LITTLE ROUGE ROCKETS

Principal Nancy Dodds

Superintendent Daniel Wu

Trustee Allan Tam

Office Administrators Carolyn Lee Vicki Hooper

School Council Co-Chairs Gail Auyeung Ateka Alidina



Respect Honesty Empathy Fairness Initiative Courage Integrity Optimism Perseverence Responsibility



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ISSUE 9

MAY, 2014

From the Principal's Desk



Our students continue to be working very hard this term to gain new knowledge and skills. We are all proud of their efforts and the fine work displayed in the classrooms and around the school. We look forward to a great (but busy) final two months of school!



Scholastic Book Fair - Update

Thanks to everyone for making another Scholastic Book Fair a success! We sold over 300 books and we were able to choose many new books to add to our library collection. Our

Summer Reading Buy One Get One Free sale will be here in June.

Playing on the Schoolyard After School Hours

With the warm weather here, we are noticing that many of the students are lingering at the end of the school day to play on the field or at the basketball nets. It's wonderful that the students are



spending time outdoors (far better for them than sitting in front of a screen ...), however, we need you to be aware that there is **no supervision outside at the end**

<u>of the day</u>. We have teachers supervising the Kiss and Ride and in the Bus Loop until 3:45, so children playing on the schoolyard after school are doing so at their own risk, but, hopefully with your knowledge and your permission.

School Council News



School Council Chairs attended the first YRDSB regional symposium Parent

Voice Matters! The symposium provided information and aids to support children's learning and well-being. The keynote speaker was Annie Kidder of People For Education, which is a grassroots organization that promotes parental involvement in education. Ms. Kidder emphasized the following:

- 1. Have high expectations for your children
- 2. Talk about school with your children
- 3. Have a positive attitude for learning & good work habits
- 4. Read together (in any language)

Please join us for the **next School Council Meeting on Monday, May 5th from 7:00-8:00 pm. in the staffroom** (across from the library). See you there!



Critical Thinking and Questioning

All day long, in all subject areas, students are asked a wide variety of questions to determine their understanding, push their thinking and develop their critical thinking skills. These questions are tied to the areas of the Ontario Achievement Chart and can be specific to individual concepts or as broad as "Why?" or "How can you tell?"

Examples of questions based on the Achievement Chart:

- ♦ Knowledge and Understanding:
 - Is this a story or a poem?
 - What is the sum of 4 + 6?

♦ Thinking:

- What can you infer about the main character based on how he reacted to the problem in the story?
- Mr. Grocer sells his apples for \$2.87 a bag. One family bought 5 bags of apples and paid with a fifty dollar bill. How much change did Mr. Grocer give them?

♦ Communication:

- Choose two opposing characters in the story and **explain** their point of view.
- **Justify** your solution to the problem.
- ♦ Application:
 - Use what you have learned about adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing to help you solve the problem below...
 - Use what you have learned in your science unit to write a diary entry showing how astronauts meet their biological needs in space...

Setting Students on the Path to Success:

When confronted by so many questions of varying degrees of complexity, there are a few important strategies that teachers teach students and which parents can reinforce at home:

Strategy #1:

- \diamond Understand what the question is actually asking.
 - Do this by rereading the question and finding synonyms for "tricky" or "new words".
 - Break the questions into parts if necessary. (This is particularly effective for math problems and opinion questions. *e.g. What is your opinion... and why*?

Strategy #2:

- \diamond Turn the question "inside out".
 - This sets the students on the "right path" when constructing their answer.
 - □ Sample question: Why is <u>Wayne Gretzky considered</u> "the Great One"?
 - Corresponding answer: Wayne Gretzky is considered "the Great One" because...

Strategy #3:

- \diamond Revisit the text to help you find the answers.
 - Whether "the text" is a literary text, a science paragraph or a math problem, students need to reread it in order to help them find the answers or evidence they are seeking.
 - Once they have selected information from the text, they can then add their own ideas to enhance their response.

Practising Question-Answering Strategies at Home:

Using the EQAO website is an authentic way to help students practise these strategies. Since EQAO is a **primary** and a **junior** assessment, not just an assessment of Grade 3 and Grade 6 learning, this website can be used for students in grades 1-6. The website can be found at <u>www.eqao.com</u> and contains past years' language and math texts, questions and problems.



Markham Fire Department Inspection

Recently the Markham Fire Department came to do inspections of our school and many others in the area. They provided us with an inspection record of deficiencies that we needed to rectify. One of the deficiencies involved the couch and chairs in the front lobby of our school. The report stated that we must "remove all combustible furniture from the corridors". Because of this we need to remove the furniture. We are looking into and hoping to replace the furniture with something non-combustible such as metal benches.



POPCORN! POPCORN!

Student Council will continue to sell delicious, mouth-watering popcorn at morning recess every Wednesday in May. Each bag will cost only \$1.00. Proceeds will be go to supplement the grade 8 graduation trip.



Save The Dates: May 27—June 5

This is the range of dates set aside to administer the annual EQAO tests to our Grade 3 and Grade 6 students. Parents of students in these grades are asked to please refrain from booking any appointments or vacations during this time as it is very important for all students to participate in this testing.

Lunch Assistant Positions

If you are interested in working as a Lunch Assistant at our school next September, please contact the school office at 905-202-5960.

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These are paid positions and require one hour daily over our lunch hour which is from 12:50-1:50pm.

Eco News



On Thursday, May 1st, weather permitting, the entire school will be out and about cleaning our school yard, our neighbourhood, and the area around the pond in an effort to keep our community looking great and to continue to help the environment!

Way to go Rockets!

Kindergarten Orientation Little Rouge PS

Date: Thursday May 29, 2014 Time: 6:30—7:30 pm, in the Gym

Please join us to:

- Learn about a typical day in kindergarten
- Find out about bussing
- Hear about our safe arrival program
- Learn more about the kindergarten curriculum expectations
- Learn about how we work hard to ensure your child's social and emotional well-being

Please note: This evening is for parents <u>and their</u> JK child only, so they can spend some time with each other enjoying kindergarten based activities. Please arrange child care for other siblings. Thank you for your support with this request. See you there!

Are You Moving?	Our preparations for the 2014-2015 school year are underway, and our success depends on accurate projections of the school population. If you are moving out of our school area, please complete the form below and return it to the school as soon as possible.
My child(ren),	(name(s),
who is/are in grade(s)	(current grade/s), will not be attending Little Rouge Public School
in September 2014.	
We will be moving to :	
	(please provide name of new school, if known).
Parent/Guardian Signature	Date

For children entering JK in September 2014

Character Rocket Rally

April's character trait was Honesty. "We behave in a sincere, trustworthy, and truthful manner."

Congratualations to our Honesty winners!

Ms. Wilder JK/SK :	Ammaar, Serene
Mrs. Smith JK/SK :	Harman, Diva
Mrs. Tothill JK/SK :	Muhammad, Imee
Mr. Gafar 1:	Adi, Neil
Ms. Neprily 1 :	Vera, Eliot
Ms. Kung 1/2 :	Anish, Hiren
Mr. Shubert 2 :	Lukas, Zuhayr
Ms. Cavazzon 2/3 :	Aiman, Bilal
Mrs. Cohen 3 :	Anthony, Tanvi
Ms. Ramkissoon 3/4 :	Ashiga, Mansha
Ms. Huang 4 :	Jennifer, Theesik
Ms. McHardy 5 :	Rithuja, Nicholas
Mrs. Chaudhary 6 :	Advaith, Elhama
Mr. Brown 6/7 :	Christian, Sowmiya
Mr. Yusuf 7/8 :	Pranavi, Isabella
Ms. Jimenez 8 :	Mohrail, Zoe
Ms. Foster CC:	Wikum, Anson



In May, our focus is on Integrity.

"We are truthful and sincere. We ensure consistency between what we say and what we do as well as between what we believe and how we behave."



APRIL WAS DAFFODIL MONTH AT LITTLE ROUGE A BIG thank you!

The staff at Little Rouge would like to thank everyone for their support in helping to raise funds for the Canadian Cancer Society. Our school raised a total of \$723.45 to help the fight against cancer. We surpassed our goal of \$500, which means that the "Be the Change Team" will donate an additional \$500. Our total donation is \$1223.45. This donation will be made on behalf of our courageous teacher and friend Ms. Chiu.

Thank you for your support

Little Rouge P.S. and the Canadian Cancer Society

Kindergarten Registration for September 2014



Kindergarten registration commenced on January 17, 2014 for the 2014-2015 school year.

Registration forms are available on YRDSB's website: <u>www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca</u>. Children who turn four or five years old during 2014, live within the school boundary and whose parents are public school tax supporters will be eligible to register for kindergarten. For more information please visit the YRDSB website or contact your local school.

THE AMAZING EARTH RANGERS PRESENTATION!

BY: Matthew, Henrick, Jax, Kayanan, Jayson, Theesik and Matthew D.



WHOOSH! The birds flew in over our heads. CAW! CAW! CAW! CAW! SHRIEK! The birds made these sounds while flying all over our heads. Bark! BARK! The lynx barked at us. Hissssssssssssssssssssssss! The snake hissed at us.

On April 4 2014 awesome earth rangers came to L.R.P.S.'s gym, to talk about protecting endangered animals. The earth ranger's names were Megan and Britney. They are trying to protect 4 endangered animals. This is their goal they're trying to achieve.

They brought 4 animals in the presentation. There was a Lynx (a kind of wild cat). They brought in a southern pine snake. They brought an aplomodo falcon. The last animal they brought in a red-tailed hawk. These were the animals they brought in.

They wanted us to participate in protecting 4 endangered animals. The first endangered animal was the western Bumble Bee. The next one was the Barn Swallow. The third one was the Beluga Whale. The last one was the Blanding's turtle. So sign up to be an earth ranger to protect these 4 amazing animals.

This presentation was really amazing so the message really got to us, so become an earth ranger to protect these 4 endangered animals.



EARTH RANGERS

On April 4 2014 the earth rangers came to Little Rouge Public School. We learned about endangered animals and how we can help animals live. Earth rangers are kind and awesome because they help animals all across the world like the beluga whales and the box-shell turtle. You can be an earth ranger by helping animals and their habitats. We loved every animal that was at the presentation like the red tailed hawk and other animals, reptiles

and birds. Some animals are getting threatened by human action such as cutting down trees, hunting, gas and sound pollution. The beluga whales are one of these animals getting threatened by sound pollution and oil spills in the water. Our favourite part was when the red tailed hawk flew right above our head. We also enjoyed playing a guessing game about threats and facts about animals. We learned how to become earth rangers by helping animals that are almost extinct. Earth rangers are dedicated to educating children and families about biodiversity and empowering them to protect animals and their habitats. We thank the earth rangers for coming to our school. You can become an earth ranger by going to www.earthrangers.org .WE LOVE EARTH RANGERS and good luck!

By: Aakash and Ethan



The exciting visit from Pachi the porcupine

What a visit! The Pan Am games mascot, Pachi, came to our school on Monday April 14th, 2014 for a presentation about the Pan Am games and the Para Pan Am games that is happening in Toronto 2015. Did you know that there are 41 countries participating in the Pan Am games? We also learned lots of information about Pachi, like his favourite dance...THE PACHI WIGGLE!!!! Did you know that he likes climbing trees, swimming, dancing, new adventures and meeting new friends from around the world? The Little Rouge students had plenty of fun during the presentation and we can't wait for the Pan Am games to arrive in Toronto in July from the 10th-26th, 2015 and for the Para Pan Am games in August from the 7th-14th, 2015!!! We hope you are looking forward to the Pan Am games and the Para Pan Am games and you are also looking forward to meeting the one and only Pachi the porcupine!!!

© Written by: Khyrha, Ashlyn, Salwa

<u>Subway Lunch</u>



The School Council organized and ran a Subway lunch on April 29th. It was very successful and the students really enjoyed it! A very special thank you to the parents who organized it and assisted on the day with handing out the subs – Ateka Alidina, Gail Auyeung, Amira Christie, Eva Himanen and Tim Lam.

UPCOMING DATES Little Rouge P.S.

Monday, May 5 Grade 3's to tree planting Monday, May 5 School Council Meeting 7:00pm Tuesday, May 6 Grade 2's to tree planting Thursday, May 8 Arts Night 6:30 pm Wednesday, May 14 Rocks and Rings (K - 5)Thursday, May 15 Rocks and Rings (K - 5)Thursday, May 15 Track and Field Day (grades 4 - 8) Monday, May 19 Victoria Day (NO SCHOOL) Thursday, May 22 We Night 6:30-8:30 Tuesday, May 27—Friday, May 30 Grade 6 EQAO Monday, June 2—Thursday, June 5 Grade 3 EQAO Thursday, June 5 Intermediate Band to perform at Wonderland Friday, June 6 P.A. Day (NO SCHOOL) Wednesday, June 11 MADD presentation (grades 7 and 8)

Please join us!

Little Rouge Public School's First Annual Arts Night

"A Celebration of the Arts"

Thursday, May 8th, 2014 6:30 p.m.

We are very proud of the amazing talent we have here at Little Rouge P.S. and now we want to show it off!

Featuring performances by:

Ms. Wilder and Ms. Smith's Tuesday/ Thursday Kindergarten classes The Intermediate Band Junior/ Intermediate Ensembles Grade 4 Recorder Band

Browse through our Art Gallery, including work from all grade levels. Please help us raise funds for the arts programs at Little Rouge P.S. Your donations will help us purchase <u>new sheet music and instruments, an up-</u> graded sound and lighting system, and visual art <u>supplies/ equipment</u>.

We are pleased to announce that we will be selling handmade cards created by the children here at Little Rouge. The cards will be sold in packages of 6 for **\$5.00**.

If however, you would like to make a nominal donation to support the Arts Programs at Little Rouge, and cannot attend Arts Night, please forward your donation to your child's homeroom teacher or the school office.