

# SCHOOL TALK

Volume 1, Issue 6

February 2011

EDEN CENTRAL SCHOOL

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S CORNER.....

### I Love to Read Week

Our annual I Love to Read week will be taking place beginning Monday, February 14th through Friday, February 18th. Students will be participating in a variety of events all week. On Friday we will be going outside for a winter celebration in the afternoon. Students will need to dress appropriately for the weather conditions. They will be participating in a variety of outdoor events including snowshoeing, snow sculpturing, snow volleyball and going through an obstacle course.

### Vacation

Our winter recess will take place beginning Monday, February 21 through Tuesday, March 1st. School reopens on Wednesday, March 2nd. We hope all our students have a restful, fun and safe winter vacation.

### Town Meeting

Our annual town meeting will take place on Tuesday, March 1st. The town portion of the meeting starts at 9:00 a.m. and the school part of the meeting takes place following lunch. Our sixth grade students will be providing lunch in order to raise money for their

end of the year field trip to Lake George.

Mr. Lindgren



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### Special points of interest:

- Feb. 14-18-I Love to Read Week
- Feb. 21-March 1st-Winter Recess
- March 1st-Town Meeting
- March 2nd-School Resumes
- March 25-No School

## Preschool News.....

Our Dinosaur unit during the month of January was a big hit! The children enjoyed many activities at our different learning centers and our science center was the most popular. The biggest excitement was creating volcanoes! The children created a volcano using clay and they learned how to make our model volcano erupt using vinegar and baking soda. We were able to look at educational videos of real volcanoes erupting on our

new computer.

Another popular science activity was learning about fossils. Mrs. Murray brought in a gastrophod fossil that was found on Lake Champlain. Mrs. Finlay's fifth grade class is learning about fossils as well. Some preschoolers will visit fifth grade with Mrs. Murray to share this 500 million year-old fossil.

During the month of February the children will be learning about different feelings. The dinosaur cave will turn into a "Feelings House". This week we will ask the children what we should name the house and I'm positive they will come up with a creative name!

**HAPPY  
VALENTINE'S  
DAY.....**



## QUOTE OF THE MONTH.....

*"Hearts are when you have love."*

*Georgia, Age 4*

## KINDERGARTEN NEWS.....

The kindergarten children have a beautiful ocean display that is in our library that we hope people stop by and see. We had a lot of fun reading and writing about ocean creatures. We now have left the ocean and are currently studying about woodland animals.

Carrie, from the Nature Center in Morrisville, came in and helped us kick off our study with a talk about, "Animals in winter." She returned last week to show us a slide show about bears. She will be back this week to talk about deer and moose. We have been writing and reading about bears ever since. We even have been using bears and other woodland animals for math as well.

We made some fun math word problems about bears and other animals. We used the mimio to create the stories. Mrs. Tobin photographed the playground with no one on it and

we put bears and other animals in the picture to make up our own stories. We also used other habitats. The class really enjoyed that. They made other word problems with wild animals and old calendar pictures. People are getting very good at solving math word problems. This week we are going to begin some subtraction stories. We are also do great deal of counting. Everyday we count to 100 when we do our calendar. We count by ones and by 10's. This would be a great thing to practice anytime.

The kindergarten loves reading. We have had a few classmates read to our class. They also have started to read to our preschool friends next door. We have many amazing readers. Many days they are able to read the morning message without any help! It helps that they are taking

books home and reading everyday to foster good reading habits. We now are gearing up for, "I LOVE TO READ" week, it starts next week!!

On February 14<sup>th</sup>, our class will be having a little Valentines party in our classroom. Many of the students are making Valentines to give to the residents at, The Manor, in Morrisville. Our hope is to have enough cards so that everyone there will have one. We will need about 80 cards. Thank you, to all the children who have made cards. I know folks will enjoy being thought of. Happy Valentines Day to ALL !!!!!

Mrs. Tobin

## SECOND GRADE NEWS.....

### First Grade Literacy

We have continued practicing how to write a response to literature. When we finished writing about Max from the book Bunny Cakes, we used colored pencils to color the introduction red, the focus statement parts blue and yellow, and the matching supporting details blue and yellow. Finally we colored the conclusion green. Mrs. Chauvin hopes that this visual activity will help us remember the parts. After that we wrote a response to literature for the book Where the Wild Things Are followed by one for the book Brave Irene. With this last book, we are working more independently with adult support as needed. Some of us are finished and are typing our response on the computer.

Grades for the 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester close on March 11<sup>th</sup> which is soon after the winter break. It takes a considerable amount of time to do all of the individual assessments needed to accurately report on progress, so the first week in February we began having reading text level assessments. Next we will have our current unit Foundations assessments, spelling assessment, and a writing prompt.

### Second Grade Literacy

After completing our animal adventure stories, we typed them on the computer,

and then we began creating an illustration for our stories using a program called Tux Paint. Our stories and illustrations will be on display at the Celebration of Student Work in April. After that we wrote a report about the moon using all the information we had learned while studying about the moon. The focus of our report was about why it would be extremely difficult for people to live on the moon. We have now begun writing a special kind of report. We each chose a famous American and are writing a biography of that person. We will then be creating a poster about our famous American which will also be on display at Celebration of Student Work. With grades closing March 11<sup>th</sup>, soon after the February break, the teachers will begin end of trimester assessments this week so they can report our progress accurately on our report cards.

### Second Grade Theme

We completed our study of the moon. We played Jeopardy to review for the assessment. Everyone seemed to enjoy it and we hope to do it again for our next assessment about the stars. We began learning about the stars this week and we already have a long list of interesting facts from the books we have read and the DVD that we watched. After February break, as a culminating activity, we will be visiting the Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium in St. Johnsburry on Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup>. More

information will be coming home soon.

Second graders are all looking forward to our trip to Mrs. Chauvin's house on Tuesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> to go snowshoeing, weather permitting. Students have been working hard to be cooperative and respectful to earn this special privilege. Adults have been working hard to help the students to be successful. By the time you read this our adventure will probably have already happened. I bet we will have had a great time!

Mrs. Chauvin



## PE News.....

From January 20-February 19, 2010 something fun and exciting has been happening for the k-6 students at Eden Central. They are participating in a dance/rhythmic activity unit. Grades 3-6 students are learning Africa Folk dance skills; "fishing dance" which tells a fishing story. They will then use the dance movements to create their own Folk dance in groups of 3 to 5 of their choice. The culminating event to the dance unit will be a performance of the dance they created in their small groups, with their peers and/or parents in the audience.

The dance unit aligns itself with the Vermont Physical Education Standard including Knowledge/Motor Skills, Fitness, Social Interaction and Affective Qualities.

Mr. Riby-Williams



## 4th GRADE NEWS.....

### **Writing By: Gabby & Dustin**

We have been doing lots of writing these days. We have a new quick write box where kids get to write ideas down and put them in the quick write box. A few times a week Mrs. Elliott picks an idea out of the box and we write about it. The class has written many good and funny stories and we have lots of good ideas. We are also writing Response to Literature pieces about The Underground Railroad. We are almost done and are excited to share them.

### **Reading By: Erica & Monica**

Our class has been learning about slavery and the Underground Railroad. Mrs. Elliott's group has been reading Freedom Crossing by: Margaret Clark.

Mrs. McNally's group's recently finished Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt by: Deborah Hopinson and Mrs.

Tallman's group has been reading Dead or Alive: The True Story of Harriet Tubman. We have really enjoyed learning about this topic.

### **Science By: Bryce and Charlotte**

In science we are learning about the planets. We learned how much we would weigh on other planets. We weigh less when there is less gravity and more when there is more gravity. We also learned a mnemonic that says: My Very Educated Mother Just Served Us Nine Pizzas. That stands for the planets in order: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto.

### **Math By: Rhiannon & Ethan**

In math we are still focusing our time on learning multiplication. We have been playing a lot of math games to

help us learn our facts. One game is "More or Less Multiplicatoin," another is "Moolah On My Mind," and the last one is "Spinning Around Multiplication." These games are really fun and have been helpful for us.

### **Specials By: Ellabea & Ryan**

In P.E. we are doing a dancing unit. We got to make up dances in groups and perform them for our class. In art, we are doing a solar system project where we made planets in two dimensional shapes. In guidance we have been learning about hygiene and getting along. We read a book about redwood trees in library and we really liked it. In music we are learning about music notes.

### **Class News By: Alan & Isaiah**

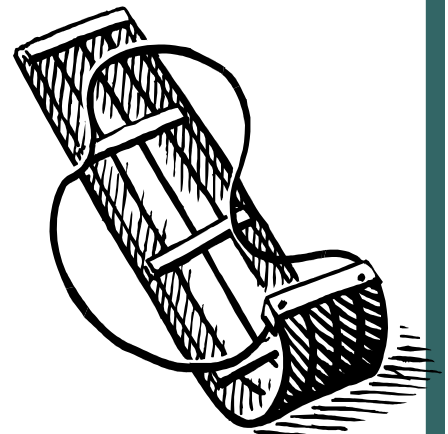
This is February...can you believe it?... and we have 14 juicy stars. Woohoo! I Love to Read Week is coming up next week. Bryce's birthday is on the 15<sup>th</sup> and Andrew's birthday is on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Valentine's Day is on the 14<sup>th</sup>...who is your valentine? February vacation is coming up too so get ready!

### **Reading Buddies By: Jenni & Riley**

We have been having lots of fun reading with our Kindergarten reading buddies. Last week the guest reader, Charlotte read the book A Stranger in the Woods to both classes. We are now working on a project in small groups where each group chose an animal from the book that we will research on the computers and then make a mural with all of our facts. This is going to be a fun project and be sure to look for the mural in a few weeks outside of our classroom!

### **Interview With Mrs. Elliott By: Lily & Mariah**

What is your favorite color? "Blue"  
How long have you worked at ECS? "7 years"  
Do you love your 4<sup>th</sup> grade kids?  
"Yes, I love them very much!"



**FIRST GRADE NEWS.....**



The groundhog predicted only six more weeks of winter.. I wonder if that is true the way things are looking now we will have snow until July. It is perfect weather for our first grade unit. We are heading to the Antarctic. We will be studying about the penguins and their environment. This is always a fun unit and the kids learn a lot about penguins and other information across the curriculum.

Thank you to all of those people who have been sending in the gallon jugs. We have started our igloo, but still need more jugs.. SO, please keep sending them in.

We are working on our States of Matter unit with solids and now we are moving into liquids. We will learn what the properties

are that make up liquids. We have already investigated the solids. We are also going to be looking at what happens to water and liquids at certain temperatures.

The second graders have been working on fractions, symmetry, and geometry terms. They are almost ready to move on to our next unit which will include larger numbers, place value, and money. They will also be incorporating more problem solving into the unit.

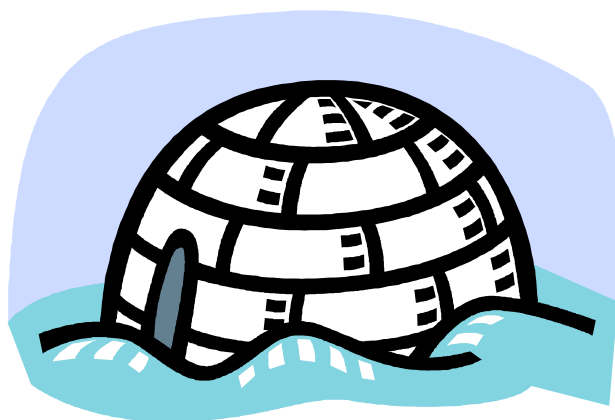
I hope you are all having a great winter . Please remember next week is our I Love to Read week. Please let me know if you are interested in coming into the classroom and either reading to the class or want one of the students to read to you.

Our 100<sup>th</sup> day of school is soon approaching and we will be celebrating by doing lots of little 100 day activities. It only means from here on in the year will fly by. Also, a reminder that Valentine's Day is right around the corner. Yikes, how many more activities will we have to do? Please come check out the igloo.

I hope you all enjoy the winter break that is soon approaching.

Until next month,

Mrs. Tague



## CONGRATULATIONS!!!

### Eden Youth Sports

Would like to announce and Congratulate the 5/6 Teams on their fine playing

At the 1st Annual Waterville Basketball Tournament Recently

5/6 Girls (coached by Bob Hoadley and Heather Perkins)-3rd place

5/6 Boys (coached by Todd Fitzgerald )-1st place

Also,

Thanks to the entire school family for pulling together with 241 food items (194.2 lbs.)

To win the food drive trophy



## WE LOVE TO READ WEEK.....

Next week we will be having our annual I Love to Read Week here at school. It's going to be a fun and exciting week of reading activities throughout the school. On Monday students will be setting reading goals for the week for both home and school. **As parents it is important that you sign your child's reading log each night so that they can reach their goal.** Here is what the week looks like:

**Monday, February 14th:** Students set reading goals with their reading teacher. School-wide Drop Everything and Read in the gym at 8:15.

**Tuesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>:** Dress up as your favorite Character from a book. Please have your child wear a name tag. If they have the book they "appear in", they should bring the book to school. Drop Everything and Write,

**Wednesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>:** Reading Buddies: Students will read with another class in the school. Students will be sharing a writing piece that they have authored this year with their reading buddy

**Thursday, February 17<sup>th</sup>:** Rock-a-Thon: Students will take turns sitting in the lobby rocking and reading.

**Friday, February 18<sup>th</sup>:** Outdoor winter celebration beginning at 12:45. Students will participate in two fun outdoor activities. We will come in and enjoy hot chocolate and donuts provided by our awesome cooks.

### Other events:

Got Caught Reading (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday)  
Students who read at night are eligible to read to either Rosy or Bearon (the dogs)!

RIF books during library class

Share favorite book at share time or bring in an interesting news article to share

Community Readers throughout the week

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help throughout the week please give me a call at school! Thanks for your support to encourage our students in the love of reading!

Sincerely,

Denise Lynch, Librarian

*Tracy Campbell Pearson will be visiting our school in March. She will discuss the process of writing and illustrating books. Parents can learn more about this Vermont author and illustrator at her web-site:*

[www.tracycampbellpearson.com](http://www.tracycampbellpearson.com)

**STAY TUNED FOR THE EXACT DATE AND TIME.....**

**CHECK US ON THE WEB:  
EDENSCHOOL.NET**