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Mrs. Wilson

April News

Welcome Spring! With the warm weather comes all the exciting Spring activities at James Hillier school; swim team, badminton, open climbers and much, much more. It is hard to believe we are just 3 short months away from the end of our grade 4/5 year. During this time, we still have a lot to do and learn. Be prepared for a busy, fun and exciting Spring!

Curriculum Update

In reading, we finished reading the novel *The One and Only Ivan*. What a great book! The entire class has agreed on how wonderful this book has been. While reading the book, we were working on answering reading comprehension questions using a three stage approach. 1. Use part of the question to start your answer. 2. Answer the question. 3. Use proof from the text to support your thinking. The students have done a very nice job of answering these kinds of questions and I have seen a lot of growth in several students in their quality of reading comprehension answers. Our next project is a Book Fair. Students will read a book of their choice and create a display that includes; Author Biography, Title, Problem, Solution, Character, Setting, Plot Summary, Personal Opinion and Mood. This is an at school project. The students will have plenty of class time to complete the work.

In writing, we will be learning how to write a book recommendation to go along with our Book Fair Projects.

In math, we are starting a unit on division. The students will develop strategies for dividing whole numbers. They will use mental math, estimation, manipulatives and paper/pencil calculations. We use division in many day to day situations. Encourage your child to practice basic division facts. Talk with your child about the strategies you use to recall these facts.

Some fun math sties to visit for at home practice are: www.mathfrog.ca, www.mathfactcafe.com, www.mathies.ca.

In science we will once again begin our rotary exchange with all the grade 4 students meeting in our classroom and the grade 5 students meeting in Ms. Clarke's classroom. The grade 4 students will learn all about Light and Sound.

Hoops for Heart

James Hillier raised almost \$5000 for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. Thank you to all the family and friends for supporting such a worthy cause.

Spring Food Drive

The Spring Food Drive begins Monday, April 30th. The class that brings in the most items will be awarded a "Make Your Own Sundae" party.

Volunteers – Important Information

If you want to volunteer at James Hillier School, including volunteering to go on field trips, you will now need two important pieces of documentation. 1) a valid police check and 2) a certificate printed out stating that you have completed the A.O.D.A. module (accessibility Ontario).

Starting March 31st, the office will need both pieces of information. To complete the

Ontario Accessibility Module and print off your certificate that you have done it, you will need to go online. The website is in the school newsletter, and can be found on the school website.

All volunteers must complete the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act Declaration (A.O.D.A), mandatory training available at:

[Hhttp://www.granderie.ca/board/elementary/parentportal/volunteers](http://www.granderie.ca/board/elementary/parentportal/volunteers)

When you complete the training, please print out the certificate, and send a copy to the school office.

Indoor Shoes

With spring comes mud! Please be sure your student has clean indoor shoes to wear so we are not tracking dirt all through the classroom.

Dates to Remember

April 3rd Light it Up Blue – Autism Awareness Day

April 4th Kanata Village Trip

April 11th- Bite of Brant Trip – Grade 5 Only

April 27th – Elementary Swim Meet

