
The Third Academy Beacon

Tuesday, November 19, 2015
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Third Academy

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As Mr. Smith is away, I have taken on the role of Acting Principal of Junior and Senior High school. I had given the entire school a challenge that if they wore their uniform for the entire week, they could have a pajama day on Friday, and I am happy to report the entire school has earned a pajama day for tomorrow. Students are permitted to come in their pajamas and teachers have planned some fun activities to celebrate their successes.

It has been a very busy week for our teachers as they have been working on Report Cards and IPPs. These will be coming home with your child tomorrow. Parent teacher interviews will be held Wednesday, November 25 from 1-8pm. (There will be no after school care). Call Renee at 403-288-5335 to book your appointment.

Thank you to all our staff for pulling together and to our parent volunteers for all their help.

Stay warm and drive safe – winter weather is here!

Rehana Mattu

Elementary Principal

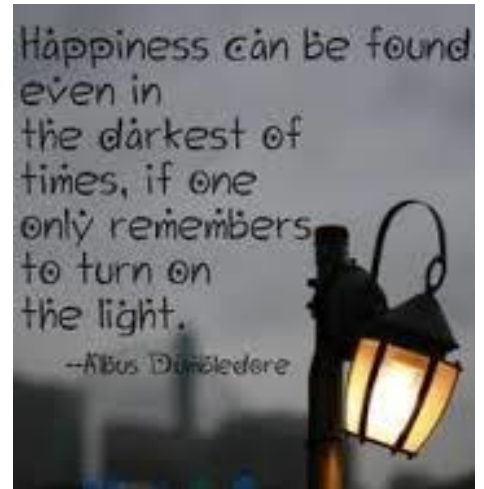
"Working hard is important. But there is something that matters even more, believing in yourself." Harry Potter

This week



Elementary Motto

Be Good, Be Safe, Be Helpful



Upcoming Events

November 20
Report Cards
Pajama Day

November 24
Picture Retakes

November 25
Parent Teacher
Interviews

November 28
BINGO – Volunteers
needed

News from E1

E1 had a great week. We talked a lot about Remembrance Day and why we have this day to honour those who serve and sacrifice for our freedom. We talked about watching the Remembrance Day ceremonies on TV on Wednesday. The entire class was so amazing during the Remembrance Day Ceremony. I'm so proud of them.



E4 has joined us in starting a Reading Buddies group on Tuesday mornings. It is great to see the bigger kids take the initiative and share their skills with our class. E1 really loved the special time with the bigger kids! We look forward to doing this every week!



Some parents have asked about homework. We are not sending homework home at this time because they are working so hard at school, it is nice just to have family time and play time when they are not at school. A good thing for you to do at home is to read with your child each day. This will help build their literacy skills and it is nice bonding time too.

We have been enjoying the great fall weather all week. Thank you for making sure your children are dressed for the weather. We will continue to go outside daily.

As a movement break, we often do Cosmic Yoga. www.cosmickids.com or youtube cosmic kids. They loved the Harry Potter episode.



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We hope you enjoy your 5 days off, and that you take a moment on Wednesday November 11 to remember those who have served and who still serve to make this world a better place.

Have a Great Day!

News from E2

Firstly, we would like to thank Staff Sergeant Jeremy for coming in to our classroom and talking about his experience in the army. The students especially enjoyed trying some of the equipment he brought in. It was much heavier and bigger than they expected!



Hope you're ready to hear it.... But we are getting ready for.... CHRISTMAS! Mr. G is already getting the kids ready for our Holiday Concert next month. We don't want to give too much away... but, "our hearts grew three sizes today."

Our focus for the remainder of the month, is learning about Canada and the communities located throughout. We have studied different rural and urban communities, and talked about landmarks located around our province. We will be studying Saskatchewan, New Brunswick and Nunavit in more detail in the coming weeks.



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News from E3

Now that literacy and numeracy groups are in full swing, we've worked out the kinks and all the students are in their appropriate groups.

If you're ever looking for some homework or wondering how your child is doing, have them show you the website called **mathletics.com**

Each child is given a username and a password, and I have assigned each one an appropriate grade level according to their recent math assessment. Let me know if you would like me to send home to the password and username! Mathletics is a great website to work on numeracy skills that are appropriate for your child!



Students took time to remember and to dress up in army gear.

Thank you Staff Sergeant Jeremy!

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News from E4

It seems a long time since we shared news from E4. We hope you enjoyed your extended break with family. Our job was to work on report cards which we successfully accomplished and now we are eager for you to read them and come in for an interview on Wednesday, November 25th. We hope your children had fun at our "Stayover". From our point of view, it was a smashing success! The main purpose was to give the class a chance to have fun together, outside of school rules, and just "hang out". They all did just that! We played tag in the hallways, black out tag in the gym and glow stick tag. We stuffed ourselves with goodies, pizza and plenty of water. We dragged our blankets, pillows, and stuffies out to the common area to enjoy our movie. Very few children watched the whole movie as there was way too much going on around everyone. We even learned how to play the "village" frozen chocolate bar game thanks to Mr. D. I knew the night was a success when very little time was spent gaming on electronics and, for the most part, children were running! A big thank you, once again, goes out to all the families that contributed a little something to make the evening a huge success. I think I speak for everyone (teachers and students alike) that we were all grateful that we had a five day weekend to recuperate.



We had a very productive two days back after the break as E4 hosted their first Tim Horton's Writers' Workshop. The students returned on Thursday to find the classroom transformed into a writing workshop. We brought as many laptops into the classroom as we could find and students spent the whole day writing. The students chose their own topic to write about but had very specific criteria to follow. Apart from having a strong beginning, middle, and end, the students had to incorporate literacy knowledge of adverbs, onomatopoeias and similes. Please ask your child if they can think about what these literacy terms mean and why we use them in story writing. The students had to submit their story by first period on Friday morning. Their completed story (meeting all the specific criteria) was then traded in for an invitation to our Tim Horton's Writers' Workshop celebration. By second period, all the students sat around in a circle, sipping on hot chocolate or tea and ate their chosen donut as they enjoyed each other's stories. It was a huge success and the students all

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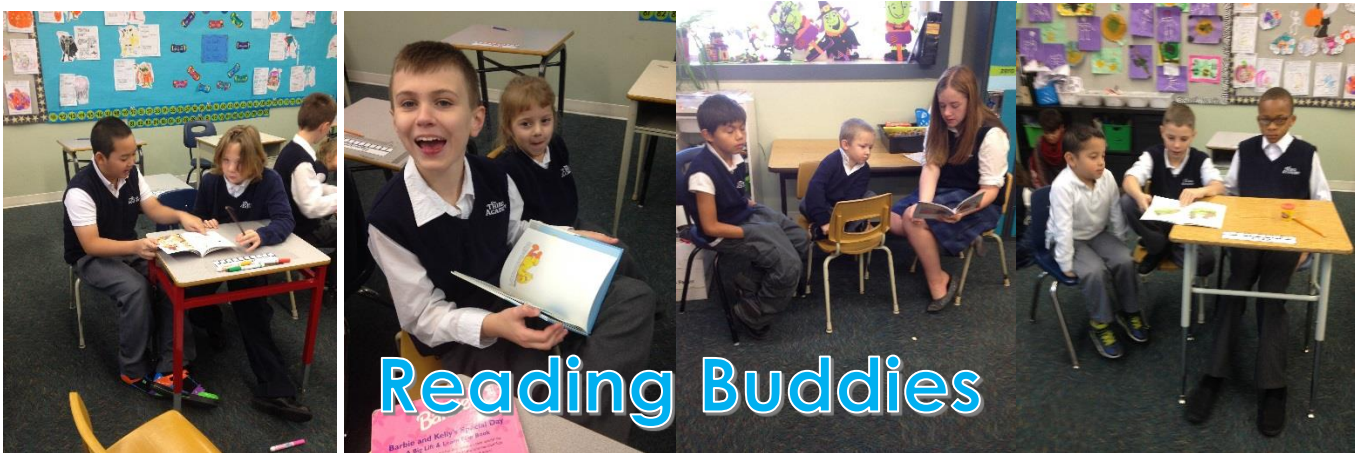
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worked very hard. Their stories will come home to you by the middle of next week in their Writing Folders (please take the story out and return the folder). You can also enjoy the stories on display in the E4 hallway. A measure of a successful class activity is when the students ask "when will we have another writers' workshop" when the first one has not even ended.

The students will learn a lot about the science behind "flight" on Monday so you may want to ask them about it. You can also ask them about what makes each province unique in Canada which is their social studies topic. We look to spend as much time outdoors at recess and make use of the adjacent field we have access to so please send your child in outdoor winter clothing so they can enjoy our time outdoors. Thank you to the families who have volunteered to fill a box for children in need. We still have plenty of boxes and information if anyone is still wanting to participate in this valuable charity.

Check out this week's educational website: EZSchools.com



News from Expressive Arts

This week in Expressive Arts, students in E1 and E2 have begun to explore the wonderful world of Dr. Seuss by examining and beginning to act out the classic book, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. Students in E3 and E4 are continuing to explore the wonderful story of the boy who wouldn't grow up, *Peter Pan*. The hope is that students will feel comfortable and confident enough to possibly perform these wonderful stories at our Christmas Concert.

News from Music Arts

This week the Elementary music classes will begin working on Christmas concert xylophone pieces and action/singing songs centered on *The Grinch Stole Christmas* cartoon. The concert will take place on Wednesday, December 16 (Time TBA).

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