

From The Intermediate End

Welcome back to another eagerly anticipated school year. We in the intermediate division are excited to be back and are rested from our rainy summer days. As this new bunch of intermediates grace our rooms we are reminded of our departed grade 8's and look forward to graduating a new crop. We have a lot of interesting activities planned for this group. Trips such as visiting our local university and our year end trip to Montreal. It is important to understand that being an intermediate student means more responsibility. These responsibilities include taking the initiative to get their work in on the assigned dates and balancing their time between all the different subjects.

Evaluation Portfolios

Students will be using an Evaluation Portfolio in order to keep track of all major assessment items for all their subjects. This portfolio organizes and keeps track of all tests, quizzes, presentations, and projects in their home room and rotary subjects. We believe it is an important tools to use for constant communication between parents and teachers. Students will be required to get this portfolio signed once a month. This way it allows parents an opportunity to check out how their child is performing with all the things we are doing here at Jacob Beam.

Language Arts

For our first term we will be focussing on teaching many different reading strategies that the students will use during their secondary education. We will continue to use our Nelson Literacy Program daily as it includes many different reading and writing activities that will assist them in their high

school years. In terms of our writing program the students will focus on 3 different writing genres for the first term, (Recount, Procedural and Persuasive Writing). It is our belief that these three writing forms are easy to transition into after a long summer break. Our oral program will continue to thrive on classroom discussions along with group and individual activities throughout the term. In all intermediate classes there is a portion of the language program which is set aside for independent reading. During this time the students are reading materials of their choice. Students will be supported and encouraged to choose appropriate material that is both challenging and interesting for them to read. Afterward, they will be expected to complete a reading response based upon their independent reading choice. Therefore, if it is both challenging and enjoyable to them, it will reflect in their assignments. If they enjoy these novels it will positively reflect in their assignments!

Mathematics

Getting back in to math can be a bit of an adjustment, especially for our new intermediates. It can be expected that your child may have math homework 3-4 days a week, depending on their ability to use their class time wisely. We will first be looking at Number Sense and Numeration. In this unit the students will examine prime and composite numbers along with rate and ratio. During our Measurement unit, the students will extend their understanding of perimeter and area of many complex 2D shapes. In Data Management we will look at different ways to display and graph data. We will also be expecting them to draw conclusions and interpret many different types of graphs