



News is short this week... you are welcome to read on if you like...

## Peach Pits

I'm going to tell a story on myself. I like peaches. I've been known to eat one whole, with the only bit of refuge being the pit. I'd actually eat the peaches on the way to work in the morning. I'd finish my peach and, on exiting the car, I would walk past a hedge on the way into the building and drop my pit into the hedge. Ready for a day of teaching and learning.

I'm retired from regular teaching. Currently, I work to support teachers. Visiting several different schools, I'm constantly amazed when I enter a school I've never been in before and someone knows my name. I hear, "Hello, Coach Anderson!" or "Mr. A, what are you doing here?" It's something that makes me feel good deep in my heart. Teachers understand this feeling.

I am doubly amazed when I realized that those people are glad to see me. I'm even more touched when I realize that a student who came through my classroom has become a teacher.

It's interesting when you are in the business of a school year, teachers are so in the moment. You're teaching students, maintaining discipline, focusing on curriculum, keeping track of who left class to go to the bathroom, which child has to leave for morning meds ... at times it seems like a job for a cat herder. The day and sometimes the year becomes a whirlwind carousel of activity and business. This is where the teacher does the most important work. As hard as it is important, a teacher must remain true to self and the

calling to do the best you can for your students. You may not think about it but these moments become seeds you're planting that might grow into vocations for these children. Whew!

The hedge into that building is no longer there. But I did pick a peach or two from a bush that just happens to miraculously occupy that same space. Makes me think about the intended and unintended consequences of some of the things I did as a teacher? Hopefully most of them turned out just as sweet...

Happy Maths People!

- *Peter*

