



Athena School News

Doing it the Write Way Together!

October 2009

Yard Sale for Unicef

Mrs. Wright's grade three class will be having a yard sale for grades one, two and three classes on Tuesday, October 27th. The money raised will go to Unicef to help children in Africa. We will be selling used toys and books for 50 cents and one dollar each. Parents, please help us raise money for the children in Africa by sending money with your child on the 27th!

Cafeteria News

Please remember when selecting items for your child's lunch box that there is not enough time to cook lunches, in our microwaves. The microwaves are to be used to warm up items only (max. 30-45 sec). We can not provide a service where individual students have opportunity to be using our microwaves for 3 to 5 minutes at a time considering the length of our lunch hour. We have too many students waiting. Thanks for your understanding in this matter!

Please remember to pack the proper utensils (spoons, forks, etc..) for your child's lunch. These items are not readily available at the school and the cafeteria will no longer be providing them at random to students unless they are buying their lunch from them. Thanks for your cooperation and understanding!

Grade One Class

For the parents with children in S. Betts' grade one class, feel free to check out their classroom blog: <http://thebettsteam.blogspot.com/> on a regular basis. Make sure to check for random "Word of the Day" and "Picture of the Day" posts - they could earn your child a sticker! SBetts :O)

Home & School Update – October

2009-2010 Executive: Sue Pettit, President; Roxanne Campbell, Secretary; Robin Smith, Treasurer; Jerry McAulay, Administration; Rachel Cameron, Elementary teacher representative; Janice Carragher-Doyle, Junior high teacher representative.

Website: look under 'School Community' to find Home & School's agendas, meeting minutes, and announcements.

New meeting day and time each month: 2nd Monday of each month, from 6:30-8:00 pm.

Parent Volunteer & Contact Info' sheets to be sent home. Even if you don't have time to help out, please return the form with an email address (if you have one) so we can send you other news about home & school events.

Scholastic Book Fair

If you or anyone you know would like to help out with the Scholastic Book Fair this year, you can go see Mrs. Dunn in the Library. The dates are November 2nd - 6th.

Note to parent:

When writing a bus note for your child for a bus pass, could you please indicate the civic address. This makes it easier for the bus driver to know exactly where the stop is.

Wednesday, October 14th from 6:00 – 8:30pm: PEIHSF's Semi-annual Meeting will be held at Central Queens Elementary School in Hunter River. This meeting provides an opportunity to discuss school-related issues with the Minister and Deputy Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development. To register, or for more information, contact the PEIHSF at 1-800-916-0664.

Dear Parents,

Each year at Halloween many Canadian children raise funds to help millions of children in 150 of the world's poorest countries. "Children Helping Children" instills the spirit of giving in Canadian children and allows them to improve the lives of children around the world. This year the money will be going to the children in Malawi and Rwanda, two of Africa's poorest countries. With the money raised through this UNICEF campaign, boys and girls in these countries are more able to receive an education and the tools to help them build strong futures.

We hope that all grade 1-9 students at Athena will participate once again in our school project for UNICEF. Last year we raised over almost \$1300 and this year we hope to match or raise that contribution. If each student and staff member were able to collect just \$5.00 each, we would surpass our goal.

We would like students to request and save donations for the rest of October.. Over the coming week, we will be distributing UNICEF donation sheets. Collecting for UNICEF throughout late October alleviates the need for students to canvass from door to door. As receipts are given for donations of \$25 or more, the donation form with address information should be completed and returned for contributions of \$25 or greater. For smaller donations, which are equally encouraged, students can simply record those on a separate sheet of paper. They can also suggest that family and community my donate on-line as contributions made in this way will be added to Athena's total. (Google UNICEF.ca). Students are asked to return the pledge form, used or unused, other donations noted on paper and the money itself no later than Monday, November 2nd. All of this should be placed in a sealed envelope or secure plastic bag and returned to the classroom teacher. UNICEF did not forward us official collection envelopes this year, possibly to save paper and dollars, so we appreciate your co-operation in seeing that the donation information and money is safely returned to school.

We know our support will "Make A Difference" for children in Africa. The short classroom DVD shown to classes to kick-off our fund-raising will allow our students to see the differences in Canadian and African schools. In our newscasts this month, we can all see evidence of how UNICEF is helping the victims of the natural disasters in Asia rebuild their lives. Thank you for participating in even a small way to our school effort! Athena UNICEF contact -Margaret Cain and Grade 9 UNICEF promoters

Saturday, October 24th from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm: One parent needed to represent Athena at a special meeting hosted by the Western School Board. Contact Principal, Jerry McAulay, at 888-8486 for more info.

Tuesday, November 17th from 6:30-8:30: Literacy Specialist with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development will be putting on a session, "Helping your child with reading and writing".

A Special Thank -You

On behalf of our grade three teachers and twelve lucky grade three students, I want to extend a special thank-you to the Summerside Fire Department for providing them with a very rewarding and educational experience. These students got to tour the Summerside Fire Department and enjoy a wonderful barbeque with some of their favourite Fire Fighters. Students were transported to the Fire Station in the fire trucks. A great time was had by all!

School Counsellor' Notes to Families: "With Hope in Mind, a program of support and education for families and friends of persons with mental illness, begins in Summerside on Oct. 19th, running from 7-9 pm for 8 weeks. Call CMHA for more details.

"Positive Parenting from Two Homes", a cost free program for parents who want to assist their children cope best with separation and divorce, has a number of two evening sessions scheduled Island wide this school year. Sessions will be held in Summerside in late November and late May. A four session childrens' sharing and information program can be offered by a facilitator with the school counsellor present, during the school day, ideally after parents have taken the adult program. For the adult program please contact 1-877-203-8828. Ms. Cain, school counsellor, can be contacted to discuss a childrens' program.

Important Dates:

Oct. 15 & 16 - Conventions for TF/CUPE - no classes
Nov. 5 - Parent Teacher Interviews - no classes
Nov. 6 - PD Day - no classes
Nov. 10 - School picture retakes
Nov. 11 - Remembrance Day - no classes
Nov. 2-6 Scholastic Book Fair
Nov. 26 - Report Cards go home