

# GRADE FOUR CHRONICLE



Ms. Arnot's Class

September 28, 2007

Wild Rose School

## Highlights

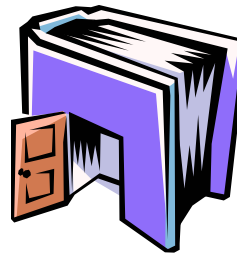
Thank you to all the parents who were able to attend the Curriculum Information Meeting on the 18th. We reviewed the curriculum, classroom expectations, assessment, homework, and behaviour expectations. Parents were also provided with a few references; a curriculum overview, editing strategies, multiple intelligence information and conventions check list.

Several parents volunteered to assist our classroom. Mrs. Gerritsen will organize the book orders. As the orders will be going home with a student, we will only accept cheques as payment. Mrs. Murray will organize the parent volunteers to assist with the classroom activities and field trips. When a trip or activity requiring help is planned, we will let Mrs. Murray know how many volunteers we are allowed to bring and she will confirm the volunteers. Mrs. Brown has volunteered to represent our class at the school council meetings. Mrs. Sims and Mrs. Cabral will be helping out on hot dog days, while Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Cabral will be helping out on hot lunch days.

This year, the children will be busy recycling the juice and pop cans around the school as part of the Grade Four Science Curriculum. The money raised from this activity will be spent on a special field trip at the end of this year.

Our classroom e-mail address is [wrcomet@spschools.org](mailto:wrcomet@spschools.org). We're already getting mail which we enjoy reading and sharing. Thank you for taking the time to send messages, pictures and jokes to the students.

If your child doesn't have any homework on a particular evening please let them read with you for ten or twenty minutes. As you are reading together ask them to summarize what they have read in their own words and ask them questions about the material. A child really doesn't read, until he/she understands what the words mean.



## Language Arts

We have reviewed sentence formation and learned about different types of sentences: declarative, imperative, interrogative and exclamatory as well as the correct punctuation to be used at the end of these sentences. Suffixes have also been an area of focus.

The students will be working on the development of planning strategies for their writing. I will be reviewing the 1 to 5 rubrics for assessing their plan.

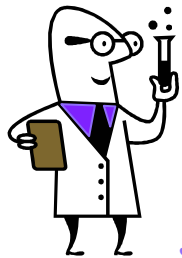
We have started our first novel study for the year, Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing, by Judy Blume. This is a story about a Grade four student, Peter Hatcher, his friends and his family. Peter's younger brother, Fudge, provides many insights into family life. Through the novel, the children will be learning about character and plot development, determining the main idea, and how to summarize the story in a variety of methods.

Spelling words will be listed in your child's agenda every Friday. The students will complete a pre-test on Tuesday and circle any words that they should continue to study throughout the week. Please check their agenda and help them review these words.



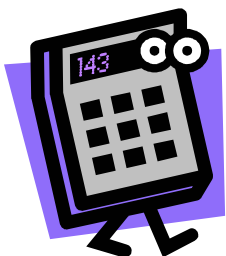
### Social Studies

We have been busy brainstorming trying to list and organize all the things the students already know about Alberta. The students will be learning how to read for content and make their own notes. The language arts skills we learn and use in social studies will be reinforced in the other subject areas as well.



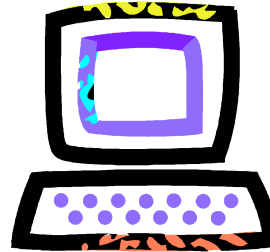
### Science

We have started a unit on Waste in our World. As part of the curriculum our class will organize the recycling of juice boxes and cans. If you have any pop or juice containers that you would like to contribute, please send them in on Thursdays.



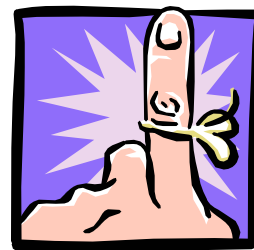
### Mathematics

The students have been busy gathering data and recording this information on a variety of different formats. We've completed an introduction to patterning, making our own bracelets according to the attributes the students have determined.



### Technology

We start off each morning checking our email and answering a research question. I sent home the user name and password to the **On Line Reference Center**. This is a powerful and safe information site that is supported by Alberta Education. Please check out page 6 in your child's agenda for more information about this research tool. Don't forget to check the school web page to learn what we have been up to in our classroom at **wrem.spschools.org**. That's where you will find another copy of our classroom newsletter.



### Reminders

We will start collecting canned or non-perishable items for the Food Bank this week. As many of you are aware, this is a traditional Thanksgiving activity at Wild Rose, which supports our citizenship theme and demonstrates caring for members of the community.

Wednesday, October 3

Staff Meeting – 12:30 Dismissal

**Thursday, October 4 – French Fry Harvest –  
Lunch time**

**Friday, October 5 – Thanksgiving Assembly  
1:30**

**Monday, October 9 -Thanksgiving**

**Tuesday, October 10 – P. D. Day**

- **No school for students**

**Friday, October 26 – UNICEF Carnival**

We have carved our apple head doll heads and are patiently waiting for them to dry out and shrivel up. Later on this month, depending on the drying process, we will be spending the afternoon putting the final touches on our dolls. The students will be examining their doll heads to see what character traits have developed and try to plan the costume, which will enhance their character. These characters will soon come to life in their stories. I will try to let you know what day we will be decorating the dolls, for the more available hands the better! If you can bring fabric, scissors, glue guns and generally anything that you think might enhance the dolls is more than welcome.

## **Allergy Alert**

**I have to ask all parents, when you volunteer in the classroom or come in for interviews, to please not wear perfume or cologne. I am highly allergic to most perfumes and colognes and the sight of me not being able to breathe is not one I want my students to experience. Some highly scented hair gel also causes the same reaction. Thank you.**