

# RAIN GUTTER REGATTA

Ahoy Mates!

As part of our Field Day Celebration...

We are going to put our students' engineering and problem-solving skills to work by having them build a *small* boat to compete in a boat race. Can't you just feel the excitement in the air? The race will be on **Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>** during our **Field Day Celebration**.

**We would like everyone to take part in the races.** All students will become the captain of their boat and must follow specific guidelines.

Your boat should be your own design. Your boat **must** have the craft stick, the bell and the paper clip (provided for you) as part of its design. All 3 of these items may be altered to fit your boat's design.

The boats will be raced down a 3  $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 10' rain gutter. The boats are propelled only by the wind (which looks suspiciously like a box fan). The hull (outside) of the boat should be no more than 3" wide and 2" deep so that it will easily fit inside the gutter. The width of each boat's sail may not be larger than 5" due to the available space between the two racing gutters. As you begin to design your boat, keep in mind that your main objective is to make your boat move as quickly as possible using only wind power. A beautiful boat isn't always the fastest boat. You don't get extra speed for good looks, and sometimes the ugliest or strangest-looking boat wins the race- that's what makes this race so incredibly exciting!

**All captains must complete their boat and bring it to school by Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup> so that they are ready to race the morning of Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

The Regatta is a double elimination race. Awards will be presented to the winner from each classroom and ultimately the **Gutter Cup Trophy** will be awarded to the overall Blythe Park Grand Champion.

**Things to know:**

- **Ms. Gorman will host a lunch hour Boat Building Workshop on Tuesday May 24<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup> during students' recess time. Students should report to the gymnasium and bring any building materials with them.**

- Adaptations may **NOT** be made to your boat after racing begins on race day unless an extreme situation arises.

Remember:

- Boats need to be "docked" at school on Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Dimensions are
  - 3  $\frac{1}{4}$ " wide
  - 2 inches deep
  - Sail no more than 5" wide.

Happy Sailing!

*The Blythe Park Staff & PTA*