

## Junior Kindergarten -October Newsletter

Dear Parents,

What a wonderful beginning to the year already! I have enjoyed getting to know your children this past month. This month we are focusing on independence. Please help your child practise to do up their own zippers and put on their coats independently. Thank you in advance for your support. Our class loves 'Show and Share'. They are slowly gaining confidence to speak in front of the class with a loud 'speaking voice'. I am very proud of them. Thank you for helping your child to search for objects each week.

### Curriculum Focus

During the month of October, we will continue with the *Jolly Phonics* programme. Thank you for supporting this programme at home by reading the *Jolly Jingles* and completing the printing sheets with your child.

Our Star Strategy for this month is *Making Connections*. We will be focusing on relating what we read to things we have done (connection to self), things we have seen (connection to world), and things we have read in other books (connection to text). We will also be using the pictures in the books to help us "read". When you read to your child ask them questions about the book you are reading. What does the book make them think about? Can they make a connection between the book and themselves? This will help your child during our class read-alouds.

During our independent reading time, students will be learning how to make good choices when choosing a book to read. A book that we call an IPICK or a 'good-fit' book for them.

Our Math focus will change to sorting, however patterning will continue to be explored. We will be learning about sorting and classifying object with similar attributes (i.e., size, shape, colour). This learning can be supported at home by sorting objects found at home (i.e. shoes, books, laundry, etc). Thanks for your support.

In Science we will be learning about how to be healthy and safe in our communities. Mrs. Holloway will be teaching our class about our community helpers (e.g., doctor, fire fighter). We will be discussing proper hygiene (e.g., hand-washing) in our classroom.

Apples will also be focused on this month. We began our unit with a trip to an Apple Orchard. Thank you to all of our parents who volunteered. We will be focusing on asking questions about apples. How they grow, the parts of an apple, their place on a farm and what we can do with them. Students will be asked to make observations and create questions to direct their own learning.

In Music students have been learning many songs and using their bodies to move the beat! They will be continuing to explore different elements of music this month, focusing on beat. When singing songs with your child at home please encourage your child to clap along to the beat!

**Character Trait:** Respect - treating someone in a way that you would like to be treated, showing you think someone or something is important.

**With Appreciation, Mrs. Peters**

