

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 **Tuesday, June 6th during our Field Day Celebration.**

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

Your boat should be your own design. Your boat **must** have the rubber band, pom-pom and penny (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 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ " 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 Monday, June 5th so that they are ready to race the morning of Tuesday, June 6th.

The Regatta is a double elimination race. Awards will be presented to the winner from each grade and ultimately the **Gutter Champion Medal and Plaque Engraving** will be awarded to the overall Blythe Park Grand Champion.

Things to know:

- Ms. Gorman will host a lunch hour Boat Building Workshop on Wednesday May 31st and Thursday, June 1st during students' recess time. Students in grades 1-5 should report to the gymnasium and bring any building materials with them.
- Ms. Gorman will arrange classroom boat building times with kindergarten and Early Learners. These dates will be specifically communicated to families.
- 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 Monday, June 5th.
- Dimensions are
 - 3" wide
 - 2 inches deep
 - Sail no more than $4 \frac{3}{4}$ " wide.

Happy Sailing!

The Blythe Park Staff & PTA