

Pot of Gold News: Why do we practice sight words?

This year at Rainbow Creek, one of our primary focuses is on literacy. Not only are we trying to instill a love of reading in our students, but we are working to support them in developing effective reading strategies and a solid sight word vocabulary.

While there are more than 600 000 words in the English language, studies have shown that there are only 13 different words that make up 25% of the words we read, and there are 100 words that make up 50% of the words we read. These are called high-frequency words or “sight words” and there are several reasons why they should be explicitly taught. One is that many of these words do not follow commonly taught rules and cannot be “sounded out”. The only way a child can read these words is to recognize them by sight. A second reason is that knowing these words by sight will make a student a faster, more fluent reader and thereby improve their comprehension. A third reason is that while many of the high frequency words do not carry much meaning, they do affect the meaning of the sentence and make it understandable.

Attached to this email are some games that you can play with your child as you practice sight words with them at home.

Bus Loop Safety

Student safety is our top priority. Please discuss the bus loop with your child. Students who are riding bikes, scooters, skateboards, etc., to school should be walking them on school property, especially on the bus loop. Students who are waiting for the doors to open in the morning should be heading to their respective doors.

Milk Ordering

Milk ordering is done online through School Cash Online:

Grade 1-5 students can opt to order white or chocolate milk (\$45 for three months at a time): Oct/Nov/Dec is the first ordering period. Orders are due by Tuesday, September 27th. If you need assistance ordering please contact Mrs. Leveille at hleveille@rockyview.ab.ca or 403-273-8129.

Terry Fox

If our school raises \$6500.00 or more in pledges for the Terry Fox Run, Mr. Pate has volunteered to shave his head! Let's support this cause and raise lots of money!

The Terry Fox Run will be held on Friday, September 30, 2016. Pledge forms will be sent home shortly. AFTER the run has taken place we would ask families to send in the money collected. To set up an online page, please visit <http://www.terryfox.ca/RainbowCreekElementary>

We are in need of parent volunteers as this helps the event to run smoothly and successfully. Volunteers will be asked to supervise at key locations of the run. Please

note that volunteering for this event means that you won't be able to walk/run with your child. If you are able to volunteer, please email Mrs. Caylee Dahl at cprongua@rockyview.ab.ca by Monday, September 26, 2016. The run is scheduled to begin shortly after 9:00. Volunteers that have been confirmed will meet at the gym doors at 8:45. The run will end around 10:15.

Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately to participate in the run and for the weather. In order for your child to participate in this event, their Walking Field Trip form must be returned.

*Please note that Kindergarten children will be doing a revised run to accommodate age and class times.

Freezie Friday

Freezie Friday has started. Student leaders go from class to class selling freezies for 25 cents each, maximum of two per student. If you are able to volunteer one or two Fridays a month over the lunch hour, please contact our CDA at kismith@rockyview.ab.ca.

Breakfast

RCE's breakfast program is looking for volunteers. The commitment would be from 8am-8:35am and volunteers can assist more than one day a week if they wish. What you get out of this experience? A chance to build relationships with some of our students and knowing that you're contributing to healthy eating at our school! We would love to welcome you to be a part of our community.

Picture Day

Picture day is Tuesday, September 27th.

Playground Update

Most of the fencing has come down around the grass in the playground. We have lovely new grass for students to play on at recess!

Regards,
Heather Leveille
Rainbow Creek Elementary School
403-273-8129