



CONNECTIONS

Connecting to Your World

Happy New Year!

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Go Back to School!

Do it for the opportunity. Do it for a better career. But most of all, do it for yourself. You're closer than you think.

Hard to believe that one semester is over already and we are starting the second one. Time sure flies when you are learning.

The ESL class is still going on every Monday evenings from 5:00 to 7:00pm and they are learning a lot. You can join this class whenever you like.

The first session of Precision Reading has finished up in Red Lake and is now moving to our office in Ear Falls. The second session will be starting up again in Red Lake around the beginning of March. For anyone that would like to improve their reading skills, you should look into taking this.

We have experienced a

good deal of success in the first sessions. Participants have found that reading has become a real joy to them and not such a hard job.

Remember our hours here in Red Lake are Monday to Thursday, 9:00am to 4:00pm and in Ear Falls, Monday to Thursday, 10:00am to 4:00pm. Should you require an evening appointment please call us at 727-3207 to arrange a time.

Check out our website

www.redlakeadultlearning.org

Family Literacy Day

Established in 1999, it is held annually on January 27th, and it is an initiative developed to celebrate parents and children reading and learning together.

Learning can happen anywhere!

January 27th is Family Literacy Day. Literacy can be a family endeavor. Here are some tips for a good start!

Take your kids with you to the grocery store.

- Ask them to help you count out the money for what you are buying

Play a card game or board game with your kids.

- Pick a day to have a game night and invite your family and friends

Go for a walk with your family around your neighbourhood and read street signs.

- Think of a city or country that begins with the same first letter as the sign

Sing along to your favourite songs on the radio.

- Find the lyrics online to see if you were singing the right words

Make a new recipe together with ingredients you have at home.

- Try making the recipe in this newsletter for play dough.

Writing Corner

Happy New Year Wish

Our Happy New Year wish for
you

Is for your best year yet,
A year where life is peaceful
And what you want, you get.

A year in which you cherish
The past year's memories,
And live your life each new
day,
Full of bright expectancies.

Our wish for you a holiday
With happiness galore;
And when it's done, we wish
you
Happy New Year, and many
more.

St. John's Standard First Aid

We will have a course for St. John's Standard First Aid this spring. This is a Level B – CPR Adult and Child. The course will run from 8:00am to 4:00pm each day and will be held on

March 31st & April 1st, 2012

The cost will be \$140.00 and your cheque, cash or money order will reserve you seat. Fees must be paid 2 weeks prior to course start date.

Make literacy your New Year's resolution

Recipe Corner

Play dough

1¼ cups of flour

¼ cup of salt

1 package of dry unsweetened juice crystals (you can use Kool-aid)

1 cup of boiling water, cooled down so you can touch it

1½ tablespoons of vegetable oil

Directions

Get a large bowl.

Mix the flour, salt and dry juice crystals in the bowl.

Add the water and vegetable oil to the large bowl.

Stir.

Mix with your hands for about 5 minutes, until smooth and the dough is all one colour.

Put the play dough in a zipper bag to keep it soft for up to 2 months.

Tip; Use food colouring instead of juice crystals to make different colours of play dough.

The New Year is here, and with it comes promises of change – eating healthier, going to the gym, getting a new job. Improving your literacy skills can help you make the ultimate change.

Check out these lifelong learning tips:

- **Become a volunteer reader** – When we read in our heads, we miss out on the many benefits reading aloud can provide. Literacy skills are just like any other skill set; in order to improve and strengthen it, practice makes perfect! Offer to read at the school, the library, to your grandchildren. Vocabulary, comprehension and oral communication will all be improved, not to mention bringing the love of reading to children.
- **Get Active** – Stretch your mind and body with board and video games. Maybe it's time to learn to play golf or even try out being a jockey thanks to the new Wii or Xbox system Santa left you! Games are a great way to strengthen your reading, writing, math and concentration skills. www.Hasbro.ca offers lots of free online games as well as having some of our favorite classic board games to enjoy.
- **Incorporate writing into your everyday life** – The holidays were a perfect time to catch up with loved ones through greeting cards. At this time of year, how about writing thank you cards for any gifts you may have received? Another great way to practice writing skills could be through your own blog. You could stumble upon a whole online community with interests and experiences similar to your own.
- **Money Magic** – As you now know, practice makes perfect when it comes to literacy! For example, when you're in the check out line at the grocery store, try calculating your bill before the cashier rings up the total. How close were you? Do this a few more times and soon you'll know the total before the register does. For some great advice in financial matter visit www.SmallChange AddsUp.ca
- **Reach Out** – If you know your literacy skills are not quite where you would like them to be, reach out for some assistance. It is never too late to ask for help. Call us at 727-3207. We would love to help.

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We're on the Web!

redlakeadulthoodlearning.org

Sponsors for 2011/2012

"It is not how much you give or do, but how much you put into giving or doing." ...and we are very grateful for those people in our lives.

Here is a list of this year's Corporate Sponsors.

- Balmer Motor Hotel
- Contact North
- Dr. Matthew Walkiewicz
- Ear Falls Royal Canadian Legion
- Forever Green Gift Boutique
- Gillon's Insurance Brokers (Red Lake) Ltd.
- Goldcorp – Red Lake Mine
- Hamel Accounting and Income Tax
- Harmony Centre for Community Living
- Keewatin Patricia District School Board
- Lakeview Restaurant
- New Starts for Women Inc.
- Oakview Builder's Inc.
- Red Lake Career & Employment Services
- Red Lake District Lions Club Inc.
- Red Lake Regional Heritage Centre
- Russel S. Smart, Barrister and Solicitor

Upcoming Classes

- ✓ *General education and upgrading Monday to Thursday 9:00am to 3:00pm*
- ✓ *High School Credits \$60.00 a course*
- ✓ *ESL Monday evenings 5:00 to 7:00pm No cost*
- ✓ *Computer Classes Wednesday afternoons from 1:00 to 3:00pm \$60.00 if needing the credit, otherwise no charge*
- ✓ *St. John's First Aid March 31st & April 1st Cost \$140.00*