


October 2019
E.C.S. Newsletter



September has been fun-filled and busy. We are becoming familiar with school routines and have been getting to know our new friends. We also have been learning about colours and shapes and doing many fun crafts and art activities. Ask your child what we painted with in September! (our hands, fingers, thumbs, sponges, tiny paint brushes and large paint brushes). In early numeracy, we started learned about sorting items and recognizing and creating patterns.

Our themes for October will include: All About Me, Fall, Thanksgiving, Safety, and Halloween. Our first field trip (with both classes) is on Tuesday, October 1st to Safety City to learn about traffic and fire safety. School pictures are coming up on October 1, 2019 in the morning before our field trip to Safety City. I have sent home an order form. As they are arranged by the school, please contact the school office at 780-878-3368 if you have any questions about school pictures or how to order.

In class, we are continuing to practice how to hold our pencils correctly and print our names. If your child prints their name at home, remind them that only the first letter in their name is printed with a capital letter! Also, please help your child to grip his or her pencil correctly (using their forefinger and **bent** thumb with a pinch grip). Ask your child to show you the kindergarten "magic pencil twist" which helps students to use the correct pencil grip. In October, we will start learning letters and letter sounds. In early numeracy, we will be starting to count, create and identify sets to 5. We will also be discussing what makes us unique and what our gifts and talents are.

Animal Fun is coming to kindergarten starting in October! It is fun interactive movement program, provided by Alberta Health Services, once a week for six weeks, which promotes physical activity and social skills.

For Show and Tell, please help your child to find something to bring in that **starts with the letter we are learning** (letters of the week are noted on the monthly ECS calendar). This will help the class learn about beginning letter sounds and provides a "homework" challenge for the students. (For example, for Letter J, your child could bring in a jaguar stuffie or a toy jeep) You may send in additional items that your child would like to share with us as well (up to 3 items in total). Thanks for your help! Please **do not** send toys that "hurt" others, or knives, guns, shields etc.

In October, as part of personal and social responsibility, we will be learning telephone skills. We discuss when to call 911 and what to say to the operator. Please help your child to memorize your cell or home **phone number** including the area code. If you feel your child is ready you can also practice, **where they live** (physical address you would give the 911 operator not your box number or rural route). Remember to explain to your child **when** to share personal information and proper telephone skills. We will be working on this in class too.

Our ECS library period is usually once a week at the end of the school day on Wednesday/Thursday. We are fortunate to have grade 4 buddies who take us to the school library, read to us and then help us pick out 2 suitable books to take home. Please remind your child to bring their library books back to school on or before their library day, so that they can sign out 2 more books. If they forget their books at home, students can sign out 1 more book with up to 3 books out total. Students with 3 books out must return their books in order to take out more.

Our next ECS general meeting will be Thursday, October 17, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. Please plan to attend our bi-monthly Hay Lakes ECS meetings as information is discussed and shared and important decisions are voted on. Each month I post the kindergarten newsletter on our website. I

also send home (and post on our website) ECS calendars which include letters of the week, special days and events in addition to Student of the Day and Parent of the Day information.

On Wednesday, October 31st both classes will be attending kindergarten all day and taking part in the Hay Lakes School Halloween activities. As part of our Halloween fun, we are tentatively planning to carve pumpkins with the help of some older students in the school. I will provide all the tools, spoons etc to carve the pumpkins, but we ask that **parents provide the pumpkin** for their child. Please send your child's pumpkin to school by October 29/30. I will send home more information and a finalized Halloween day schedule closer to Halloween. Tentatively, we will carve pumpkins with our "pumpkin buddies" in the morning. At lunch time, we will change into our costumes and participate in a costume parade in the early afternoon with the rest of the school. Following the costume parade, we will be having a class Halloween party.

Milk cards (for 10 milk) and Icecream cards (for 10 icecream treats) are available for kindergarten students from the school for \$10 which can be paid by cash or cheque (made out to Hay Lakes School) sent in your child's communication journal with a note. Ice cream is usually sold on Fridays and occasionally on other days.

Tuesday/Thursday class parents, please note that Thursday, October 3rd 2019 dismissal is at 2:10 for kindergarten 2:18 for the rest of the school. Early dismissal is usually on first Thursday of each month. It is noted in pink on our yearly calendar.

Thank-you for sharing your child with me!

Mrs. Wrubleski ☺