

# April Newsletter 2016

## School Improvement Planning

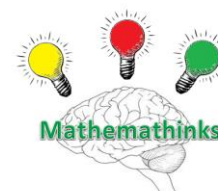
100 % of students at Lou MacNarin School will have their progress monitored in Reading, Writing, and Math Facts to ensure that they are progressing and working to meet expectations.



<https://secure1.nbed.nb.ca/sites/ASD-E/schools/loumacnarin/Pages/default.aspx>

## Important Dates

- April 1 - Report Card Day
- April 1 - Elementary Math Competition - Grades 3 - 5 to prepare for the Mathemathinks Math Competition.
- April 5 - CAR Club
- April 7 - Parent Teacher Interview Evening 5:30 - 7:30 or by Appointment.
- April 8 - No School For Students - Parent Teacher Interviews - 8:30 - 11:30 or by appointment. Teacher Professional Learning in the afternoon - New Report Card Reporting Criteria.
- April 13 - Math Competition - Grades 3 - 5 Practice test/selection for top students to write the math test - Mathematica Centrum - National Math Competition (9 - 10)
  - Library Visit - Grades 4/5 Madame Gallant Guay and Grade 5 Madame Roy.
  - Home and School Meeting - 6:00 in the Library
- April 14 - CAR Club
- April 15 - Crazy Hair/Crazy Hat Day for \$1.00 donation to support purchasing new items for our Snoezelen Room.
- April 16 - Provincial Chess Tournament. Three of our students will be participating in the tournament in Edmundston.
- April 18 - Professional Learning Day \_ No School for students.
- April 19 - Professional Learning Day - No School for Students.
- April 20 - Math Competition - Mathematica Centrum - National Math Competition - Grades 3 - 5 in the Cafeteria. (9-10AM)
- April 21 Math Celebration Morning - Parents are invited to visit classes to see math in practice. Students are working hard at mastering their math facts and would like to share their strategies and fun math games to help learn and practice math facts to ensure that their learning is solid. We would love to share with parents strategies that you can use at home to help us. Parents may visit classes between 10:30 - 11:15.
- April 22 - CAR Club
- April 25 - PRILS Testing - Progress in International Reading Study. Grade 4 Madame Dupuis' class will be writing this test to help the department with this educational research project.
- April 27 - Student of the Month Assembly
  - CAR Club
- April 28 - PJ Day - \$1.00 donation for the Snoezelen Room
- April 30 - Mathemathinks Elementary Math Competition at Lou MacNarin School (8:30 registration. 9 - noon)



## Physical Education News: Curling and Golf at Lou



Students at Lou MacNarin have spent the month of March learning about and practicing some new sports. Earlier this month, a representative from Canadian Curling Association's Rocks and Rings Program was in our Phys. Ed. classes to introduce the sport to students. Also, with equipment obtained from Golf Canada, students are in the midst learning basic terms, and practicing basic shots from the sport of golf. Although the sessions are a brief introduction of the sports, they serve as a gauge on a child's interest in the activity and the likelihood of them wanting to participate in community programs in these sports. If your child expresses interest in curling and/or golf and are looking to register in such programs, feel free to contact Mr. DiBonaventura at the school for help finding the proper community contacts.



Fitness Club - This term our students have been working on developing their levels of fitness. We tested our students with the famous Beep Test to measure their ability to sustain activity over time. We then worked on being able to run for up to 20 minutes without a break. When we finished our unit, children who were able to run for the entire 20 minutes were able to become members of the Fitness Club and sign a giant poster at the door to the gym. At the end of the unit we retried the Beep Test to measure our personal growth. Children are very proud of their efforts to become more active. When you are in for parent teacher interviews, please stop by to see how many of our children achieved their goal!

### VELO TOUR

Save the date of **Sunday June 5th** in your calendar for this great fundraising event. Velo Tour is a community bike ride that raises money for the seven schools in the Dieppe area. Last year, the 825 participants along with contributions from community businesses helped raise \$2100 for each school. Lou MacNarin School's funds have gone to replenish Physical Education equipment and support our Physical Education program. Each participant's 10\$ contribution gets them a New Balance athletic T shirt as well as a chance to win one many door prizes including one of two \$250 gift cards from **Mike's Bike Shop**. Registration forms will be coming home at the end of April. Register the whole family to support this great event.



### Our Book Fair was a Big Success!

We would like to thank Mrs. Helgason for organizing our latest book fair. We had many students and families visit the library to purchase books to support a love of reading! The Scholastic book fair had \$2,000 in sales and it raised more than \$1,200 for library books and learning aids. A huge Thank You to everyone that supported this fundraising and literacy initiative. We would also like to thank the volunteers who came out to support our Book Fair.



The Mission of Dialogue New Brunswick is to promote and celebrate understanding, respect, appreciation, and inclusion among the Francophone and Anglophone cultures of New Brunswick. Students in Madame Roy's Grade 5 Immersion class have been writing letters to pen pals in grade 5 at Ecole Carrefour in Beresford NB. The children will be heading off to Fredericton to meet with their new friends. They will spend time engaging in activities and visiting the legislature. Questions about the activity may be directed to Madame Roy.



## Playground Committee

Our Playground Committee is working on finishing our survey to determine which types of playground equipment children are hoping to have installed on our 3 - 5 playground. We are hoping to have our new equipment purchased and installed over the summer.

The children are also hoping to update the back corner of the playground with park furniture that is inviting to create a buddy zone where children can gather and feel safe and engage in making new friendships.



April is Math Month at Lou MacNarin School. We will be celebrating mathematical thinking and helping children with stretch goals to support learning mathematics. We hope that all of our children are able to build on their math strategies to help with logical thinking and if/then problem solving strategies. Children have lots of opportunities to practice this kind of thinking at our school. We encourage children to build their math skills through games like chess and cribbage, Other games like Architecto, Equilibrio, Tangramino, Artistix, Dig It, Archelino, Crazy Office, Mango Tango, Monster Brunch, Smart Cookies, Zoologic, Taiga, Raccoon, Quick Quick, Speedy Words, and Last Tango, are all games that are being sold by our Entrepreneur Club and played by our children who need enrichment in mathematics. Games can be ordered on line through the District On line Banking option for Lou MacNarin School. Game descriptions can be seen on our school web page, [https://secure1.nbed.nb.ca/sites/ASD-E/schools/loumacnarin/School%20Documents/2016%20Price%20list%20and%20game%20description%20\(2\).pdf](https://secure1.nbed.nb.ca/sites/ASD-E/schools/loumacnarin/School%20Documents/2016%20Price%20list%20and%20game%20description%20(2).pdf) .

We encourage families to play card games and board games with our children to help them solve problems and work on strategies to help them to be better at math. You can help your children to build on math skills by making small changes to the dice that you use when playing games like Snakes and Ladders. If your child is working on one more or two more than a number, you could make your dice have only ones and twos on all sides. This increases the number of times that you child is practicing what they need to practice and not working on something that's too hard or too easy. As they get better at this skill, you could change the numbers on the dice. We think that puzzles are also an excellent option for our children to build their problem solving skills. Working with children on coding is also a fun way to help children develop their logical problem solving skills. Students at Lou MacNarin School have been working on using their coding skills to program Dash and Dot, two robots that were purchased through the fundraising efforts of our Entrepreneur Club.

As part of our Math Month, we will be hosting a number of very exciting math competitions. We are getting ready for our school, district and national math competitions. Our pencils are sharp and our paper crisp. April 1 is our first in school math competition for grades 3 -5. We are getting ready for our Elementary Math Competition - Mathemathinks, scheduled for April 30<sup>th</sup>. All elementary schools have been invited to come to bring their best math thinkers to our competition to engage in a number of fun activities that celebrate math and problem solving. We will have a pencil and paper test, math fact competitions, a coding component, and a hands on problem solving challenge.

Our students will also be competing in a national math competition this month - Mathematica Centrum. Our students have been working to develop math vocabulary and problem solving strategies. They are excited to showcase their skills and compete with other strong mathemathinkers!

We are also hosting an open house on April 21<sup>st</sup> for our families to come in and visit our math classes. We want to help our families to support mathematics at home. We will be playing games and engaging in mathematical thinking activities that build math skills by

helping children to develop strategies that are progressive and stretch their learning and application of their learning to real world problems.