

Grade One February News

Dear Families,

The month of February brings many special days. Friday, February 9th is the hundredth day of school! We will be celebrating this milestone throughout the day and we're asking that each student **bring in a collection of 100 things from home**. This could be anything from hockey cards, to photos, to fruit loops!

Prior to February 14th, we will be celebrating the meaning of Valentines Day in our classrooms by doing a variety of friendship-themed activities. We will be creating valentines for some of our senior friends at Albright Manor. These special mementoes will help brighten their day!

We will be celebrating Valentines Day on Tuesday, February 14th. The children will have a chance to exchange valentines and we ask that if your child does wish to hand out valentines, that he/she has a valentine for every student in the class. Please see the list of the names of students in our class that celebrate Valentines Day at the bottom of the newsletter. If you would like to send in a special snack for the class to enjoy, please feel free. **SHOW AND SHARE FOR FEBRUARY- MY FAMILY IN OUR COMMUNITY**. (See the sheet)

Where we're headed this month:

Language – This month we are practising story retell. We will be using words like first, next, then, finally. When you read books together at home you might encourage children to talk about the setting, characters, the main problem being sure to include beginning, middle, and end. In writing each student will be creating an "All About book", with a title and index page based on their favourite topic.

Math - We are continuing our adding and subtracting unit. Any time you have a few extra minutes to spare (i.e., in the car, while grocery shopping, while going for a walk) ask your child some simple addition and subtraction questions to help them automatize the basic facts. We will begin our geometry unit this month as well. The students will be exploring 2-D and 3-D shapes in this unit.

Science/Social Studies - We are still working on our "Local Community" unit this month for social studies! We are beginning our new science unit at the end of the month entitled "Materials,

Objects, and Everyday Structures." In this unit we will be learning about the characteristics of different materials and objects, how structures and materials impact humans, and the purposes of different structures and materials.

Thank you's....

* We continue to be very grateful to the parents that are able to help in our classrooms! Your support is wonderful and we appreciate the time you give to us! Thank you!!!

* Thanks for ordering books through the scholastic book club flyers. When you purchase books for your child through these catalogues, we raise money for books for our own classroom libraries.

* By packing extra socks and pants you are helping your child stay comfortable during work times. Even with snow pants, many of the students get wet during recess and need to change their clothes. Please remember to label snow pants and other clothing items.

* THANK YOU for reading every night with your child. This greatly impacts their reading confidence and ability!

This month, we thought we'd include some suggestions for helping your child's reading development. Happy Reading!

The support of your attention and praise is absolutely critical to your child's continuing efforts to learn to read!!

* if your child asks for help on a word, encourage them to use the star strategies of: find little words in big words, sound it out, and look at the pictures.

* If your child is reading and makes what is called a "miscue", listen to the sense of the miscue. If the word "road" is substituted for the word "street", no meaning is lost. Don't stop the reading for a correction (by not stopping, this helps with fluency and comprehension). If the miscue does not make sense (i.e., "horse" for "house"), ask your child to re-read the sentence because you're not sure you understand what's just been read.

* Encourage your child to re-read books. This helps your child learn to read fluently and deepens their understanding of the story. Sincerely, Ms. Baylis

