



Dear Families,

The month of February brings many special days. Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup> is the hundredth day of school! We will be celebrating this milestone throughout the day and I'm 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 14<sup>th</sup>, we will be celebrating the meaning of Valentines Day in our classroom by doing a variety of friendship-themed activities. We have already created valentines for some of our elderly community members that are currently at West Lincoln Memorial Hospital. These special mementoes will help brighten their day!

We will be celebrating Valentines Day on Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. The children will have a chance to exchange valentines and I ask that if your child wishes 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 at the bottom of the newsletter. If you would like to send in a special snack for the class to enjoy, please feel free.

**Where we're headed this month:**

**Language** - This month we are continuing to focus on basic recall and comprehension during and after reading. One important comprehension skill is making connections to what you are reading. I would like them to begin moving beyond surface connections (i.e., connecting to a characters name) and making deeper connections (i.e., connecting to how the character is feeling and the moral of the story). At the end of the month I will also be focussing on text-to-text connections (making connections between different books). You can help support this important reading strategy at home by highlighting some of the connections you can make to a story when you are reading and asking them to do the same. In writing, the students are being encouraged to add as much detail as possible in their work. This month we will be focussing on procedural writing (step-by-step instructions) and then letter writing at the end of the month.

**Math** - We are learning how to round numbers less than 100 right now. We are also working on reviewing single-digit addition and subtraction facts. The grade twos are adding single-digit numbers to double-digit numbers (i.e., 35+6). Anytime 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** - The grade twos have just begun our new science unit entitled "Understanding Structures and Mechanisms." In this unit we will be learning about simple machines and how they enable movement. The grade ones will be continuing their social studies unit about our local community (with Mrs. Baylis).

Thank you's....

\* I continue to be very grateful to the parents that are able to help in our classroom! Your support is wonderful and I 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 library.

\* By packing extra socks and pants you are helping your child stay comfortable during work times. Even with snowpants, many of the students get wet during recess and need to change their clothes.

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

This month, I thought I'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.

\* Choose a variety of different genres to read (i.e., non-fiction, poetry, fiction).

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Lambert

### Student Names for Valentines

Ryan A.  
Jacob  
Maya  
Zachary

Petar  
Pierre  
Josh  
Lauren

Logan  
Kian  
Mason  
Owen

Carter  
Delaney  
Taylor  
Kaitlyn

Ryan B.  
Shannon  
Madison