



Fairvale Elementary September/October Newsletter



September 20, 2012

Welcome to Another School Year!

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Bonnie Hierlihy Principal

Julie McNamee Vice Principal

Welcome F.E.S. families to the opening of what promises to be a wonderful school year! The entire staff is looking forward to working with you, as partners, in your child's education. The staff of F.E.S. is dedicated to providing a safe, nurturing environment in which our students can grow academically, emotionally, and socially. Good communication between home and school is key to the well being of our children. Parents should always contact the classroom teacher first with concerns. If you still have concerns or need to speak to administration please drop by the office. If we are unavailable, we will schedule an appointment at the earliest convenient time. Together, we can solve anything.

As always, the teachers of F.E.S. value the support of parent volunteers. Research shows that children do better in school, academically and socially, when parents are involved in the educational process. We appreciate all the help parents give us as we strive to meet the diverse needs of all our students.

A special thank you to all families who attended our Meet The Teacher event on August 29. It is going to be another great year of learning and fun at F.E.S.

A few things to make our year go more smoothly - first, **call the Safe Arrival** number at 847-2087 if your son or daughter is going to be absent from school. This line is available 24 hours a day so if you are up in the night with a sick child and do not want to awaken in the morning, take a minute to call. It is an automated system so please follow the prompts. The purpose of this program is to ensure the safety of all children. If a child is not accounted for at school, we want to make sure they are at home safely with you.

Please ensure your child has **proper indoor footwear** which is appropriate for Phys. Ed. Please avoid sparkly fashion shoes and shoes that slip off easily. Proper ankle support is very important.

Second, please follow our drop off procedures if your child is not coming to school via bus. The lane in front of the school is a **bus only**. All parents dropping off their children will have three options:

- Park at the far end of Dream Land and have your child(ren) use the sidewalk and enter through the playground gate.
- Use the revised drop off lane and have your children enter through the newest gate at the end of the school opposite the grade five door.
- Use the drop off circle in front of the school closest to the main entrance. Children will then proceed to the playground using the sidewalk parallel to the school. ***This circle is for drop off only. No parking permitted in this circle.***

I Care Rules

- We listen to each other
- Hands are for helping, not hurting
- We use I-Care Language
- We care about each other's feelings
- We are responsible for what we say and do

The first eight parking spots in front of Dream Land will be designated 'No Parking' from 7:30 - 8:30 to eliminate vehicles backing into the flow of traffic. Doing a U Turn in this area will now be permitted to access the drop off zone.

Children need to know their after school routine so please try to avoid calling during the day with changes to the regular plan. At times, emergencies do happen and we certainly understand but remember to call the office and press 1 at the prompt to leave a message with any changes. Messages are checked every hour on the hour. The "Request for Student Conveyance to an Alternate Location" form (for changes in busing) is required at least 24 hours in advance.

Fall Running Club

Our grade 3, 4, 5 fall running club has started on Mondays- for grade 3, Wednesdays for grade 4, and Fridays for grade 5. Interested students run between 1 and 4 kms every week. Thank you to those parents who are able to help out

Welcome...to our

new staff members Madame Francine Roul-Grade 3 FI, Mr. Bertis Sutton—Music, and the following Educational Assistants Ms. Mai-Lis Richards, Allana Horsman, Megan Sheppard. Welcome also to Amy McCombe, kindergarten support work and Laura Manual, Jenna Urdang, and Trish McNeill student teachers from UNBSJ.

Are you a fish aficionado?

We need help with our fish tank in the lobby. If you are able to help with maintaining this, please contact the school.



Morning Safety

As a reminder, duty begins on the playground at 7:40 AM. For the safety of your children, please ensure it is 7:40 before dropping them off.



Nutrition Matters!

We promote healthy eating habits at F.E.S. Please send healthy snacks for your child to enjoy at school.



Beverages at school

Best Choices

Water
Milk
100% juice

Not so good

Flavoured/ Sugared water
Fruit punches/ drinks

Try to avoid ... (at school)

Kool aid Jammers
Sports drinks
pop

Snacks at School

Best Choices

Real fruit & veggies
Cheese/ yogurt
Crackers—whole grain
Low fat/ high fibre/ low sugar granola bars

Not so good

Fake fruit gummies
High fat/ sugar muffins
Chips

Try to avoid...(at school)

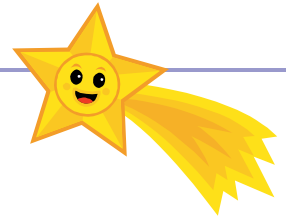
Candy

School Fees 2012-2013

Please pay your student fees by the end of September. The payment schedule is below.

Kindergarten	\$18	School performances and ice rental
Grade one	\$18	School performances and ice rental 1 McNeill & 1 Kilpatrick will use agendas - add \$7
Grade 2	\$18	School performances and ice rental
Grade 3 English	\$25	School performances, ice rental and agenda
Grade 3 French Immersion	\$38	School performances, ice rental, agenda and French Cultural fee
Grade 4 English	\$25	School performances, ice rental and agenda
Grade 4 French Immersion	\$38	School performances, ice rental, agenda and French Cultural fee
Grade 5 English	\$38	School performances, ice rental agenda, and French Cultural fee
Grade 5 French Immersion	\$38	School performances, ice rental, agenda, and French Cultural fee

Guidance Corner - Building Skills at Home: Getting & Staying on Track with the 7 Habits



As we launch into the new school year, would it be safe to say that we are on track - schedules are set and things are falling into place like clockwork? Perhaps this may be true for some families but I'm sure this is not the case for many.

It might be closer to the truth to say that, for the majority, the necessary adjustments to school are being made; yet it is hard when there are so many demands on our time, our resources, and our energy. Life is busy and it is easy to get discouraged and lose hope that we can ever have the kind of family life we really want.

It is reassuring then to read the late Stephen Covey's book, *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Families*, which begins by stating that "good families - even great families - are off track 90 percent of the time!" However, successful families do have certain characteristics in common and these characteristics are contained in the 7 Habits.

If you feel your family is "on course", more than likely you are talking together, reading stories together, and involved in family activities such as dinners, walks, and have no "crisis" at hand or on the horizon.

But if you are looking for ways to get back "on track", here are some suggestions: having one-on-one time, asking for and getting feedback, listening, forgiving, apologizing, taking responsibility, examining your thinking, connecting with what's important, respecting one another, and considering consequences.

When family relationships are good, life is good. The key is to remember that the journey is really part of the destination, and how you travel is as important as where you arrive. If you need help getting "on track" or have any questions or concerns, please call me at 847-6304.

Jane Perkins Love

Guidance Counselor

Dates To Remember

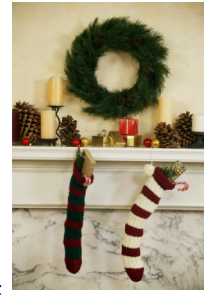
September 25	Lunch Orders go home
September 27	Toonies for Terry—Terry Fox walk
September 27	French Cultural Presentation at KV
September 27	Lunch Orders due
October 3	Home and School Meeting in the library 7:30
October 8	Thanksgiving (no school)
October 9	Professional Learning Day (no school)
October 9-12	Kindergarten Registration for 2013
October 10	School Based Fundraiser sent home (due back to school Oct. 22)
October 11	Skating starts (for 2B, 2 O, 1 K, 1 M, 4 McP, 4 MacG)
October 15	Hip Hop begins 2:35
October 16	School Photo Retakes
October 18	Kick off to Kindergarten 6:30PM
October 18	Skating (for 2B, 2 O, 1 K, 1 M, 4 McP, 4 MacG)
October 25	Santa Claus Parade Planning Meeting 7:30
October 30	Lunch Orders go home



Cross Country Runs—Hampton—Sept 26, Oct. 3, 17. JDI Invitational - Reversing Falls Park— October 10

Upcoming Fundraiser- Great For Christmas!

We are very excited to tell you about the fundraiser the school will be doing. We will be sending home two catalogues on October 10 that are full of wonderful Christmas gift ideas. One catalogue has jewelry, and the other one has gift wrap, kitchen items and calendars and stationery. It is through the same Canadian company we used last year - Dieleman DFS Fundraising. The items were very well received last year. Thank you in advance for your support. Fundraising forms and payments are due October 22 (or sooner if possible).



Curriculum Corner

Literacy

Sweet September and we are all settling into our new routines at home and at school. Making lunches, homework and even finding stray socks are tasks added to our already busy days. Finding time to read together for fun and practice can be a challenge. Knowing how important reading is to success at school and beyond we sometimes need to find creative ways to share our love of reading with our children. If, as at my house, bedtime routines tend to drag on and by the time everyone is settled, there is little quality time for sharing a book, maybe time can be scheduled earlier. Perhaps reading fifteen minutes after supper with Mom as she drinks her tea or snuggled in a favourite armchair a few minutes before going upstairs to begin the bedtime routine. For those parents on shift work for whom evening reading isn't always possible, an early morning story in the family bed might be fun. Include the whole family in finding creative ways to fit reading into your day. With a comfortable spot prepared and many good books within arm's reach it can become a much anticipated time of the day. Have fun developing your own read together routine!

Numeracy

How will your child learn math?

Children learn math best through activities that encourage them to:

- explore
- think about what they are exploring
- solve problems using information they have gathered themselves
- explain how they reached their solutions



Children learn easily when they can connect math concepts and procedures to their own experience. By using common household objects (such as measuring cups and spoons in the kitchen) and observing everyday events (such as weather patterns over the course of a week), they can "see" the ideas that are being taught.

An important part of learning math is learning how to solve problems. Children are encouraged to use trial and error to develop their ability to reason and to learn how to go about problem solving. They learn that there may be more than one way to solve a problem and more than one answer. They also learn to express themselves clearly as they explain their solutions.

Home and School Updates

Important Dates

- October 3rd at 7:30pm - First Home and School meeting of the year - school library
- October 1st - Food Period #2 starts - 5 weeks long
- Thursday October 25th 7:30pm - Float committee meeting at the school
- October 30th - FP#3 envelopes go home
- November 1st - FP#3 Envelopes due back

- Mabel's Labels Fundraising page for Fairvale-www.fairvale.mabelslabels.com



- The Home and School sent home a large white volunteer form last week. If you haven't already sent it back, could you please do so soon? You can also visit our website at www.fairvalehands.ca for an electronic copy. Any questions can be directed to our Gmail account at fairvalehomeandschool@gmail.com
- If you have any Campbell's Soup Labels at home, please be sure to send them in. We collect them and redeem them for great school related products. We are also collecting Canadian Tire money to use towards the purchase of supplies for our AWARD WINNING Christmas Float! We would appreciate anything that you can give.
- We are looking for more volunteers for our Lunch time Zumba and Yoga program that we offer on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. You can choose whether or not to participate; we just need some adult supervision. Please contact Lisa Connell-Chiasson at 847-4534 if you can help.
- The Home and School will be selling school clothing this year. The order forms will go home in early November and orders will be back in time for Christmas. Keep your eyes open for that.
- Thank you to our wonderful Dreamland Playground parents who helped to weed the gardens and clean-up the playground. It looks great!
- A big welcome to our new FES families this year from the Home and School, we are happy that you are here with us. Please feel welcome to attend our first meeting on October 3rd at 7:30pm. We want everyone to feel like they can be a part of the parent community at FES. No pressure...just a way to meet new friends and do good work. Of course, this welcome it extended to our existing FES families as well.
- And finally a HUGE Thank You to [Katie Trask](#) for creating our new FES Busy Families Calendars. We would also like to say a big thank you to [Sue LeBlanc](#) for doing such a great job securing so many company sponsors for the months of the calendars. Be sure to support these wonderful, locally owned businesses and be sure to tell them you saw their ad in the FES calendar. We want our local businesses to be a part of our calendar for years to come! What a great way to share important information with all of you. If you haven't ordered a calendar, you still can. They cost \$10 and they can be purchased in the school office or by contacting us at fairvalehomeandschool@gmail.com

