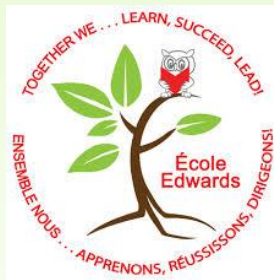


March

Class Newsletter

**École Edwards
Elementary School**
<http://edwards.rockyview.ab.ca>

Michelle Cyrzan
mcyrzan@rockyview.ab.ca
(403) 948-5922



March Message
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Calendar

Dear families,

March brings many activities to our school community. It is our month for G.E.A.R (Gathering Edibles for Airdrie Residents). During the month of March, we will be supporting the Airdrie Food Bank and our local community by helping families in need. Families are welcome to send non-perishable food items during the month of March that will be donated to the Airdrie Food Bank at the end of the month.

On Friday March 18th, the second Communication of Student Learning (Report Card) will be sent home. This document is an opportunity to celebrate what your child is able to do and provides suggestions for continued learning. If you have any questions or concerns about this document, please contact me via phone or e-mail.

We welcome a student teacher into our classroom for the months of March and April. Mme Marie-Eve Bastien comes to us from the University of Alberta in Edmonton and will be completing her final practicum with us before she graduates and begins her teaching career in April. She is very familiar with École Edwards and our class having volunteered with us frequently already this school year.

Looking towards the middle of March marks Readers are Leaders week and a performance by the Wide Open Theatre group, "Munsch it up", based on stories by Canadian author Robert Munsch. More details will soon be available from the Learning Commons.

Our Student Lighthouse Committee has planned a theme day for St. Patrick's Day, March 17th. Students are encouraged to wear green, yellow/gold, or rainbow coloured clothing to school.

Happy St. Patrick's Day and an early welcome to spring!

Michelle



Curriculum This Month

French: We will be continuing vocabulary development by completing units on penguins, St. Patrick's Day, and spring ☺. We will continue to do guided story writing using action words, physical descriptions, places, and feelings. We are continuing to write in our journals, moving towards independent writing. We will continue to add descriptive words to our writing. In reading, we will continue with sound blends. We will focus our attention on "ai", "un" and "eur".

Math: We will continue our focus on numbers from 0-100. Counting forwards to 100 (and beyond!), backwards from 20-0, skip counting by 2's to 20 by 5's and 10's to 100, counting on from a given number and identifying numbers out of sequence. We will also continue to look at concepts of measurement, estimation and addition and subtraction problems using various problem solving means.

Science: We are beginning our unit of "The Needs of Plants and Animals".

Socials: We will look at responsible citizenship, cooperation and respect, decision-making and caring for the environment.

Art: We will look stamping, sculpting and watercolour painting.

Gym: We will look at movement in various ways through gymnastics.

Health: Safe and unsafe actions will be the focus.



Volunteering

Parent volunteers are a valued and important part of our school community. As per Policy GBCD, all volunteers in Rocky View Schools as part of a classroom, school or system-wide program are required to submit a Criminal Record and Vulnerable Sector Check prior to the start of the volunteer activities.

A letter to take to the RCMP is available at the school office.

We are Nut Aware!

École Edwards is a nut and seed aware school. That means we ask that no tree nuts or peanuts be brought to the school. Let me know about nut or other allergies so necessary precautions can be made. Please refer to our school Allergy Policy at: <http://edwards.rockyview.ab.ca/publications/allergy-medical-policy/allergy-policy>



Lost and Found

If your child loses something, please let me know so that we can help locate it as soon as possible. Lost items are donated monthly.



21st Century Competencies

Communicator

Communicator

Communicators understand, interpret, and express thoughts, ideas, and emotions to connect with others.



What does this look like in the classroom?

Skills of a good communicator can be seen both orally and written.

Students can:

- Organize ideas logically
- Listen to others and interacts when called upon
- Be respectful and attentive to verbal and non-verbal cues
- Uses communication tools to engage audience when speaking
- Expresses their wants and needs in a respectful manner
- Communicates in the language of instruction
- Establish personal connections by focusing on how their message may impact others
- Ask questions for clarification and for the sake of interest

Literacy Corner

Sight Words

Sight words are words that appear frequently in texts. They tend to be irregular words that don't follow a reading rule or pattern. As a result, early readers pause for a long time when they encounter these words. This can result in a breakdown in comprehension and can affect their fluency. Students are encouraged to recognize these words by sight. Below are some strategies to help you practice the lists of words that your child is bringing home every week:

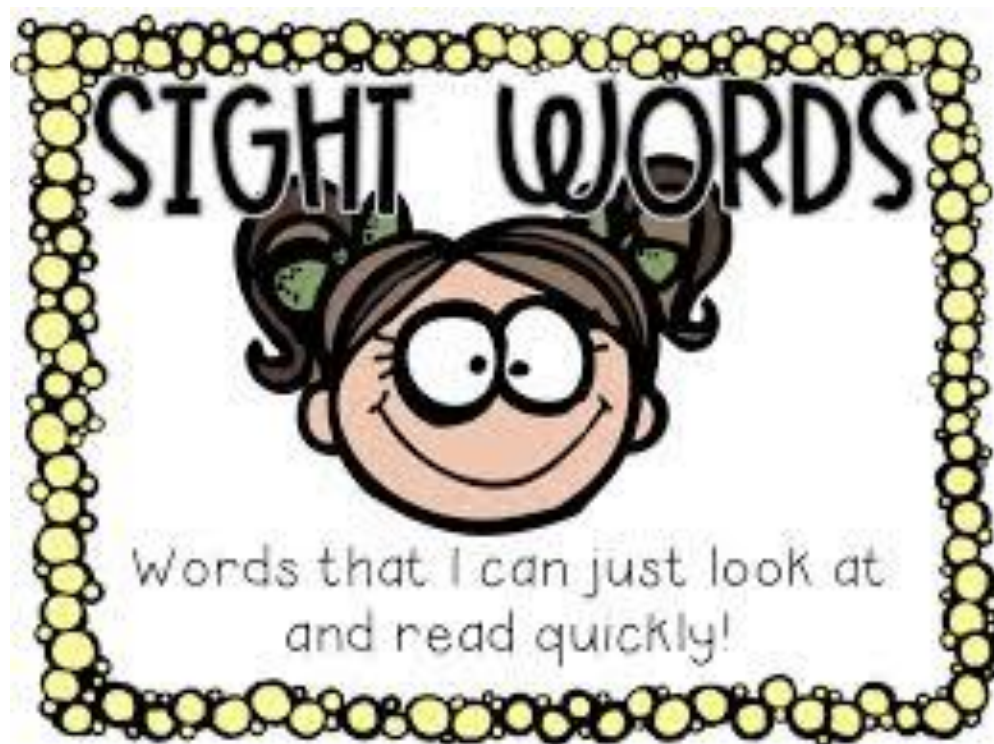
Practice them for a few minutes every night.

Create a game of memory to play by writing sight words on index cards.

Create a sight word puzzle. Write the words on a piece of paper and have your child cut each letter out. Mix the letters up and put them back together.

Sight word jump. Create two sets of sight words on index cards. One player is the reader and the other player is the jumper. Lay one set of sight words on the floor. The reader, reading from their matching set of sight words, calls a sight word. The jumper must find the correct sight word and jump on.

Hunt for sight words in your child's home reading or learning commons books.



Numeracy Corner

Addition and Subtraction

Adding and Subtracting Made Fun



Benefits

By playing these games, your child will learn there is no right way to add and subtract – mathematicians use a variety of strategies.

Tip!

Encourage your child to use a strategy that makes sense to him or her – for example, a “counting-on” strategy might help your child keep track of the score in a game, starting with the larger number (such as 12) and then counting on the remaining quantity (such as 13, 14, 15, ...).

You can make up games that involve adding and subtracting numbers by using number cubes and number cards. Have your child help you make four or more sets of number cards. Each card will have a number from one to ten on one side of it. Here are some games to try:

- **Higher Number.** Shuffle or mix up the cards and then leave them face down in a pile. Each player takes two cards and adds the numbers. The player with the higher sum gets the other player's cards. Players continue to take and add up two cards at a time until no cards are left. The player with more cards is the winner. You can play the same game with subtraction, but it would be called Lower Number. The player with the lower difference (answer) gives his or her cards to the other player. The person with the fewest cards at the end is the winner. You can play the same game with multiplication.
- **Number Cube Twice.** Each player rolls two number cubes and adds the numbers shown. The higher number wins. You can play the same game with subtraction and multiplication.

LEADER IN ME

We are a Leader in Me school and
we will be focusing on The 8
Habits throughout the school year!



March 2016

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	1 Deadline to purchase Fun Lunch. Special School council meeting 6:30-8:30	2	3	4 Friendship Friday – Grade 4 led
7	8 Fun Lunch, if ordered	9	10	11 Scholastic book orders due, if ordering
14 Leadership Assembly – Grade 3 led Reader are leaders week	15	16 Wide Open Theatre School Council Meeting 6:30 pm	17 School Wide Spirit Day – dress in green gold/yellow or rainbow	18 Communication of Student Learning sent home Friendship Friday – Grade 3 led
21	23	24	25 PL Day – no school for students	26 Good Friday - no school for students
29 PL Day – no school for students	30	31		