

FRIDAY



FLASH

GROW WITH DIGNITY



EDMUNDS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

May 3, 2013

From the Principal's Desk

Wow! What a difference a day can make. As I drove to work this morning, I saw leaves on trees where yesterday there were only buds. We have just six weeks left before the end of school, and then the children will have 10 glorious weeks of summer. Ten weeks to sleep in, to swim, bike, kick back and play with friends. And ten weeks to forget what they learned this year, especially what was taught within the last three months of school.

The expression "use it or lose it" is very real. Every one of us has learned something in the past that we cannot recall (or do) today. If you asked me to do a linear regression analysis today, I'd have to look it up. We remember what we use and children are no different. Schools start each fall re-teaching that which was taught the previous year. Not all students' scores drop though. Those who have spent some time every week reading, writing, and doing some math (cooking, playing games, and building things) maintain what they have learned.

There are a lot of possible activities for children over the course of the summer with many of our partners building opportunities for reading, writing and math right into their programming. Whether students go to a program at the Fletcher Free Library, Sarah Holbrook, King Street, YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, Parks and Rec. or some other program, they will have opportunities to do some activities that allow some practice of their academic skills and they often are not even aware that they are practicing.

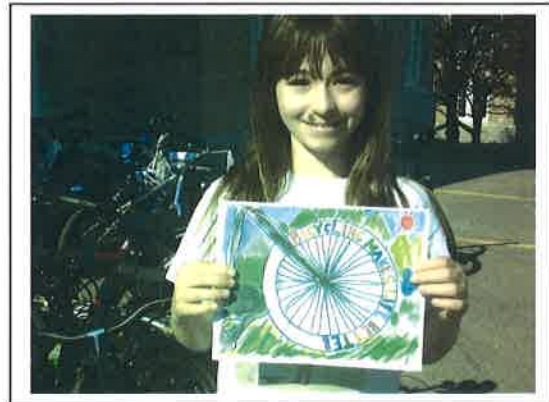
We want to help make sure that all of our students have the ability to access opportunities to practice their skills in math, reading and writing. To that end, you will find a brief survey to help us identify what kids will be doing this summer and where parents could use some assistance to support practice in the three skills. Understand that practice can be fun - playing a card game where one adds and subtracts points is math. Writing clues to a scavenger hunt is writing, and so is reading those clues. We've attached the brief survey and ask that it be returned with your child by next Friday. We will be working with our Family School Partnership to provide additional tools to equip families with tools to provide opportunities for practice and fun.

Upcoming Events

May 15	Early Release - bag lunches, 11:30 dismissal
May 16	Kindergarten Get Acquainted Day
May 17	MAYFAIR
May 23	EES Talent Show

WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY
Wednesday – May 8
Honoring Crossing Guards –
Walk and Roll To school week

Vote for Poster #6



SARIS BIKE POSTER CONTEST WINNERS - TWO EES 5th GRADERS

Genni Bogdanowicz has been chosen as the Vermont State winner! She will receive a brand new Saris bike, helmet and light for her submission and be entered for a chance to win a trip to DC and a Hub bike system installed at Edmunds!!

Chloe Evans came in 2nd place! Chloe will receive a new Saris helmet and a bike light! Genni is now eligible for the National Prize. One National Winner will go to DC in the Spring of 2014 for the National Bike Summit. The National Winner's school will also receive bike parking. **In order for Genni to win the national prize we have to get people on to the Saris Facebook page to vote for her.** Her poster is #6 with "Bicycling Makes Life Better" on the rim of a bike wheel.****Voting for the National Winner will take place on our Facebook page May 1 - May 7.

https://www.facebook.com/SarisCycleRacks/app_135779919944392

Vermont Safe Routes to School has posted the winning posters on their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/saferoutesvt>

Thanks to all the students who submitted art work, and a special thank you goes to Anne Lamont's guidance.

STUDENT COUNCIL FOCUSES ON HUMANE SOCIETY

The Student Council is looking for donations for the Humane Society. We're collecting items they need--not money. If you want to help, please bring in an item or two from the list below by Monday, May 13. We hope that you will donate some items. Thank you for helping the animals!

Items Needed: Wet cat and dog food, Procollar and Bite Not plastic collars for cats and dogs, XL and XXL Kongs, CD players, FURminator cat brushes, Cat wand toys, Airtight food containers, Peanut butter, Durable dog toys, Buster Cubes, Busy Balls, Catnip, Cat toys, Frontline Plus, Dish soap, 45 gallon lawn and leaf bags, and Drawstring kitchen trash bags.

FROM THE PTOMAYFAIR 2013-- THE GREAT MAYFAIR SIGN-UP HAS BEGUN!

I remember one year me and a bunch of friends won three cakes!
-Jake, EES Student

It takes a whole lot of volunteers to make Mayfair memories.

We need folks to run games, paint faces, sell tickets and food, run the basket raffle, donate cakes, and other foods, and so much more! There is something for everyone.

Check out volunteer opportunities and sign up at:

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0E48A5AC2BA31-mayfair1

Enter the access code "ees2013" when prompted.

Alternatively, you may contact Pam Shea at pj_shea@yahoo.com or 861-2720. Thanks for your help!

Last year, my young neighbor, George, was at the Mayfair. I was running a game and he was the only one to get all the bean bags in. He was so proud, he went around and told everyone. He is now a Kindergartener here at Edmunds.

-Nicole, EES mom

MAYFAIR MEMORIES. WILL YOU HELP MAKE SOME THIS YEAR?

WALK & ROLL TO SCHOOL WEEKS: 6 - 17 MAY

Get Ready to Walk-n-Roll! TWO WEEKS of promoting walking and biking to school will take place May 6-17.

Daily participation will be tallied and tracked on the PTO bulletin board. Join our kids and families from around the block and around the globe as we walk and bicycle to school and reduce our carbon footprint. The classes with the most walk and roll participants will get bike-blended smoothies and a golden shoe for the classroom. There will be one prize for grades K-2 and one for 3-5.

Please take a few moments to appreciate your crossing guards with a friendly greeting or a card signed by some kids in your neighborhood. We will invite our crossing guards to the school assembly on Wed. 8 May to give them a big EES thanks.

MAYFAIR: SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS NEEDED

Please help raise money for the Edmunds Elementary PTO, by donating your special talents or items to the Mayfair Silent Auction. Last year we set a record, raising nearly \$4,000 for the PTO. Our goal this year is to break the \$4,000 barrier and help fund more great activities at Edmunds. You can help. Get creative and support the school. Do you have a business that could donate a gift certificate or an item? Do you have a special talent? People have donated bike repair, pilates lessons, beautiful knit hats, or home-made meals. Do you have a vacation house and would donate a weekend stay there? Do you have a boat and would offer a trip on Lake Champlain or a sailing lesson? Please contact Warren Cornwall at cornwallw@gmail.com or 540-2536.

WALK/BIKE ROUTE ASSESSMENTS: 10 MAY AFTER SCHOOL

As part of the Safe Routes to School program, we are organizing two neighborhood walk/bike rides to identify safety issues and assess ease of walking/biking on Friday, May 10 after school. Both groups will start at EES. Rachel Shelley (rachskye@gmail.com) will lead a group south along South Union Street. Peggy O'Neill (peggyov@burlingtontelecom.net) will lead a group north along North Willard Street. Feel free to join us on the walk home.

Musical Cakes Needed!

We need your musical cakes! No, they don't have to be able to sing and dance, they just need to be nut-free and ready by Friday, May 17th. Pick up a cake pan and instructions in front of the main office. Fancy cakes not needed, but do be creative if the mood strikes you. Cakes will need to be dropped off on Friday the 17th before Mayfair starts. For more information, email sharonski@burlingtontelecom.net. Thank you!

EDMUNDS ALL-TALENT SHOW: SIGN-UP BY MAY 9TH

The Edmunds All-Talent Show is an all-inclusive variety show to exercise the performance creativity of Edmunds students. We will create a show with lots of team spirit, to showcase individual talents as well as the power of working with a group. Please plan to attend at least 2 rehearsals prior to the dress rehearsal. Bring your ready-for-stage act to rehearsals. If you are singing a song, please order the karaoke CD on internet or burn instrumental version to a disk. Students are expected to provide their own costumes and props. SIGN-UP SHEET IS IN THE MAIN OFFICE. **SIGN-UP by May 9th.**

Rehearsals are May 10, 14, 17 @ 3:00-5:15 pm in the lower gym
School Show is May 23rd during the day
Dress Rehearsal is THURSDAY May 23rd @ 3:00-7:30 with dinner

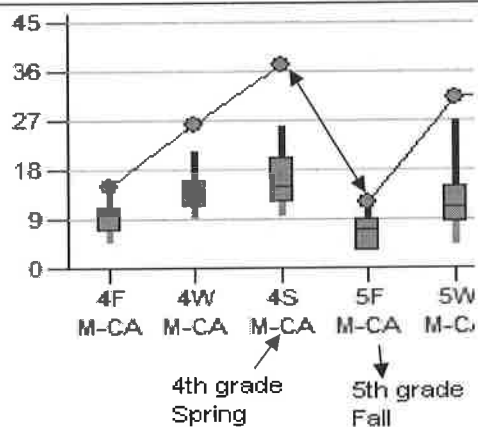
Show is FRIDAY May 24th @ 7:00-8:30 pm in auditorium
Contact Trisha Denton at orksbox@gmail.com for more details

Summer Success!

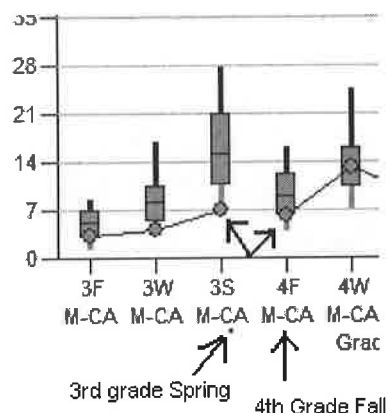
Dear Parents:

We know that summer is wonderful with the one exception of learning loss. How do we know? Each year we take assessments to see how students are progressing. We do this three times – in the Fall, Winter and Spring. This year, we began to use a tool called AIMSweb, and it provides an easy visual representation of how our students are doing. I have some data from a different school in Vermont that also used this tool and can show you what we saw in terms of learning loss. Below are some graphs of two students math scores – one student was a very bright young lady who did no reading or math all summer. The other is a graph of a student who struggled academically but spent some time at a math camp. The numbers on the bottom of the graph stands for their grade and the letter, the time of year the test was taken; 4F = 4th grade Fall. M-CA is a math assessment. Just by looking at the dots, you can see that even by the winter of 5th grade, the first student had not caught up to where she was in the spring of her 4th grade year, whereas the other student continued to show new growth.

This graph shows how much a student forgot over the summer!



This graph shows that a student was doing some work over the summer and did not forget what they had learned!



Our goal is to see less learning loss. To that end, please help us help you by completing the survey on the back of this letter and returning it to us by Friday, May 10th. We will coordinate with the Family School Partnership to get materials and information to all of our families to insure that our students have access to materials and program to help them continue to use the skills they've learned this year.

Summer Plans

Student Name: _____ Current Grade _____

Parent Contact: _____

This summer my child will be (check all that apply):

- Fun at home
- Going to Parks and Rec programs
- King Street
- Sarah Holbrook
- Boys and Girls Club
- YMCA
- Sleep over Camp
- Participating in the Fletcher Free Library
- Traveling with family
- I am able to get my children to the Fletcher Free Library
- Flynn summer programs
- Other _____
- I need information on summer programs in the area
- I need help getting my child to the library/summer program

Address: _____

Phone: _____

- I would be willing to help a student get to the library/summer programs

Address: _____

Phone: _____