Newsletter September 2013



**Eel Ground School**

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Eel Ground, NB

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Welcome!

Welcome back all students, families and staff. After an enjoyable summer holiday, it is time to commence a new year. This year we are very pleased to have new members joining the staff of the Eel Ground School and fortunate to have worked with Mr. Hawkes, Mrs. Duplessie, Mrs. Skidd and Mr. McKay. They will be greatly missed.

A few of the new staff members we would like to welcome are Beverly Larry (K4), Megan Flower (Gr.5/6), Jessica Dunnett (Gr.6/7), Tessy Taylor (Pys.Ed) and Sarah Cooper (Education Assistant). Some of our current staff have new roles. Miss Cooper (Gr.3&4), Mrs. Harris (Gr. 1&2), Ms. Larry (Literacy & Numeracy Mentor) and Mrs. Ward will be taking on the role of or new principal. We would like to express best wishes to all former and new staff.

Breakfast Program:

Eel Ground School would like to continue with its early morning breakfast program, open to all students, Monday through Friday of each week.

Goodie Cart:

A reminder that we will be offering goodie cart again this year but there will be no borrowing.

# Dear Parents:

Principal Helen Bernard-Ward

school house

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Noon Hour Lunch: We will be providing a hot lunch program once again this year, thanks to Canada Feed the Children.

A monthly menu will be provided for your child.

A reminder that if your child does not like what may be on the menu that day, you will need to provide them with a proper lunch or they also may take the bus home for lunch that day.

Lunch is followed by twenty minutes of recreation and play.

Please remind your child or children about proper manners and behavior in the lunchroom. Improper behavior will warrant detention.

Reminder: Please dress your child accordingly as we do go outdoors for recess and after lunch.

Please label your child’s school bag, jacket, boots and other personal belongings, as this makes it easier to identify their belongings.

**School Hours**

The instructional day is from 8:20 am to 2:30 pm.   Please do not drop off students at the school before 8:20 am, as there will be no supervision.   No student will be allowed beyond the school lobby prior to 8:15 am.

**Attendance Policy**

School attendance is taken at 8:30 a.m. Your child is late at 8:31 a.m.    Breakfast is served from 8:20 – 8:30 am. Walkers should arrive as close to 8:20 am as possible (especially if they are eating breakfast).

We are implementing a new policy regarding attendance and also promoting good attendance through a new initiative.

All students arriving after 8:31 am are considered tardy and parents must sign them in at the office before going to class. The best time to drop off students is before 8:31 am.  All students being dropped off must arrive through the main doors of the building.   Parents must park in the school parking lot and walk your child into school and sign the late form.

[**NEKAW NAQSI P+SIN We’re always at school- Perfect Attendance Program**](http://ambe.ca/node/72)

The goal is to promote attendance at school, encourage punctuality, and discourage tardiness.  For each day that a class has perfect attendance at the start of the school day (when the first class begins), the classroom teacher will put up a letter outside of their room.  For instance, on the first day that the class has perfect attendance, the teacher will put up the letter N.  This continues until a class has spelled out NEKAW NAQSI P+SIN.  The first class (or multiple classes) that spells out the phrase will receive a class pizza party, at the end of the week in which the class won.

Attendance is important to the overall academic and social success of your child.  Attendance will be taken within the first 10 minutes of each school day.  Parents and/or guardians are required to contact the school each and every day your child is absent.  If parents do not call before 10 a.m., school staff will call you at home or at work to find out the reason for the absence.

Students with perfect attendance will go into a monthly draw to win a Tim’s card to take their parents for a coffee to thank them for bring them to school on time and everyday.

***Character***

Character development is an important focus for Eel Ground School. The 10 Character Traits have been widely promoted and are based on the seven teachings, and this initiative benefits both staff and students by fostering a climate of respect and cooperation conducive to better learning.

Staff, students and parents will be introduced to ideas promoted by behavior consultants such as Ron Morrish and Harry Wong. Eel Ground School intends to build on this momentum in partnership with School Council. One of our goals is to revise the code of conduct for students, school staff and parents, to recast it in terms of the positive behaviors that exemplify the character traits promoted by the Eel Ground School.

crayons

“Behavior Management is like a ship. The Captain sets a course, a DIRECTION. But if the ship gets off course, the Captain must make a course CORRECTION. ”

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*CODE OF CONDUCT*

Over the next few months we will be launching a new Eel Ground School Code of Conduct. This document will bring current school behaviors, policies and practices together with Policy 703 NB Student Code of Conduct. There will be an increased emphasis on intervention, training, and consequences that are planned to help students learn how to behave rather than just punishment. There might be times when behavior warrants detention or suspension. The school staff has been presented with the philosophy of a book entitled With All Due Respect by Ron Morrish. He has emphasized the need to create a culture of acceptable behavior within school. Students will be trained how to behave in a variety of situations including playground, lunch, hallways classroom and when a supply teacher is present. We believe that all students are capable of behaving well, so it is our job to equip then with the necessary skills to do so.

**Our Code Of Conduct**

Arrive on time and prepared to learn

Be polite to children and adults

Work hard to be successful

Respect our environment

*Scent Free School:*

Indoor/Gym Footwear:

Students are not to wear black-soled sneakers in the gym. This request is made in order to maintain the flooring, in the classroom corridors, and the gym.

Please refer to the very important

Attached memo concerning

Scent Free School.

Reward Day

The last Friday of the month

will be reward day for the

students. The afternoon is designated as professional development for the staff. Therefore there will be no school the last Friday afternoon of the month.

Please return all forms signed by

Friday September 5, 2008. Thank you!

Policy 701:

Policy 701 is mandatory by The Department of Education This policy applies to all adults whose jobs or role within the public school system places them in contact with pupils. This includes, personnel, contract and casual employees, visiting professionals, as well as student teachers and volunteers.

This website can be accessed by logging on to: *http://701.nbed.nb.ca*

**SUCCESSFUL NEWSLETTER DELVERY BALLOT**

Sign below to indicate that your son/daughter has delivered to you this month’s newsletter. Tear this ballot off and have your child return it to the ballot box outside the office by Friday September 6th. Each month a draw will be made for a gift certificate.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Child Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Class\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature