

Hello Bruce,

I heard you quoted on the radio this morning about children crying in class because there is no recess. The following are some other problems I have noticed. The children are starving by 11:45! For many who do not eat breakfast or who's first food of the day is the snack cart from the church, this is a definite hardship. Their little bodies can't go that long without eating.

Cancellation of recess is forcing children to work while they are hungry. This directly impacts their ability to concentrate. I am noticing a definite difference in how much curriculum I have covered compared to other years (it is less). We are not as far along with our routines either which again impact the children's learning. To my Grade 1's, recess is important for developing friendships and for children who's friends but in different classes, it gives them an opportunity to reconnect. Students new to the school (I have 4 in my class) are finding it especially difficult to make connections and build new friendships.

Yes, I miss Recess but not because I get crabby when I have to hold it, or would love a cup of coffee. I miss Recess because it is hurting my students.

-Grade One Teacher