

## **Grade 2/3 December News!**

Everyday I am amazed by the students in our class. They have all come together so nicely as a team of students who are cooperative, kind, respectful and always try their best. Everyday I feel so honored to be a part of this. You, as parents should be very proud of your child's accomplishments! Please continue to support them by asking them questions about what they are learning, reading with them and signing their agendas.

In **Language** we have begun letter writing. We have written a friendly letter to a friend and with our older buddies. Next will be a focus on a thank you letter and then a persuasive letter. Throughout all of our writing tasks we are focusing on adding more description by using adjectives and eventually adverbs. Also, always using correct sentence structure, capitalization and punctuation. The students really enjoyed publishing their last writing pieces on the netbooks. All of the students are now working on a reading goal from our CAFE reading strategy board. Ask your child what theirs is!

In **Mathematics**, we will be learning to add and subtract with greater numbers. We will begin by looking at different strategies to solve these equations and also be solving word problems. Please practice basic addition and subtraction facts with your child. I will also be sending home a practice book. There are many websites that have this content, please ask if looking for some ideas.

We have been enjoying using our Critical Thinking Skills together with the grade 3's from Mrs. B.'s class. We recently faced the challenge of deciding whether or not the character of the wolf from The Three Little Pigs was good or bad based on different versions of the story. Then after listening to their peer's ideas the students had the opportunity to change their decision. Also, as part of our Critical Thinking, we faced the challenge of how we can help a child in need. The class wants to have a **bake sale** to do this....the tentative date is **December 13<sup>th</sup>**. More information to come but please keep this in mind as you may be doing some holiday baking.

I believe the **homework program** has been going very well. Please remember that it is not meant to be a stress. It is there to use as you and your family wish. For the month of December and first week of January there will be a break from new word wall words and the formal homework program. Please continue to read at home and there may be other items to come up. **NO HOMEWORK!**

For this round of **V.I.P.** The students will be asked to write about and share a description of their favourite fictional character (from a book, movie, show) and also tell what it is their favourite.

During December the students will participate in **“secret friends”**. Each week they will draw a name and for that week will be that person's “secret friend”. The students will be encouraged to make special notes, gifts or do acts of kindness. Please, no bought gifts! At the end of the week the “secret friend” will be revealed.

The students will be singing on **December 15<sup>th</sup>** in our **holiday celebration.** Each class will be performing one song. Our class will be singing **“Frosty the Snowman”**. Please practice at home as much as possible.

The **cold weather** is upon us. Please ensure that your child comes to school dressed for outdoor time. The yard gets extremely cold with the wind blowing off the lake. Remember those hats, mitts and scarves! Also I talked with the children about how important it is to label their belongings.

Please remember do not hesitate to contact me with any concerns. As I tell the students...I love questions!

Wishing you a happy month of December and some quality family time during the winter break!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Haynes