

Cabin Fever Cabin Fever



November 1, 2011

Dear Parents,

Thank you for all the treats you sent in for our Halloween party on yesterday. The children had a great time! It is getting cold outside, but our cabin is cozy and warm.

The children are really enjoying the Daily 5 program during our literacy block. They are encouraged to take responsibility for recording their work, goals and growth in Language. I have had many conferences for both reading, writing and learning skills with each child and they have all set goals for themselves for this month. It is exciting to watch them grown as readers, writers and thinkers. Encourage your child to share with you the specific reading strategies that they are focusing on. I am impressed with how they are becoming so aware of their own abilities and know specifically what they need to improve upon to grow as a reader. In writing the children are working through assignments each week that develop their skills as writer to communicate thoughts and ideas about events in their lives. Conventions, paragraph organization, attention to details and making emotional connections are the key to successful pieces of writing. The children are also working on the strategy determining main idea. They are being challenged to look critically at text to determine what the message of the text is, in doing so they must use clues from within the text, make predictions, inferences and connections. I am proud of the growth the children are showing during the Daily 5 block of our day.

In Math the students are working on numeration, specifically addition and subtraction. Upon the completion of this unit the students will again be bringing home their textbooks and study notes to prepare for a test. They did extremely well last unit and have show a good ability to study. This is a great skill to learn. Memorizing the multiplication facts can be a daily homework activity in addition to reading every night. Grade 3 students need to know their facts to 7 times tables and the Grade 4 students- facts to the 9 times tables. I also encourage you to have your children log on to the Nelson Math student centre website as there are fantastic practice questions that are directly from the chapters that we are working on. Your child can complete these sessions on-line.

Progress Report will be going home this month. This report will go home on November 15 and we will set interviews with you for later that week. I am looking forward to sharing how your child has progressed to this point this year and some information about how they learn and how we can work together to help your child be successful.

Thank you again for being so diligent with the Agenda. It is our most effective tool to communicate with each other daily. I love how parents share interesting stories or information that is happening outside school. Knowing you child's interests and pastimes really helps me to make connections to their learning and focus on topics of interest.

We will be honouring Remembrance Day on the morning of the 11th. The students in my class along with the primary division will be singing a song. You are welcome to attend.

I am looking forward to a great month! Thanks again for your continued support. Hope to see you for an interview later this month.

Kara Baranoski

