



A.E. PERRY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Newsletter #2

October 2014

Principal's Corner

It's hard to believe that it is already October! We've only just begun, and full fall is here! The beautiful weather we have had in the past month has made outdoor play a continued pleasure. However, cool weather is upon us, so we remind students to dress appropriately for the weather.

As you can imagine, it has been a very busy September start-up, but we are now hitting our stride. We have had a big jump in enrollment this year. We have three Kindergarten classes and many classes are at maximum. I know our students will make newcomers feel welcome. Thank you for your continued patience as we get organizational details ironed out.

Our **StrongStart** program is off and running and is being well utilized. I continue to hear many positive comments from participants. Call the school for more information if you have pre-school age children! Our **L.I.O.N. Program** for 4 yr old English Language learners and children of Aboriginal background who will begin Kindergarten at AEP in 2015, will start up on Oct. 14. Please call for more information.

We will hold Parent-Teacher Interviews on October 22 and 23. Information will be sent home soon. If you are unable to make it then, please remember that you can call

and set up an appointment to speak to your child's teacher any time.

A reminder that **Thanksgiving** is just around the corner and schools will be closed on **Monday, Oct. 13**. We wish you all a happy, safe Thanksgiving.

Mrs. P. Armstrong



Important Information

A package of forms will be sent home with students next week. This includes **Verification forms** and **internet and Photo /Media Permission** slips. Please check it over carefully, make changes in contact information, sign permission slips and return to classroom teachers promptly. I can not stress enough the importance of having up to date contact information for each student.



On Wednesday October 8th, A.E. Perry will be participating in IWalk to School Day. International Walk to School Day (IWALK) is a global annual, premier event that encourages daily physical activity, improving safety, and reducing traffic congestion, pollution and speed near schools. So parents, **please put Wednesday, October 8th on your calendar and walk or ride with your children on that day!** If you live too far away to walk, you can drive part of the way, and then walk the remainder and that too will count!

At 8am on this day, Mrs. Armstrong will be meeting students at the corner of 12th and Sherbrooke, and Mr. Law will be meeting students at the corner of Singh and Lethbridge for the walk to school. Parents are encouraged to drop off their students at those locations to walk at least partway to school. Please join us in trying to have all our students walking on the 8th!

Salmon Run

A number of classes will be going out to Adams Lake to learn about the salmon first hand. More information will come through individual classes.

Parking

*Please note: Parking in the school lot is for SD73 **employees** only. This is **not** a drop off or pick up area. Please be respectful of these safety rules. Our neighbours on Sherbrooke, have, at times, been unable to get in and out of their driveways due to parent traffic/parking. Drop off/Pick up and Street parking is available on Lethbridge.*

Boys and Girls Volleyball

Boys and girls volleyball teams are starting up soon. Students in grades five and six are able to take part. It is a great opportunity for your children to take part in an extra-curricular activity at no cost and to have fun playing against students of similar abilities from other schools. Encourage your children to join the team.

BC School Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program

Our school is again participating in the fruit and vegetable program through Agriculture BC. As part of nutrition education, students get the opportunity to taste and try new fruits or vegetables every second week.

Young People's Concerts

A.E.Perry students will be attending the Young People's Concerts once again. Our first show will be at the end of October. Please ensure that any outstanding fees for YPC are paid as soon as possible.

Terry Fox Run

We had perfect weather for our school run on September 26. Although we didn't reach our

school goal for donations, we collected \$178 for the *Toonies for Terry* campaign! Thank-you to all who contributed! Congratulations to Luke McInnes and Jovan Lalli who each won a Terry Fox T-shirt in the draw!

Photo Day

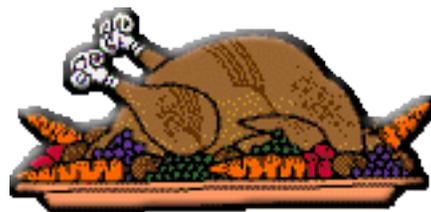
Please note the change in date regarding Photo Day. The photographer from Lifetouch Photos will be here on **Wednesday, October 29th** for individual photos. Please remember to send back the flyer form with your choices checked off.

Head Lice

This pesky problem plagues us every fall. Please be diligent and include head checks of your children as part of your weekly routine. If you find evidence of lice, treat your child's hair and remove all nits before they return to school. Please call the school for more information.

Found4Kids

Located in the Sahali Mall, Found4Kids is an organization that enables families to outfit their children in used clothing free of cost. For more information please contact Diane at 250-554-3654.



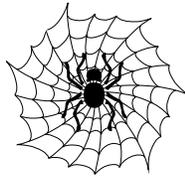
Parent Advisory Committee

Because of the delayed start of the school year, our first PAC meeting is in October, instead of September. This will be the Annual General Meeting where the executive is elected. Please join us on Oct. 22 at 6:30 in the school library.

Reminder that the PAC meets one Wednesday of each month. It has been challenging getting many people out for meetings. We hope we can raise those numbers this year. For more information please contact Angela Lemon, PAC chair.

Up Coming Events:

- Oct. 3 – Come Read With Me
- Oct. 8 - iWalk to School Day
- Oct. 13– Thanksgiving Day
- Oct. 21– Salmon Run
- Oct. 22 and 23 – Early Closures
Parent-teacher Interviews
- Oct. 22 – PAC mtg 6:30
- Oct. 24 - Provincial Pro-D Day-
schools closed for students
- Oct. 29 – Photo Day



TOP TEN PARENT STRATEGIES FOR HOMEWORK

By Jordan Sim, School Psychologist

10. **Mix friends and homework**
Many think of homework as a solitary activity, but it doesn't have to be. It may be motivating for the student to have a friend over to work on their homework then, after a period of time, they could play together.
9. **Be watchful of additional sources for homework support**
Younger students may be able to participate in supervised study periods at after-school daycare programs. Many secondary schools have after-school help provided by teachers. Sometimes a neighbor or another family member (sister, brother, cousin, or grandparent) can help.
8. **Use agenda book to the fullest extent possible**
In addition to a daily calendar, an agenda book has many other useful sources of information (e.g., multiplication tables and science facts).

7. **Have a special place for materials**
A central location in the home where materials like paper, pencils, rulers and so forth are kept helps keep homework on track.
 6. **Find the right place for homework**
A location in the home where parents can provide "low level" supervision of homework works best. A location like the kitchen table is ideal, the child's bedroom is usually less than ideal.
 5. **Help students see time in visual blocks**
Dividing the student's time (from after school to bedtime) into 30-minute visual blocks can be motivating for her or him to look at and follow. When scheduling homework into a specific block of time, try to follow it up with an activity the student likes to do.
 4. **Distribute the practice**
For instance, for a fifteen-minute total study block, research shows that we remember more when we break it into 3 X 5 minute blocks spread over the day, rather than 1 X 15 minute block.
 3. **Monitor (turn off?) distractions / model work completion**
Some students can be easily distracted by TV and computers being on during homework. It is helpful for parents to model work completion during homework time through activities like paying bills, writing out a shopping list, etc.
 2. **Monitor homework freedoms**
For instance, having the freedom to decide when to complete homework can be quite motivating for a student. However, if procrastination becomes an issue, parents may have to provide set time parameters.
 1. **For exceeding difficulty, approach teacher**
If your child is having exceeding difficulty completing homework in a reasonable amount of time and/or doesn't seem to understand the concepts, please relay this information to your child's teacher. As always, look for solutions to the problem, rather than finding blame.
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Literacy

6 Ways to Make Reading to Your Child a Habit

Words can open up a world of knowledge and adventure for your children, and reading to them is so important in their development. Here are 6 ways to make reading to your child a habit.

1. Set up a book shelf in your child's room and place all of his or her books there - you can get free books from the Bright Red Bookshelf (BRB) in the kindergarten end of the school.
2. Read your child's favorite book **over and over**.
3. Go to the library and let your child pick out books. Also, you can go to the public library's website (<http://www.tnrplib.ca/> and go to the Kids and Teens page. Click the Tumblebooks link to access hundreds of treasured story books and read-alongs).
4. Read **together** with your child - snuggle up and make it a cozy time.
5. Read to your child at bedtime every night.
6. Choose a book with a particular character whose stories are serialized (for instance Pete the Cat, Clifford, Amelia Bedelia, Harry Potter, or Magic Treehouse)

Adapted from:

http://www.educationaltoyfactory.com/reading_habit.htm



Children are made readers on the lap of their parents.

Emilie Buchwald

Why Your Child Should Read 20 Minutes Every Night

Let's figure it out--mathematically!

Student A reads 20 minutes five nights of every week;

Student B reads only 4 minutes a night...or not at all!

1st: Multiply minutes a night x 5 times each week.

Student A reads 20 minutes x 5 times a week = 100 mins./week

Student B reads 4 minutes x 5 times a week = 20 minutes

2nd: Multiply minutes a week x 4 weeks each month.

Student A reads 400 minutes a month.

Student B reads 80 minutes a month.

3rd: Multiply minutes a month x 9 months/school year.

Student A reads 3600 minutes in a school year.

Student B reads 720 minutes in a school year.

Student A practices reading the equivalent of ten whole school days a year.

Student B gets the equivalent of only two school days of reading practice.

By the end of 6th grade, if Student A and Student B maintain these same reading habits,

Student A will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days.

Student B will have read the equivalent of only 12 school days.

One would expect the gap of information retained will have widened considerably and so, undoubtedly, will school performance. How do you think Student B will feel about him/herself as a student?

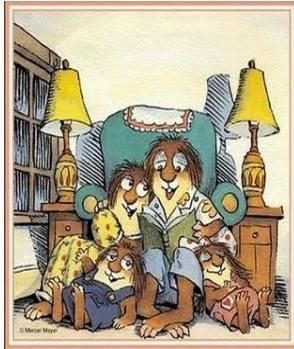
Think about it:

Which student would you expect to...

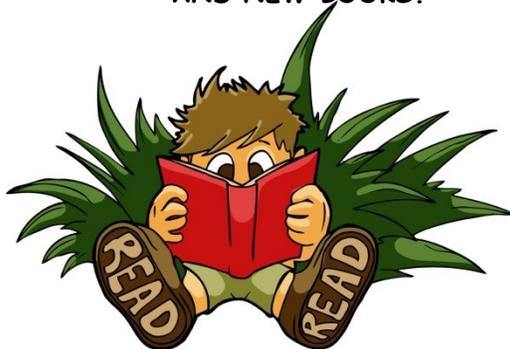
- read better?
- know more?

- write better?
- have a better vocabulary?
- be more successful in school....and in life?

Source: U.S. Dept. of Education , America Reads Challenge. (1999) "Start Early, Finish Strong: How to Help Every Child Become a Reader."



GRADE ONE PARENTS ARE REMINDED to RSVP re: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3rd "COME READ WITH ME" PROGRAM, 8:15-10:15 TO BE HELD AT OUR SCHOOL. THIS IS A SPECIAL MORNING FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS OR INVITED ADULTS TO LEARN ABOUT READING THROUGH GAMES, PRESENTATIONS, AND NEW BOOKS.



Board Notes:

From the Board Meeting of: SEPTEMBER 8, 2014

- The Board enjoyed the presentation from Principal Paul Hembling on the Student Spaceflight Experiment program.

- Superintendent deBruijn provided the Board with an update on the BCTF Job Action.
- Superintendent deBruijn provided the Board with an estimated update on new student registrations and enrollment.
- The Board approved the Rotary Club of Kamloops' request to continue the Family Dinner Program at NorKam Secondary School throughout the 2014-2015 school year.

The next regular public Board Meeting will occur on Monday, September 22, 2014, at the School Board Office, 1383 – 9th Avenue, Kamloops, BC.

From the Board Meeting of: SEPTEMBER 22, 2014

- The Board received a presentation from the District of Clearwater and the Yellowhead Community Services on the renovation of the former Dutch Lake Elementary School. The school is now being used for Municipal Offices and a community centre.
- Superintendent deBruijn provided the Board with details on the recently ratified BCTF Teachers Collective Agreement.
- Superintendent deBruijn reported on the opening of school which occurred on Monday, September 22, 2014.
- The Board approved the Revised Secondary School Exam Schedule.
- The Board approved a Secondary School Enhancement Fee Reduction.
- The Board accepted the 2013/2014 Audited Financial Statements as presented by BDO Canada.
- The Board received an overview of the recently ratified CUPE Local 3500 Collective Agreement.

The next regular public Board Meeting will occur on Monday, October 6, 2014, at Clearwater Secondary, 440 Murtle Crescent, Clearwater, BC.