



# THE SANDPIPER

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Principal

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## Principal's Report

February 2014

Ms. Giannotta continues to recover from a back injury and Mr. Robinson will continue to provide administrative support for the school during her absence.

Just a reminder, there are still downed trees and branches at the school. Please remind your child to stay away from the trees on and around school property when arriving to school and leaving at lunch and at the end of the school day.

## Front Door Buzzer Locking System

E.J. Sand was equipped with front door cameras, monitors, intercoms and buzzer locking systems. Beginning **Monday Feb 3, 2014**, the school will be locked 15 minutes after the school bell rings in the morning. This means all doors, including the front door will be locked at 9:15 a.m., and the doors will stay locked for the remainder of the school day. All visitors, including parents/guardians will be required to use the buzzer at the front door and to sign in at the main office.

Our school is a safe place and safety continues to be our top priority. We have a number of safety measures already in place. Locking doors during the school day is one additional step the Board is taking to support student and staff safety.

Our school will continue to be welcoming and inclusive places where parents and community members have a important role to play as a vital part of the school community.

As always, it is expected that students arrive to school on time and they are ready for learning at 9:00 promptly.

In addition, it is highly recommended that lunches be prepared ahead of the school day and packed in students' backpacks, rather than having them delivered by parents/guardians during the school day. This will reduce the front door traffic, and more importantly assure that your child is eating lunch with the rest of the students in a timely manner rather than waiting for his/her lunch. We appreciate your support with this matter!

## Weather Watch

All students from JK to Grade 8 are expected to go outside for recess unless the school decides that weather conditions are such that it would be unsafe for them to be outdoors. Students are to come to school ready for the outdoors for 20 minutes during morning recess and 40 minutes after eating lunch. We monitor the weather carefully and in extreme conditions (e.g., wind chill) we shorten the recess breaks or keep the students indoors.

## Colds and Flu

We do not keep children indoors during recess times because they may have a cold or flu. Unfortunately, we do not have the staff or facilities to supervise students who are sick or still recovering from an illness. Students with heavy colds, etc. who may not be able to participate in physical education, recesses or other outdoor activities, should remain at home until their condition improves. This will benefit the students concerned and prevent the spread of this illness to others.

## Appropriate Clothing

Please make sure that your children are dressed properly for our winter days. It is advisable for students to bring extra pants and socks due to the wet and cold weather of the winter months. As well, please be sure to label all articles of clothing. Boots, hats, mittens/gloves and warm coats are necessary during the winter months. Snow pants for the younger children are advised.

## Transportation:

School bus service may be cancelled from time to time due to inclement weather, extreme temperatures and /or poor road conditions. In these cases, parents and students should develop alternate care/transportation arrangements. *Please note, when buses are cancelled in the*

morning they will not operate in the afternoon. Therefore students transported to school by their parents in the morning will need to be picked-up by their parents in the afternoon. Parents, students and school staff are asked to access radio and television stations after 6:00 a.m. to receive bus cancellation information.

<b>Radio</b> 590 AM, 640 AM, 680 AM, 860 AM, 1010 AM, 1050 AM 1540 AM, 1580 AM 88.5 FM 89.9 FM 92.5 AM 93.1 FM 94.9 FM 95.9 FM 97.3 FM 98.1 AM 99.1 AM 99.9 FM 101.1 FM 102.1 FM 104.5 FM 100.7 FM 107.1 FM	<b>Television:</b> City TV The A-Channel CFTO TV CP24 Global News <b>Internet or Telephone:</b> A bus cancellation message will also be available at: <a href="http://www.schoolbuscity.com">www.schoolbuscity.com</a> or by calling 1-877-330-3001
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## Junior Kindergarten Registration for September 2014

Kindergarten registration for September 2014 began Friday, January 17th, 2014

**\*Documents required for registration include:**

- Proof of child's age (birth certificate/passport)
- Proof of residency (for child and parent/guardian)
- Citizenship and immigration status (for child and parent/guardian where applicable)
- Direction of school support form

**Please note that E.J. Sand is offering full-day/every day kindergarten for 2014-2015.**

Children born in 2010 are eligible for junior kindergarten this September. Children born in 2009 and not currently attending public school are eligible for senior kindergarten in September.

Please note that all required documentation must be submitted and complete in order for your child to be enrolled.

There will be a kindergarten orientation session on May 22nd, 2014 welcoming our new JK students and their parents to Kindergarten for 2014-2015.

## Jump Rope for Heart

This year, E. J. Sand is participating in Jump Rope for Heart! Our goal is to provide students with additional opportunities to achieve physical fitness, meanwhile raising funds for Heart and Stroke Foundation. Our Kick-Off Assembly will be held Wed. Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>. The Jump Rope Event will take place on Tues. Mar. 4<sup>th</sup>. Students will have about 2 weeks to collect pledges. Return the pledges to school by Mar. 4<sup>th</sup> to receive exciting prizes! Stay tune for more information.

## Character Education



Inclusive Education is "Education that is based on the principles of acceptance and inclusion of all students. Students see themselves reflected in their curriculum, their physical surroundings, and the broader environment, in which diversity is honoured and all individuals are respected."

-Ministry of Education, Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy 2009

On February 26<sup>th</sup> E.J. Sand P.S. will be welcoming Shannon Thunderbird, First Nations artist educator, to our school. She will be presenting a character education show to the students in our gymnasium. The show allows students to embrace the idea that it is OK to be good enough exactly as you are, and feel like you are good enough the way you are. By combining song, story-telling, theatre and music, Shannon engages students in inventive and interesting ways to convey messages of respect and hope.

# Ms. Lau and Ms. Facey's Kindergarten Class: Animals Inquiry



The Kindergarteners had been busy learning about animals. They learned about all sorts of animals, both animals living on land and animals living in the ocean. During group discussions, they showed their interest in pets and animals. We were pleased to see that many of them were able to build on each other's ideas, and make connections (e.g. went to an aquarium with Le Club) during our group discussions. Our little learners were keen to explore about different animals at the learning centers.

At the Science Centre, our curious scientists carefully examined fossils and specimens of various animals (a shark tooth, a stingray jaw, etc.) using a magnifying glass. They were designing habitats for the animals in the sand table and at the Block Centre (e.g. making a zoo and a farm using blocks). Many creative artists liked to make pictures of their favorite animals, like clown fish and octopus, using a variety of materials.



At the Dramatic Centre, our JKs and SKs liked to play veterinarian. We have mommies and daddies bringing their pets to see the vet, and of course the vet will give the pets a needle or some medication to make them feel better.

Our JKs and SKs also work diligently at the Writing Centre. They are learning to write a simple message about their favorite sea creatures. We were pleased to see them communicating their understanding of the natural world using pictures and words. Many of them were eager to present their work to their peers. Our class had also created a class mural filled with many interesting sea animals, for example, whales, dolphins, fish, octopuses, stingrays, and lots more.



For the month of February, our focus is on taking care of living things. The Kindergarteners are learning to be responsible for feeding our class fish – Snowy. They also practice mindful seeing when observing our finny friend. We are glad to see students are making gains and very proud of their work!





# School Council Meeting

## E.J. Sand Public School

Tuesday, February 4, 2014  
7:00 p.m.

**ALL PARENTS/GUARDIANS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!**

### Agenda

EJ Sand School Council  
Tuesday February 4, 2014  
7:00 pm

1. Welcome and introductions - 7:00 to 7:05
2. Review of minutes from October 2013 meeting - 7:05 to 7:10
3. Administrators message and school focus: - 7:10 to 7:20
  - Elementary School Front Door Security
4. Financial update - 7:20 to 7:25
5. Fundraising Plan and Programs - 7:25 to 8:40
  - Milk
  - Pizza
  - Playground
  - PRO Grant
  - Movie night
  - Valentine dance
  - Other?
6. Future council topics and other - 8:40 to 9:00



# Valentines Dance

Friday February 14<sup>th</sup>

*Music provided by a professional D.J. in the Gym*

*For primary, junior and intermediate students*

*Popcorn, drinks and Valentine snacks available for sale*

*Organized by the E.J. Sand Student Council and Parent Council*



## FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Save the date! Come out and have some fun with family and friends!

**Date: Thursday March 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Place: E.J. Sand PS Gymnasium**

**Movie: Frozen (rated G)**

(Ticket Details will follow mid February)



### E.J. Sand Playground Fundraising Update

Thank you to all of our generous parents, students and local businesses that have contributed to our future playground. The School Council has saved over \$20,000 from pizza days, movie nights and donation campaigns. This amount is dedicated to our future play structure. We are continuing to raise money and will be approaching corporate sponsors in the Spring. Hopefully we'll be able to start building within the year!

**A heartfelt thank you from the E.J. Sand School Council**



# February 2014

## Character Attribute: Initiative

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4 School Council Mtg. Library: 7 PM	5	6	7 Pizza Lunch	8
9	10 Scientist in the School Grade 5	11	12 Scientist in the School Grade 6	13 Reports Go Home	14 Valentine's Day Dances JK-8 Pizza Lunch	15
16	17 FAMILY DAY HOLIDAY	18	19 Jump Rope for Heart Kick-Off Assembly* 9:15 AM in the Gym	20	21 Pizza Lunch	22
23	24	25 Character Matters Assembly in the Gym 1:40 PM	26	27 Shannon Thunderbird Presentation AM Gr. K-3 PM Gr. 4-8	28 Pizza Lunch	

\*Jump Rope for Heart Day: Tuesday, March 4th

