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Important School Bussing Information!

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We know that we have communicated this before but it is necessary to remind parents that students are not permitted to change their regular travelling arrangements without written permission from home, **and the approval of the principal**. Students are not permitted to switch busses, or to take a bus, if they are not assigned to that bus. Johnny cannot go to Peter's after school to hang out and get a ride to Peter's on the bus, for example. When Cathy has her birthday party, Susie and Judy are not permitted to travel to her house with her on the bus if they are not assigned to that bus. Under special circumstances we will try to accommodate parent requests for changes to student transportation, but it must be done in advance so we can check the capacity of the bus, and assign the student to that bus for that day. An example might be when parents have to be in St. John's for medical reasons and the child needs to stay with their grandparents. Another example would include those students with parents who have custody agreements and the children reside with both parents but on different days.

- So - if you need your child to change his/her transportation method to or from school, you
 - must send a note a day in advance, and it must be for a reason deemed to be legitimate by the principal.
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2010/2011

School Holidays

April 22—29

May 23

June 23 is our Last Day

Student Work to be Published!

A program sponsored by the Department of Education titled Cultural Connections solicited student writing from elementary students in an attempt to get them to share their cultural experiences. Three of our grade 6 students, Emily, Thomas, Bobby Joe, and Ziyad had their work recognized and it will now be published in the Cultural Connections magazine. Congratulations gang!!

Mark Your Calendar!

- * February 14th was Jane-way Day.
- * February 19th—100's day!
- * March 7th—Start of Education Week.

100's Day—Friday February 19th!

We will be celebrating our 100th day of school on Friday. Scavenger hunt lists as well as information on representing the number 100 went home last week. We ask parents to make sure that the work stays student focused. You might be tempted to roll up your sleeves and get involved, but please make sure the projects remain the work of the students and not that of their parents!!! :)

Jr. High Monthly Reports!!

By now all Jr. High Students would have received a monthly progress report for February. It is our intent to send these reports home regularly to keep parents informed between formal report card times. Parents should review these reports carefully and contact their child's teacher if they have questions or concerns.

Winter Clothing!

Just a reminder to make sure your children have the proper clothing for playing outside in the snow. It might be a good idea for them to keep a pair of lined splash pants in school, and please make sure they have their mittens and hats.

Emergency Contact Information

Please make sure the emergency contact information we have at the office is up to date. We depend on our automated telephone system for emergency closures so it is very important that the numbers we have are accurate.

Stadium Blankets For Sale

In an attempt to make a positive influence in hockey we are selling stadium blankets with our school logo on them and a message that reads
Sportsmanship + Respect = Fun.

The blankets are on sale at the office for \$20.00.

Matthew Rocks!!!

Some of our parents might be aware that in grades one and two the Department of Education has teachers assess and report reading levels provincially in January and June. Part of the grade one assessment involves the recognition of 40 common site words which impact the child's ability to read. In January of 2009 only 29% of our students knew all of these words, this year, in 2011, 65% of our students assessed as knowing the forty words. We offer this as evidence that our teachers are working extremely hard to develop new methods and strategies to assist our students with word recognition and reading. And, the change from traditional spelling tests, and a traditional spelling program, has not left our children behind. In fact, this evidence suggests that what we are doing now is far more effective. You know it before we say it.... Our School Rocks!!!

We are on the web

www.matthewelementary.nl.ca