

November Newsletter

Time is flying! It is hard to believe that two months have passed in the school year already! We continue to enjoy getting to know the families of students and look forward to on-going communication. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the volunteers on our trip to the apple farm. Your help enriches our programme greatly, creating opportunities that otherwise would not be possible!

Illness: If your child shows flu-like symptoms of fever and cough plus one or more of the following: sore throat, muscle aches, tiredness, headache, and possibly vomiting or diarrhea they must stay home and not attend school until the fever is gone for 24 hours, without fever-reducing medication. This is extremely important in kindergarten as children at this age do not always use proper hygiene and germs spread very quickly.

Curriculum Focus

During the month of November, we will continue with the Jolly Phonics programme. Please continue to work with your child at home (finding letters on cereal boxes, or in favourite story books). We will carry on learning the accompanying jingles and playing games to reinforce the letter sound relationship. If you need or want any more ideas how to support you child's learning at home, please contact us. We will also continue to learn our, "Words of the Week." Sight words are words that often appear in emergent readers and can sometimes be difficult to phonetically sound out. The goal is to know these words "by sight" (without sounding out) to support reading fluency. Over the course of the month, we will be focusing on two new themes, Nursery Rhymes and Our Neighbourhood. We will have the opportunity to have a police officer, fire fighters and go on a neighbourhood walk . In math, we will continue with an in depth study of sorting and number sense.

Our primary and junior grades is working on **MAKE CONNECTIONS** when you read stories. What does this mean: good readers use their personal experiences, knowledge of the world and previously read books to help them understand what they are reading. Encourage your child to think about: what the book reminds them of; what the book is the same as; what they have once done, and what the makes them think of. With the weather changing rapidly and winter knocking on our doorstep, we are also focusing on independence with regards to students getting dressed and undressed in outdoor clothing. Class time is very valuable and we hope to minimize the amount of time spent in the cloakroom. It would be extremely helpful if students practised putting on and taking off their winter clothing, doing up zippers independently, as well as, correcting sleeves that have been turned inside-out. Also, as more and more snow pants, mittens and toques arrive at school, it is essential that all garments sent to school are **labeled** with the child's name to alleviate confusion and tears! Thank you!

In Science, we will be starting hands on experiments with water (e.g., sink/float).

In Music, we will continue to focus on beat. Students will have the opportunity to explore and perform using instruments and familiar songs.

Hands off Policy: We have been focusing on, "Hands are for helping, not hurting" in our classrooms. Please discuss with your child about the importance of keeping their hands to themselves.

Reminders

Junior Kindergarten students do not receive a formal progress report (report card) this term. The observation and interview are meant to serve the same purpose of informing parents of their child's progress in the programme.

Mrs. Haney, Mrs. Peters and Mrs. Howe

Character Trait: Responsibility