

November News for Grade 5/6

Our trip to **St. John's Outdoor Education Center** was a great success! We had a fabulous time searching for wildlife in the pond, traipsing through the forest, hunting down markers during our scavenger hunt and having an open fire hot dog roast. A very special thank you to the many wonderful parent volunteers - Justin's mom, Sam's grandpa, Alex's mom and Ireland's mom. With your help, we were able to experience an incredible day!

The **grade six students** will use their experience on our trip to further their knowledge about diversity of living things. We are rolling up our sleeves and getting out the magnifying glasses to examine various vertebrates in **science**. Students will research an animal (vertebrate) of their choice in order to answer the critical thinking question - "What vertebrate would make the best class pet?" Miss Gretsinger and the **grade five students** continue to work on Properties of and Changes in Matter and will be studying Energy Conservation by the end of the month.

In **mathematics**, we are just completing our unit on patterning and we will be studying data management next. We will be focusing on mean, mode, median, surveying and graphing. There will be a test at the end of the month. Math Club will be available and students should copy the dates and times off of the whiteboard.

We are working on non-fiction texts in **language arts**. Students will have the opportunity to select several brand new non-fiction books to read and log their selection during our Daily 5 classes. We will work on identifying the main idea of non-fiction texts. Later in the month our focus will be on narratives. In **writing**, we will be focusing on organizational skills. Students will use their experience at St. John's to write a recount. We will focus on organizing our ideas by either location, time or importance.

In **social studies** we are continuing our study of Aspects of Citizenship and Government in Canada in grade 5 and Canada's Link to the World in grade 6. Students are researching the symbols of Canada (Gr. 5) and the United States (Gr. 6). After that, students will focus on researching a prime minister (Gr. 5) and a president or world leader (Gr.6).

In extra curricular activities this month many opportunities are available for students. Several students have been selected to represent Smith on our school's volleyball teams. Our class will be holding a **bake sale** on Thursday, **November 10** to raise money for Smith School Family. If you can help by donating baked goods or something for a raffle, it would be greatly appreciated.

Finally, it is wonderful to see the development of strong learning skills. I appreciate your support with signing the agenda, tests and rubrics. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely

Miss Flynn

Special Dates:

Nov. 11 - Remembrance Day Assembly Nov. 17- Parent Teacher Interviews (evening)



