

FRIDAY



FLASH


EDMUNDS
 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

299 Main St, Burlington, VT 05401 • 864-1791

Date and Volume Number

January 13, 2017

Up Coming Events:

Jan. 16 - Martin Luther King Day - NO SCHOOL

Jan. 18 - EES Professional Development Day - NO SCHOOL

Jan. 28 - Math Night! 5:30 - 7:00 PM

Feb. 2 - Chinese, Korean & Vietnamese New Year

Feb. 9 - Fine Arts Night (K-2)

Feb. 17 -18: EES & Very Merry Theatre - SHREK

From the Principal's Desk

When I was a child, we were supposed to get \$20 for every A. Truth be told, I didn't earn very much. I was more interested in reading late into the night (a fact that my parents were unaware of because I was adept at making sure no light showed from under my door). I wasn't a bad student - pretty much B's with an occasional C and on rare occasion, a D. I'd get A's too, but I was pretty happy with B's. I knew that the expectation was that I would work hard and do my best. The one thing that always bugged me though was when my parents focused on the one C (or D) more than all the B's or the A. I remember the resentment I felt that they didn't appreciate the hard work that went into the A's and could only see the lowest grade. Why did that one grade count so much more than all the success?

There has been a real shift in understanding how to shape behavior and that is to focus on what we are looking for more than the mistakes that are made. Let's say you want to change a habit or behavior of your child. Take bed time - maybe someone had developed excellent stall tactics, extending the time it takes to get ready to an hour when it could be done in 15 minutes. You've tried taking away TV, video games and other things, but it's not working.

How about trying a positive approach? Work together to make sure that they understand what you want them to do, decide on a reward - it doesn't have to cost - it can be an activity. Tell them they are in charge of how fast they can earn it through earning tokens or points. The goal must be reasonable and achievable and at first, fairly easy to achieve. (The faster they feel success, the more they will be motivated to work harder.) A token could be earned for every 5 minutes they save on getting to bed. If they can't tell time, you can make a picture of a clock and show them where the hands look like for each token. They should be able to see their progress towards reaching the token goal for the reward. A token earned should never be taken away. If they slip up, remind them that tomorrow is another day and they'll do better. Remind them of what they have already earned. Finally, be sure to follow through with the incentive as soon after it is earned as possible. This is critically important. They need to trust the system.

This is a real change from the way many of us were raised, and I have to tell you that we see it working with children here at school. If it seems like it is time consuming, ask yourself how much time you are dealing with behaviors that are not improving.

Whole School Assembly**February 1****Chittenden Solid Waste - Recycle Song**

(cont)

Changing tactics can't hurt and there's a lot of evidence that shows that this is a tactic that will work. If you try it and have great results, share it with others to help them!

KEEP SMILING VERMONT:

E.E.S. will be one of many schools participating in the Keep Smiling Vermont Dental Health Survey, which is coordinated by the Department of Health and supported by the Agency of Education. Children in Kindergarten and Grade 3 are being offered free dental screenings as part of this survey. They are encouraged to participate even if they have a family dentist. Our school's screening date is Thursday, January 26, 2017. Information about the dental survey is being sent home with students in Kindergarten and Grade 3 today. **If you do not wish to have your child participate in this dental screening, please indicate that on the form and return it to your child's teacher on or by Thursday, January 19, 2017.** For more information, please contact Robin Miller, Oral Health Director, at [802-863-7272](tel:802-863-7272) or robin.n.miller@vermont.gov or Mr. Fleury at the school at 864-8457 or tfleury@bsdvt.org.

FROM THE EES LIBRARY:

Edmunds Elementary School is once again participating in a statewide program to teach elementary-age children personal finance concepts. We are one of more than 130 Vermont elementary schools who will use the program this school year. The program is managed by the Vermont State Treasurer's Office and is called "Reading is an Investment." Participating schools are sent three new books each year that highlight a specific personal finance theme. Through grade focused lesson plans, school library student activities, and personal reading, students are introduced to basic financial concepts.

The 2016-2017 personal finance theme is "Saving to Make Goals a Reality."

There are two parts to this program--personal reading and school instructional activities. As a parent, you have the opportunity to help your child complete a reading log that will then be entered into a drawing for a \$250 college savings plan account. Last year, more than 5,600 students statewide completed logs and entered the drawing. There are twenty prizes that are awarded each year. In order to complete a reading log, a student must read three books from a recommended money reading list and complete additional free reading requirements. The reading logs and recommended money reading list are available through our school library. I will be sending home copies of the log and list with your child. You also may print a reading log and reading list by going to www.MoneyEd.Vermont.gov. Money books are available for reading and/or check out from our school library.

The **deadline** to complete a reading log and mail it into the Treasurer's Office is **March 15, 2017**. **I will be collecting the completed reading logs in the library and mailing them in prior to the deadline. Please feel free to send in your child's log to me no later than March 10 if you would like me to submit them for you.**

The second part of the program focuses on library instruction and activities. The three featured books for this school year are: *Curious George Saves His Pennies* by Monica Perez; *A Chair for my Mother* by Vera B. Williams; and *The Yoyo and the Piggy Bank* by Susan Werner Thoresen. We will be reading and discussing these books and also conducting related activities during our library class time together. We hope this combination of personal reading and instructional exercises will help our students expand their knowledge of personal finance. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at kneil@bsdvt.org ~ Kathy Neil, Teacher-Librarian

PTO LEADERS: Leigh Fisher, Hollie Foley and Rachel Shelley

PTO CONTACT: pto@eespto.org

IMPORTANT UPCOMING SHREK DATES:

ALL CAST READ THROUGH:

Tuesday, Jan. 17th, 3-5 PM

1/2 CHORUS MOVEMENT

Starts 1/23 3pm-4pm (Not 1/16 due to Martin Luther King Day)

SET CREW

Starts Tuesday 1/17 3pm-4pm

The Parent Volunteer Sign-Up Genius is Live. We need EVERY Family involved in SHREK to pitch in and help out. MORE HAS BEEN ADDED!!

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094aa8ac2faa8-20151>

VERMONT COFFEE COMPANY ORDERS DUE TUESDAY, JANUARY 17TH!

EES makes \$6/bag! This month orders will be delivered Friday, January 20th. Order forms at Front Office and EES PTO website. (<http://eespto.org/fundraisers/Vermont-coffee-fundraiser/>). Checks payable to EES PTO, OR Pay via PayPal; Please note in PayPal "Purpose Box" number of bags and coffee choice. Contact Pam Moreau (802.999.4590 or pmoreaulawvt@gmail.com) with questions.

PTO MEETING AND COFFEE HOUR JANUARY 25TH:

Immediately following Wednesday assembly.
Location TBD

RSVP FOR MATH NIGHT - SATURDAY, JANUARY 28th, 5:30-7:00 PM

The Edmunds Elementary PTO is sponsoring the 8th Annual Family Math Night. Explore the wonders of math with your children and let them show you what they are learning. A variety of activities, math centers and home learning activities will be available for children of all ages, such as graphing, chess, games using dice and playing cards and many other fun activities. Prizes, desserts and drinks too! We will have National Honor Society students from BHS to help facilitate games so that parents can fully enjoy the night with their children. **RSVP by sending an email to Rachel Shelley (rachskye@gmail.com) including your child's name, grade level and number of people attending.**

For those of you new to Math Night, here is how the night will work. **5:30 - 7:00 pm:** Math night begins. Games in the upper gym/cafeteria. Each student will go home with a packet full of games you can play at home.

We are also looking for donations of new or gently used -- with all the pieces--math related games (Uno, Chutes and Ladders, Yahtzee, Phase 10, Dominoes, Set, Sequence, Chess, etc) for the raffle at the end of the night; Because we are not serving Pizza this year we'd love a few donations of veggies and dip crackers and cheese as well as a few desserts. Please contact Rachel Shelley (rachskye@gmail.com) if you are able to contribute. We hope to see you all there!

LOST AND FOUND:

Please check the Lost and Found. The lost and found is OVERFLOWING!! Many items have been Lost we'd love to see them Found.

BOX TOPS!!!

Thank you for everyone who saves and sends in box tops! We have earned \$142 from all the box tops collected!! Keep up the good work!