



**E.W. FARR
FOX NEWS**



Principal: Jeff Fraser (905) 892-3251 Trustee: Dale Robinson (905) 680-2427
Superintendent: Wesley Hahn (905) 641-1550 February 2012



Principal's Message

On Thursday, February 2nd from 4:00-6:00 p.m. our school's kindergarten will be buzzing with activity as we welcome new students, parents, and community members to our annual "Kindergarten Open House" event. If you know of families who are new to the area and have younger children, please help us by informing them of our Kindergarten Open House.

As noted in last month's newsletter, as a staff we are focusing on small group instruction. The purpose of small group instruction is to help students with mastering a skill or strategy. The teacher meets with a group of several students to guide students' thinking and to provide support for the new strategy/skill learned. Concurrent to this we will be researching in our professional learning communities' feedback strategies and characteristics of feedback that affects student learning and motivation.

On a final note.....remember your sweetheart on Valentine's Day, February 14th.

Jeff Fraser

Principal



District School Board of Niagara
Achieving Success Together

Skating

Students in grades 1-3 will have the opportunity to go skating at the Pelham Arena on January 31st and Feb. 21st. Remember that all students require a helmet and skates must be worn on the ice. Kindergarten students who wish to take part will need to be accompanied by a parent and have their transportation provided by their parent/guardian. A permission form will be sent home.

Gotcha Awards

Theo Collings
Brandi Woodland
Maxx Veld
Gage Philbrick
Luke Morris
Kaitlyn Brophy
Grace Main
Ruthie Pentland
Cole Traver
Sam Belchoir
Natasha Lohr
Matthew Whitaker
Jenna MacPherson
Hayden Temple
Emily Shatford
Jenna Mergl
Desiree Bastien
Charlotte King

Congratulations on Being Caught

- being generous to a friend
- being generous to a friend
- helping another student do up his shoes
- helping younger students with their zippers
- being a friend to someone in need
- being kind and generous to a friend
- helping a friend locate their hat
- helped a friend find a backpack
- helped a student find their backpack
- helping others with their school work
- made a new student feel welcomed to E.W. Farr
- being a good friend
- working hard with her tutors
- using great sentences with his teachers
- working hard as a tutor
- being courteous and kind
- helping out a friend, being supportive
- working hard reading her words

Family Day

Reminder.....Monday February 20th is designated as a provincially recognized day, Family Day. On this day there will be no school for staff and students.

Make Change For Children Campaign 2012

The Education Foundation of Niagara (EFN) was created to support students of the District School Board of Niagara (DSBN) in areas of program enhancement, grants, poverty relief and student achievement. As an example, since 2008, almost \$75,000 has been granted to 3000 students in need through the poverty and relief fund. As in the past, the E.W. Farr community will continue to help children in need. Please send a Toonie or some change with your child starting Wednesday February 22nd until Friday February 24th. If you wish you may visit www.efonline.ca for more information. Thank you for making a difference! We will also have some fun on those days as we will have some Spirit Days attached to those days of Making Change for Children Campaign.

Report Cards

As teachers, we recognize the importance of your role, as parent/guardian, as a partner in your child's education. Studies have found the greater the support that families provide for their children's learning and progress, the greater the likelihood that their children will succeed at school. With this in mind, teachers work diligently to provide report cards that will communicate clear meaningful information about:

1. What your child is learning
2. How well your child is learning
3. What strengths your child is showing
4. What next steps are needed for your child's continued success.

The report card, sent home on February 9th is the first of two report cards. The second will be sent home at the end of June. At this time there are no formal interview days set aside. However if you wish to discuss your child's report card, please contact your child's teacher.

Chess

Mrs. Kemp-Davidson has started our chess club this month and will be helping students perfect their chess playing skills.

Hot Lunch Reminder For February

Hot Lunch will be on Thursday February 16th not Friday February 17th due to Friday being the Early Release Day.

March Break

This year March Break will be from Friday March 9th to Friday March 16th inclusively. Classes will commence on Monday March 19th.

Yearbook

Please send in your pictures of school events or class happenings to Mrs. Belchoir for our 2011-2012 Yearbook. She is in need of those pictures as she has a very limited number of photos right now.

Fundraising Committee

At our January SAC meeting, it was suggested that we look at forming a fundraising committee to organize and plan our fundraising. Everyone at SAC agreed this would be a great idea, so I am asking our school community for volunteers. Volunteers may select an event or times/days they can help, doesn't matter as long as the person likes fundraising and can put in some hours. Please contact Sue Belchoir or Jeff Fraser if you would be interested in helping.

We are Counting Down to Kindergarten!

Children who will be four years of age or older by December 31, 2012 are eligible to enroll in Kindergarten starting September 2012.

Going to school for the first time is a big step for children and their parents. At the DSBN, families start that journey together at the 'Kindergarten Countdown' open houses. Families can visit our school, meet the kindergarten teacher, and receive a gift bag filled with fun learning resources and information that will help children develop school readiness skills.

Mark your calendar for Thursday, February 2, 2012 from 4-6 p.m. for our Kindergarten Countdown open house. Visit www.dsbno.org and click on "Kindergarten" for all the details!

The E.L. Crossley
Alumni Association
Presents...



The First Annual...

Community **Family Feast n Fest** Celebration

*In celebration of family week,
residents of Pelham/ Wainfleet communities
are invited to attend a*

Family dinner dance
at Club Castropignano in Port Robinson
Mardi Gras themed event

Saturday, February 25th, 2012
Doors open at 5pm
Dinner at 5:30pm
Dance 7:00pm



Menu consists of:
Antipasto plate
Salad
Pasta and Meatballs
Roasted Chicken, potatoes and veggies
Dessert
Coffee/Tea



Tickets
Adults- \$35, Under 13 yrs-\$15, Under 5 yrs-free

For Tickets:
Contact
Janet Cripps at 905-892-2635 , janet.cripps@dsbn.org or Brian Baty at 905-892-5317, brian.baty@niagararegion.ca

Library Corner

The Forest of Reading Program is coming to E. W. Farr!

The Forest of Reading is a reading program offered by the Ontario Library Association. It was created to promote Canadian authors and also to foster a love for reading in children. There are now seven programs offered, covering age groups from pre-schoolers to seniors. Each program highlights a number of new books by Canadian authors. Students are able to read the selections and vote on their favorite book. Voting takes place online and our student's opinions are counted toward the results of the competition. At the end of the contest the book with the most votes across Ontario wins the award.

This year, the students at E W Farr will be participating in the Blue Spruce program which brings recently published Canadian children's picture books to Ontario children in the primary division. We will be enjoying these books during library class over the months of February and March. Students will complete critical thinking activities and an evaluation page for each book. All students will have the opportunity to vote for their favourite selection in April.

Happy reading... and may the best book win!

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

We have had some discussion at School Council about the need for before and after school care. As a result I am asking parents to respond if they would be interested and use before and after school care for their child(ren) and be willing to pay for this service. If so, please send the tear off section to Mr. Fraser.



- Yes, I would use before and after school care and I am interested in obtaining this service.

Name _____ Telephone # _____

Number of children for _____ Ages _____
before and after
school care.