



EDMUNDS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FRIDAY



FLASH

From the Principal's Desk

We've all seen it. The puppy dog eyes, the quivering lip, the beseeching upward gaze. We've all heard it - the wheedling, the cajoling, the whining, and the worst, the wailing. Puleeeez! Please can I have it? Please can I have a friend over? Please can I have ice cream? You're ruining my life! I hate you!

Really? How did we get here?! In reality, we're probably our own worst enemies when it comes to the child who has a hard time accepting "no" for an answer. Our children will do what works for them. If they find that, after pestering us a number of times, we give in, the tactic works. Off they go, happy as clams with a cheerful "thanks mom", or "thanks dad" shouted into the breeze. Maybe, if we held out long enough, we'll even get a hug. We end up feeling a little happy because we made them happy (and quiet), but also just a little uncomfortable because, after all, who's in charge here?!

The art of pestering parents is one that is natural for children to develop. There are some good things about it. They are developing a level of persistence. We want persistence on tasks. They are learning the art of argument - of convincing someone of something. We also want that. But they are not learning other things that are also very important.

The word "No" is a very powerful tool in teaching several important characteristics to children. "No" teaches children that they will not always get what they want and to learn to cope with disappointment. "No" teaches them patience, that they need to wait their turn or for the time when things are right. "No" teaches them to be aware of others and their needs (that they are not the center of the universe). "No" teaches them self-control. "No" accompanied by a simple statement of reason helps in all of these things. "No, I am working right now. You will need to wait until after I am finished." "No. That toy costs money that is not in our family budget." You get the idea.

Here's the tough part and I guarantee you that it gets easier very quickly if you stick to it. Teach them that "No" means "No" by holding to it. Ignore continued requests. The pestering is meant to bother us. Ultimately, we choose to be bothered by it and we can choose not to. Remember, children do what works. They stop what doesn't work. We need to teach them that we mean what we say. Ultimately, our homes become more peaceful because the arguing stops.

"No" results in children becoming more resourceful and less dependent upon others for entertainment. They develop patience. They find other things to do. They make their own toys rather than buying things that end up in the pile. They rely on their siblings more as playmates. Best of all, they respect that "no" means no and the adult is in charge.

Date and Volume Number

October 3, 2014

Upcoming Events:

Oct. 6-10 Walk and Roll Week

Oct. 9 PTO Kindergarten Pajama Story Hour 6-7pm

Oct. 15-18 Parent Teacher Conferences

Oct. 24 Multicultural Night

Whole School Assembly,

Wednesday, Oct 8

8:10 - 8:30

Sprocket Man for Walk and Roll Week!

Parent/Teacher Conference Scheduling

Electronic scheduling for our October parent/teacher conferences is now available. Please click on the following link to access the teachers' conference schedules. If you cannot access the link directly, please cut and paste the link into an Internet browser.

http://ptcfast.com/schools/Edmunds_Elementary_School

If you need assistance, please contact Mrs. Monica Gragg at 864- 1791. If needed, please see the web documentation related to scheduling your October EES conferences at PTC

Fast: <http://tinyurl.com/helpforconferences>

Walk and Roll to School Week

EES is aiming at winning the state's contest for the most students walking and rolling to school. We've come very close. Is this our year? Carpooling, riding the bus, walking, scooters and bikes all are counted as environmentally preferred ways to get to school. Be part of the EES effort to help the environment and win the Carbon Cup for the State of Vermont!

Thank you to EES PTO for the Spaghetti Dinner!

It was great to have so many families at the dinner provided by our EES PTO. It made it easier for parents to attend the Open House which is our goal. It was also an opportunity for parents and families to visit and get to know new members of our community. Thanks to all who helped set this up.

Open House Thank You

Thank you to everyone who visited classrooms during our Open House. We loved seeing you.

FROM THE PTO

**EDMUNDS "WALKS AND ROLLS" TO SCHOOL WEEK
OCTOBER 6**

October 8th is "International Walk to School Day", and Edmunds Elementary will celebrate with a week-long "Walk and Roll" to school on Monday, October 6. The classes (K-2, and 3-5) with the highest percentage of walkers/rollers for the week win bike-blended smoothies for their class. Please join in with other walkers and rollers as often as you can this week. Drivers, if you have time, park a block or two away from school and walk your child up to school. It counts toward the class tally. Don't forget to take a few moments to appreciate your crossing guards with a friendly greeting or a card signed by some kids in your neighborhood. Contact: Peggy O'Neill (peggyov5@gmail.com) with questions

KINDERGARTEN PAJAMA STORY HOUR OCTOBER 9 AT 6-7PM

Bring your Kindergarteners dressed and ready for bed for a story hour with milk and cookies. Story time will be held in Mrs. Weidman's classroom, Room 103. Please contact Marni Slavik (pto@eespto.org) with questions.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR COMPUTER TRAINING

Help our students become familiar with using a laptop! Individual help is key in helping our students succeed. You would meet students in the 3rd Floor Media Center at EES. Please contact Kathy Neil (kneil@bsdvt.org) our librarian who will be thrilled to know you have a day to volunteer and help out our 2-5th grade students.

**HELP COORDINATE MULTICULTURAL NIGHT/ROCK
AROUND THE WORLD OCTOBER 24**

Multicultural night is a fun event designed to share our diverse cultural origins through food, music, and dance. If you would be willing to help coordinate this event, please contact Marni Slavik (pto@eespto.org).

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR EES BOOK FAIR NOV 3-7

Time commitment is 1-2 hours on Monday, Wednesday, or Friday of the week. Location: EMS Library. Email Kathy Neil (kneil@bsdvt.org) if you can help.

HELP OUR SCHOOL WITH ONGOING FUNDRAISERS!

Small time commitment and flexible work to run the Vermont Coffee fundraiser or the Box Tops fundraiser. Please contact Marni Slavik (pto@eespto.org) if you can help.

PTO EMAIL UPDATES

The PTO sends out weekly email updates. If you would like to be added to the PTO email list, please contact Marni Slavik at EES PTO (pto@eespto.org). For more information about PTO events visit: <http://eespto.org/> or <https://www.facebook.com/eespto>

5th grade at the Sailing Center