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November 8, 2010

Grade 4 Class Newsletter

Please read …. then enter our monthly contest!!

Dear Parents,

This letter is also posted on my website and **will be there all** month if you need to refer back to it. To find my website go to: Wild Rose Public Schools home page—Our Schools—Aurora—Staff—Trudy Gressler.

*If you are not already on my e-mail list and would like to be please write your e-mail at the bottom of this page.*

**Read below for an update on all the exciting things happening at school.**

Language Arts

In Language Arts we have been working hard at learning spelling patterns and sorting words. I have sent the next set of word cards home. The children should practice reading, sorting and spelling these words. The test will normally be on alternating Thursdays. This week the test will be Wednesday, Nov. 10. We will be writing in our home journals this week. Watch for them to come home on Monday.

We had a great time with our reading buddies on October 29th. We made mummies, learned a Halloween song and had a story. We will continue to practice reading strategies and think up good questions on stories from picture books that we will share with our buddies.

We have been very busy performing 6 reader's theatre plays on the Fur Trade. The students have enjoyed dressing in costumes or handling puppets as part of the performances.

**Social**

As part of Alberta's history we have been learning about the First Nations People and the Fur Trade. We have also been discussing the trading that happened between Europeans and First Nations People and how the Fur Trade changed the First Nations People's way of life.

Snack Time

Please make sure your child has a nutritious snack as part of their lunch. The morning snack must be a nutritious snack such as: a piece of fruit, veggies, granola bar, yogurt, apple sauce, cheese strings, cheese and crackers.

**Please limit the amount of Halloween candy that comes to school; no more than 2 treats. Remember to send no snacks that contain nuts.**

Science

We had a great field trip to the Aspen Waste Management Centre. We learned about what happens to our garbage and how the landfill is responsible to the environment and the community. Many students are looking forward to trying out the toboggan hill sometime during the winter. Thank you to Skip, our guide, for an informative and interesting educational experience.

Library

Remember our library book exchange is every Tuesday. All reading counts for the reading log. If you did not receive a home reading log or have misplaced it please let me know in your child's agenda and I will send another one home.

Math

In math we are working with numbers up to 10, 000. We have had fun working on Halloween problem solving; the students have created their own problems using 3 or 4 digit numbers and a variety of Halloween characters. We are continuing to work on strategies for adding and subtracting large numbers.

Physical Education

In P.E. we have been learning soccer skills and playing variations of soccer games.

Homework 

I don't give very much homework but at times I will send work home that wasn't completed at school. I will also occasionally send math homework home. Please have your child try to do their homework by themselves as much as possible. If your child has tried to do their homework but needs some help, please do help them. This individual attention and extra help is great. If they are able to do all their homework independently please check it over when they finish, noticing if they are on the right track. If you notice they have made some mistakes, I encourage parents to circle the questions that gave their child difficulty and help your child to correct these questions right away. Immediate feedback and the coaching you can give them will help increase their understanding. Because of your feedback, they are more likely to experience success at school when they are faced with similar questions.

Thank you for taking an interest in what your child is learning at school and for helping them to become a confident learner.

I also would like to mention that homework needs to be handed in by the deadline. Students that leave homework at home are given 1 day of grace and then they are kept in at recess to redo the assignment. We are keeping track of homework assignments that are on time and completed. Good work to all who handed in their Halloween math on time!

Celebrations!

If your child is in the news and would like to share this with us, please clip the photo or newspaper article. They will be given the opportunity to speak to the class about it and we will put it in their portfolio.

Each week I choose a star student. This student may be chosen for a number of different reasons: they may be the first one ready to begin classes with all materials on their desk, they may show kindness to others, they may show a positive attitude, they may consistently show that they use their time wisely, exhibit exemplary behavior, keep the classroom and environment outside clean, volunteer to answer questions in the classroom, or help other students. The star of the week has a special lunch with their buddies on Friday (or Monday if there is no school on Friday) at the back table in the classroom and chooses a treasure to keep. Our star students for October were: Quaid, Zach and Deon

Deon  Quaid  Zach 

Congratulations to all our stars! We’ll be looking for more in November.

Please fill out and return the slip below to show that you have received and read this letter, then

your child will be entered in a contest to win a classroom prize! Draw will be Friday, November 10.

Sincerely, Mrs. Gressler

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In the future I would like the newsletter e-mailed to me.

Name of parent \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I have read the newsletter and I would like my child, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to be entered in the November contest. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.