

YOULEARN DL / SEPTEMBER 2011 / VOLUME 1

Welcome Back!

Welcome back to the new school year everyone. We are delighted to have our team of experienced and dedicated teachers and secretarial staff with us again for 2011 - 12, plus the addition of Will Eaton as Vice Principal with responsibility for DL, K - 9. This year promises to see some improvements in the way that we communicate with our parents and students.

Please go to the YouLearn.ca website and save it as a favourite, as it will be your go-to place for updates on DL news and activities.

You will see the DL weekly schedule already posted, along with the DL monthly calendar. This is an on-line calendar that you will be able to view for the upcoming months. Please check it out regularly for updates.

Will will be posting NewsNotes on the website regularly, so check there for information regarding activities that you will need to sign up for.

Please call or email us anytime. If you are having trouble accessing the information on the site, please email Will or myself straight away and we will help.

Principal, Caroline Pennelli



Our DL K-9 Community

YouLearn will be fostering more social and community learning opportunities this year. In relation to your son's/daughter's program, to be clear, these experiences will be optional. Learner and family choice continue to be paramount at YouLearn. However, for interested learners expect more:

- 1) Opportunities to work with peers
- 2) Feedback from peers and staff
- 3) Opportunities to share your learning and have it contribute to your communities
- 4) Opportunities to engage meaningfully with technology and improve your functional, design and communication skills.



MEET AND GREET

The YouLearn staff would like to invite all K-9 DL learners and their families to a welcome back potluck brunch and the first of YouLearn's 2011-12 Learning Series Workshops, *The Essentials of Language Arts*.

Location: Oliver DL Centre

**Time: Wednesday September 21, between 10:00-noon
(RSVP to Will or Caroline prior to Sept. 16, 2011)**

There are a number of benefits in coming together face-to-face for us and our school. Keep your eyes on the website for more information on the event as it becomes available. Until then, have a productive first two weeks!



This year we will be using Google Calendar to communicate all DL events and happenings. Should you have any problems accessing, using and/or printing the calendar do not hesitate to contact us!

Never let school interfere with your education.
~ Mark Twain

ABOUT ME



Name: William J. Eaton

Age: 45

Home: Summerland, BC

Hobbies: Mountain biking, running, swimming, film, writing.

Chocolate or Vanilla:
Both

Family: Emily, Noah, Olivia, Lisa and Skittles.

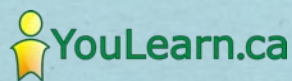
Favourite subjects to teach: Drama, PE and Math.

Last book read: *Drive* by Daniel Pink.

Education: BSc. University of Guelph; BEd. Brock University; MA in Learning and Technology from Royal Roads University.

Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself.

~ John Dewey



YouLearn wishes **Barb Patterson** well with all of her new adventures!

Take chances, get messy and make mistakes . . .



Resources

Just a reminder: if you are missing a resource, schools open as of Tuesday Sept. 6th. Check the staff schedule, drop in or make an appointment and let us get you what you need! This year we have 24 laptops to share. If you are without access to one, phone and book yours today.

YOULEARN'S FUTURE

As a newcomer I am inspired by our school's mission statement. Not only do I believe it provides us with a clear focus, I also believe it fits with what I see are the three pillars of effective schools/classrooms: purpose, community and structure. Over the next two months I have three mission statement related goals:

- 1) Define what we mean when we say "empower home learners"
- 2) Uncover what is valued and/or needed inside of YouLearn's learning culture in order to make it more responsive and positive
- 3) Introduce more learning community experiences for our K-9 learners.

Please feel free to email me including the word "mission" in the subject line if you would like to contribute or offer suggestions on how we can improve YouLearn. Parent and learner involvement in helping YouLearn continue to evolve as a school is essential. I look forward to hearing from and working with you.

FROM THE VICE-PRINCIPAL

It is with much excitement and pleasure that I look forward to the coming months and challenges I will encounter. More so, I look forward to meeting the learners, families and staff that make up our community. Happy learning!

William Eaton

21ST CENTURY LEARNING

This year YouLearn's K-9 DL website will be changing. Over the next few weeks your patience is appreciated while it is "under construction". Rest assured we will keep the old one intact as we go about redesigning the site.

For interested learners and parents your thoughts and help in this process would be appreciated. Contact Will if you would like to have this experience as part of your educational plan this year. To everyone: as the site changes, any feedback or thoughts would be appreciated!

FYI - Better addressing the needs of 21st century learners is at the heart of changing our website. As the world changes, so too must we in order to better serve our learners.