

# APRIL NEWSLETTER

April is here and hopefully the warm weather will come. Remember that with the spring comes rain and MUD!!! Send your child in proper footwear and splash pants when necessary. Snow pants are hopefully going and now we will be facing another issue: SOCKS AND SANDALS. If your child wears bare feet in sandals to school, PLEASE send a pair of socks for them to wear with their indoor shoes. We don't want anyone complaining of blisters!



Figure 1

## Curriculum Focus

We have finished our *Eggs* unit and are now learning about *Rabbits and Pets*. Although we have finished with our Jolly phonics printing books, please keep reviewing the letters and sounds continually throughout the remainder of the year and into the summer months. Also, try practising blending sounds together to read and write simple 3-4 letter words. Starting in May, the special helper will be asked to bring in a book to read or a page from a favourite book that they have practised to share with the class instead of guessing the clues for the show and tell.

We are finishing up the last of our Kindergarten sight words and will be reviewing them.

Students are being encouraged to use classroom resources (like the word wall, portable word cards, reading the room, etc.) in their writing. Knowing these words “by sight” is fundamental for their literacy development and SK students should be comfortable reading and writing these words in preparation for grade 1. Each day, students will be asked a question at sign in. They will do their best to find familiar words, sound out words and answer the question accordingly.

Thank you for your support with the *Snuggle Up and Read* program. Some parents are asking about moving up in reading levels. ***We are looking for reading fluency, comprehension and sequence retell before the students can move up.*** We are developing many important literacy skills, including confidence in reading and a love for books. We will be participating in literacy centres which are a different way to practise the skills that we are learning. As students become more independent, they will be able to work in small groups on a common literacy task. These tasks will often be play-based and therefore an inviting way to “work”. This format will allow me to work with small groups on a common task that needs development. The children generally enjoy these centres. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

In Mathematics, we will continue to focus on geometry as we look at shape properties and compare figures. We will transition from 2D to 3D shapes and figures.

## Library Journals

We are now going to focus on our Star Strategy: “DETERMINING WHAT’S IMPORTANT”. Good readers determine the difference between what information is essential and what is simply details. Questions to encourage readers to think are: What do I think the author is trying to tell me? What should I learn from this? What was the most important idea?

## Spring Concert

Yes, we are participating in the Spring Concert on April 28<sup>th</sup>. The Kindergartens will be performing a special musical piece. We would like for the kindergartens to be dressed in blue (doesn't matter what shade). All kindergartens will come in the afternoon and evening only on