Dear Parents and Guardians, April 10th, 2013

We have had a very productive year so far. I am very proud of all the work the students have done on the outcomes presented. I am looking forward to discussing your child’s progress in more depth at our parent teacher interviews on May 1st.

Over the next 3 months, we have a lot of ground to cover!!

In science, we will be completing the last two units on soils and plants. I am a true believer in the hands on approach to learning, which takes a lot of materials and time. Anyone willing to donate any extra seeds, pots, and soil to our classroom, it would be much appreciated. Extra spending is on short supply this time of year.

In Health, we just finished our bicycle safety unit. The students are almost done creating our class power-point presentation that they will show to all the grade three classes. I will put the finished product on the website (bward2.weebly.com). We are hoping to hold a Bike rodeo before the end of the year. The students would bring in their bikes and helmets and the Constable would review with them all they need to know about bike safety. I will be providing extra bikes for students who cannot provide their own for the day. I will let you know if our local constable is willing to come do this activity and the date it will happen. I am waiting to hear from her as to her availability.

In math, we are finishing up multiplication and division. It is not required that your child memorize the math times tables in grade three, but they need to understand, using manipulates/drawing, how to multiply and divide number up to 100. (10x10)

Please feel free to have fun with this at home. This is the math language the students understand and are using in class:

8x8 = 64 is eight groups of 8 with eight in each group. The Product would be 64.

64 divided by 8 = 8 we understand to be 64 cookies shared equally by 8 people, This means that each person gets 8 cookies. They know division and multiplication are related facts.

In Language arts we are finishing our realistic fiction stories and studying the novel – Because of Winn Dixie. The students will be choosing a project to develop, in class, to show me their understanding of the novel. The projects are:

* A scrapbook of the characters
* A comic Strip of their favourite part of the story
* A timeline of the main events
* A diorama of a scene in the novel
* A “who am I” board game
* Designing a Table of Contents and giving the chapters a name.
* A city map of the town in the novel with additional descriptive summaries
* Research on the author and a letter to the author – Kate Dicamillo

In Social Studies, we are still looking at the peoples of Nova Scotia. We are looking at our own heritage and why our own family came to N.S. The children completed an interview and a poster to develop this understanding.

On APRIL 22, THE SCHOOL IS HOLDING OUR INTERNATIONAL DAY OF CULTURE AND PEACE. OUR CLASS WILL BE DISPLAYING, FOR THE WHOLE SCHOOL, THEIR POSTERS AND A MAP OF THE WORLD SHOWING THE LANDS OF THEIR HERTIAGE. ON THAT DAY, FEEL FREE TO SEND IN ANY ITEMS from your heritage/culture TO GO ON THIS TABLE TO DISPLAY FOR THE SCHOOL AND ANY FOOD YOU WANT TO SHARE, WITH ONLY OUR OWN CLASS, from YOUR OWN CULTURE.

We have 21 students in our class not including me.

Also, we will be participating in the CLEAN NOVA SCOTA campaign on April 19/20th. We will be joining other classes here in the school to clean up our area. I will be registering our class on the website on Friday. Take a look - http://clean.ns.ca/programs/waste/cleanacrossns

….and making posters in class to enter into a contest for National Public Works week. If one of our class posters is picked, we win a free class trip to a public works site. Lets put all those wonderful art lessons to good use!!

Other than that, things are progressing well. We have some repeat offenders when it comes to agenda routines and library books. Please make sure your child is using their agenda and is bringing in their library books on Wednesdays.

Don’t forget to fill in the permission form for the Dalhousie study. You need to return it even if your child is NOT participating. The Book Fair will be held the first week in May and we are still drawing names of students, for prizes, if they are walking/biking/scootering to school. BE ACTIVE BSS!!

Please call or email anytime. Thank you for supporting our learning.

Yours truly,

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