

# Welcome September!

## Mrs. Haynes' Grade 2/3 News

### Welcome

It is exciting to think that a new school year has begun! I hope that you and your family have had an enjoyable summer and are energized for grade two and three. What a great opportunity it is for me to teach your child and I look forward to seeing him/her progress over the year.

### Communication

Your child's success depends on the support from myself, our school community and most importantly you! I value ongoing communication between school and home and any information you can provide.

You will receive a monthly class newsletter that will outline upcoming curriculum themes and activities you may do at home. A calendar will also be available indicating important dates. You will also receive a class timetable once it is finalized. A reminder to please check and initial your child's agenda nightly.

In our class, Students will monitor their own successes with the "Fish Chart". Every student will start the day off at "Ready to Learn" and then can achieve "Good Job", "Great Job", "Outstanding" or be moved down to "Think About Out". Students will write in their agendas at the end of the day where they ended up, so you will know what their day was like.

### Language Arts

As you have heard this before, the number one activity you can be doing with your child is reading. Whether it be him or her reading to someone or being read to. Remember reading is everywhere!

We are continuing with a program named "The Daily Five" which fosters independence in literacy. This allows teachers to work with small groups, work with students individually as well as assess. The five components of the program are "Read to Self", "Read to Someone", "Work on Writing", "Word Work" and "Listen to Reading".

We will start up with our "word wall words" in a few weeks. Students will be given the words on Monday and have a quiz on them on Friday.

### Mathematics

The first focus will be on Patterns. Parents of grade two's please help your child to look for patterns in their environment ("How can you identify, describe or extend it?"). Parents of grade three's please help your child to look for number and geometric patterns in their environment and count forward and backward in patterns.

### Other

Grade Two science will be taught by myself and Mrs. Lambert. An inquiry model and hands on approach will be taken. We will start with Air and Water. Please encourage your child to ask questions, make observations and guesses about their environment. Grade Three Science will be taught by Mrs. Pyper-Coombs.

Social Studies will run as two different programs, grade two and three within our classroom. Much of the content will be mixed in our language program. The grade 2's will be studying Celebrations and the grade 3's will start with Urban and Rural Communities.

Drama, Dance, Music, Health and some poetry and play-writing will be taught by Mrs. Cruise.

Library and computers will be taught by Miss Gretsinger. This will have a focus on "media literacy" and will be named "media" on the timetable. Students will be choosing "I PICK" books for the classroom as well as books for home. Please help your child to return his/her library books on time.

Please be sure to provide a pair of labeled indoor shoes that can be kept at school and are suitable for physical education. It is not necessary for students to change clothes for physical education, although please ensure they are wearing appropriate clothing for gym days which will be indicated on the class calendar. Other items that will be useful are; pencil cases or boxes, pencils, erasers, scissors, glue, crayons, pencil crayons, tissue box. It also may be beneficial to have a change of clothes in the backpack in case of slips in puddles or mud in order to avoid calls home. I am going to ask that each student bring in a small 3-ring binder with five dividers. This will be used throughout the year for reference notes (anchor charts). These can be purchased at dollar stores. School-wide, students will also need to have their own set of headphones which will need to be labeled and placed in a plastic bag.

Once again, I look forward to a great year working with you and your child. Please do not hesitate to contact me by email ([brenda.haynes@dsbn.edu.on.ca](mailto:brenda.haynes@dsbn.edu.on.ca)), through the agenda or phone (905-945-8014).

Sincerely,



Brenda Haynes

Gr. 2/3 Teacher

"Achieving Success Together"