and we will be learning about different school yard games and activities so that students can appreciate all that our environment and natural surroundings have to offer us. We live in such a beautiful corner of the world and there are so many ways to be active outside! It will be important for all students to come dressed prepared for the outdoor activities; however, in the event of rain we will have classes inside.

## **Curriculum:**

### **K-1 OUTCOMES for the month:**

#### **Students are expected to:**

##### **DOING:**

- 1- Demonstrate personal space while standing still and moving.
- 2- Identify and move different body parts.
- 3- Move in the gym in a safe and controlled manner and stop in control with good balance.
- 4- Move through space while changing directions and being in control.
- 5-Toss and roll objects while standing still and moving.

##### **KNOWING:**

- 1- Keep my eye on an object in order to be able to catch it.
- 2- Look at my target when passing an object and make sure my partner is ready to receive.
- 3- Explain the importance of following rules in P.E. class.

##### **VALUING:**

- 1- Listen to directions and explanations.
- 2- Show safe behavior when moving and using equipment.
- 3- Share space and equipment.
- 4- Take turns being a squad leader and help my team get points.

#### **K-1 Lessons:**

Students will be focusing on themes such listening, following directions and practicing safe routines for participation in the gym. Students will also be introduced to variety of activities such as awareness of personal and general space. They will also focus on a variety of basic locomotor and manipulative skills which will allow for successful participation in a variety of games and activities.

### **2-3 OUTCOMES**

#### **Students are expected to:**

##### **DOING**

- 1- Solve movement tasks by following teacher given directions
- 2- Keep control of an object while standing still and moving in space.
- 3- Use movement skills to play low organized games.

##### **KNOWING**

- 1- Identify safety rules and procedures for various activities.
- 2- Be aware that working with a partner or group may affect my performance.

##### **VALUING**

- 1- Accept responsibility for assigned roles.
- 2- Work willingly with others of different abilities and interests.
- 3- Explain the importance of listening to directions and staying on task.

#### **2-3 Lessons:**

Students will be focusing on themes such as student listening, following directions and practicing safe routines for participation in the gym. Students will also focus on learning and practicing locomotor and manipulative skills when playing low organized games.

# What's Happening In the Gym?

## 4-5 Outcomes

Students are expected to:

### DOING

- 1- Demonstrate ways to send and receive an object with increasing accuracy, individually and with others.
- 2- Demonstrate basic motor skills and use these in games and sport activities.
- 3- Use basic offensive and defensive positions and strategies.
- 4- Be involved in fitness activities.

### KNOWING

- 1 - Show a knowledge and understanding of safety rules and procedures for activities.
- 2- Be aware of the 5 basic components of physical fitness such as aerobic endurance, muscular endurance, muscular strength, flexibility and body composition.

### VALUING

- 1- Be aware of the importance of rules, routines and safety in different PE activities.
- 2- Assume the responsibility of a squad leader and cooperate in a group setting.
- 3- Show proper behavior and fair play by participating in PE activities with others that have different interests and abilities.

### 4-5 Lessons:

Students will be reviewing the importance of student listening, following directions and practicing safe routines in the gym. Student will also focus on learning the basic rules for successful participation in mini soccer and strategies on how to play various invasion games. They will also be introduced to a variety of games and activities that will focus on physical fitness, cooperation and fair play.



## Home and School News

The Home and School is a collective of parents and school staff that come together to volunteer and raise funds so that we can continue to provide a great school experience for our children. We are always looking for volunteers to help in different areas with a huge variety of time commitment levels. We meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month with our next meeting being **October 15 from 7-9pm** in the conference room.

This year, we have a new executive starting fresh with us:

**President:** Tricia Wilson - mom to Reilly in 4 Bonner, and Sophie and Bailey who attend HMMS, Tricia is a preschool teacher at Kings Valley Early Education Centre. Currently, she is an ELF mentor and also sits on the PSSC.

**Vice President:** Karen Singleton - Mom to Quinn in 3 Martell and Parker in K Olive, Karen is an IT systems analyst. Besides the Home and School, this year Karen is also helping with the Safe Arrival program.

**Treasurer:** Heather Davidson - Mom to Jake in 4 Macgillivray, Heather is also a Licensed Administrative Assistant at Sun Life Financial. Heather also helps out with Safe Arrival and in the library with Jake's class.

**Secretary:** Joyce Hawkins - Mom to Riley in 3 Creamer and Coben in 1 Russell. Joyce is a business analyst in IT at SNB.

As of right now, we are focusing our efforts on continuing to provide good Healthy Lunch options for all families, and the upcoming **Stop and Shop on December 4-5**.

For more information on how you can be a part of the Home and School, please contact us at **[fairvalehomeandschool@gmail.com](mailto:fairvalehomeandschool@gmail.com)**

# SPEAKING OF SPEECH AND LANGUAGE...

(from the ASD-S Speech-Language Pathology Department)



## PRAGMATICS: Social Language Use

Pragmatics is defined as the social use of language. Pragmatics involve three major communication skills:

### 1. Using language for different purposes, such as:

- greeting
- informing
- demanding
- promising
- requesting

### 2. Changing language according to the needs of a listener or situation, such as:

- talking differently to a baby than to an adult
- giving background information to an unfamiliar listener
- speaking differently in a classroom than on a playground

### 3. Following rules for conversations and storytelling, such as:

- taking turns in conversation
- staying on topic
- how to use verbal and nonverbal signals when speaking
- introducing topics of conversation
- rephrasing when misunderstood
- how close to stand to someone

A student may be able to communicate clearly and correctly in complex sentences but still have a problem with social language skills. Students sometimes have difficulty learning the rules for social language known as pragmatics. A student may have an occasional problem with social pragmatics in specific situations. If your child is having significant challenges with social language issues, the teacher may consult with the school-based speech-language pathologist to discuss suggestions and strategies to help build your child's pragmatic language abilities and help them have more positive social interactions. (From American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, 2011)