

# BARKERS POINT SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER NO. 8

APRIL 2019

The sun was warm but the wind was chill.  
You know how it is with an April day.  
~Robert Frost



As March turns to April and Winter turns to Spring the students and staff of Barkers Point School are dreaming of sunny days and warmer temperatures. It has been a long, cold Winter!

## Music Festival



Barkers Point School will have two choirs attending the upcoming Fredericton Music Festival on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. The start time is 9:00 am.

Parents/guardians are invited to attend this special event. **Please note there will be a \$2/adult admission charge.**

## Second Reporting Period

Report cards for students will be sent home on Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019. Parent Teacher Interviews are scheduled for Thursday evening, April 4<sup>th</sup> from 4 pm – 7 pm and again on Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am – noon. Classes are cancelled for students on Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup>. During the afternoon of April 5<sup>th</sup> staff will be involved in professional learning activities. Please take some time to review your child's report card with them and help them in making goals for the last few months of the school year. The



staff is dedicated to supporting your child in fulfilling their goals!

## School Closures



Schools will be closed on Good Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup> and Easter Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Schools will reopen on Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## Guidance Corner

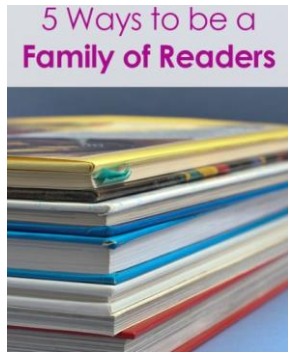
Thank you to all of the parents who attended my information session on Children and Screen Time last week. I really believe that setting guidelines and boundaries around this area will support your family in obtainin a healthy balance with techology and other activities. If you are interested in receiving a copy of the presentation or have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Barkers Point School celebrated Kindness Week just before March Break. Classes watched and discussed kindness videos, read stories about kind acts and partook in kindness bingo activities. I've had lots of grade 4 and 5 students in for lunch to play my mystery food game to celebrate their kind acts over the week.

I plan to send a survey to families in the next few weeks. The purpose of the survey will be to see what additional services families would like

from their guidance counsellor. I will also be asking for your feedback on ideal days and times to give evening presentations for parents. Let me know if you have any questions or concerns. **(Mr. Campbell, Guidance Counsellor)**

### Literacy Corner



Not all children are born loving to read. Some kids adore it while others merely tolerate it. Some truly hate it. However, reading is vital!

So what do we do about children who

loathe reading? How do we encourage a love of reading and create a family reading culture?

#### 1. Reading Party Days

Order pizza, pop popcorn, and pour fizzy drinks to your hearts' content. The goal is to relax, enjoy good literature, and teach your kids to love reading.

#### 2. Hold a Family Book Exchange

Once a month, put your children's names in a hat and let each child draw one out. Each child will be a secret Santa and give a sibling a book.

To be fair, you'll likely do the purchasing, but your kids will love choosing and receiving a book. Be sure to have your children write a note inside the front cover before giving the gift. This way the books will be treasured for many years to come. It's not about what level the book is but more about what your child is interested in reading!

#### 3. Cozy Reading Spots

Do you have cozy reading spots in your home, on the porch, or in the yard for your kids to kick back with a good novel? It can be as simple as a comfortable chair with good lighting and a table next to it or a hammock in the backyard under a shade tree.

#### 4. Family Book Club

Start a family book club. Let your children take turns choosing the books, and don't insist on high literature. Read as a family, maybe taking turns reading out loud and then engage in a simple discussion. Keep it relaxed and focused on conversations! Just as you would discuss a movie you watched together.

#### 5. Visit the Bookstore

Don't take your children to the toy store; instead take them to the bookstore. Make it a special trip by offering to purchase a book of their choosing. Thrift stores are often book treasures!

### Mathematics Corner



\*Encourage children to play math puzzles and games. Puzzles and games, anything with dice, will help kids enjoy math and develop number sense.

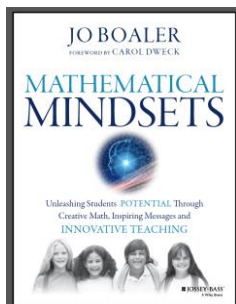
**\*Always be encouraging and never tell kids they are wrong when they are working on math problems. Instead, find the logic in their thinking.**

\*Never associate math with speed. It is not important to work quickly. Studies show that forcing kids to work quickly on math is the best way to start math anxiety for children, especially for girls.

\*Never share with your children the idea that you were bad at math in school or you dislike it - especially if you are a mother. *Researchers found that as soon as mothers shared that idea with their daughters, their daughters' achievement went down.*

\*Encourage number sense. What separates high and low achievers is having an idea of the size of numbers and being able to separate and combine numbers flexibly.

\*Most important of all: Encourage a "growth mindset" to let students know that they have unlimited math potential and that being good at math is all about working hard. When they tell you something is hard for them or they have made a mistake, tell them, "That's wonderful-your brain is growing!"



#### Upcoming Meetings

The next PSSC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. The Barkers Point Home & School Association will hold their meeting immediately after at 7 pm.



#### Important Dates to Remember

**Thursday, April 1<sup>st</sup>** – Report Cards go home today

**Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup>** – Parent Teacher Interviews 4 pm – 7 pm

**Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup>** - Parent Teacher Interviews 9 am – noon

**Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup>** – No classes for students

**Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>** – PSSC Meeting at 6:00 pm

**Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>** – Home & School Association Meeting at 7:00 pm

**Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>** – Good Friday: Schools Closed

**Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Easter Monday – Schools Closed