

Always
&
Forever



November Newsletter from Room 4

Dear Parents and Guardians:

I hope everyone is enjoying the day after Halloween without too much excitement! I am pleased to say that our Room 4 class is coming together nicely now that we have had time to work together and students are becoming more familiar with the my expectations for both school work and behavior. I am looking forward to a phenomenal November!

With the arrival of November we are also looking ahead to colder weather. The winds blow strong and cold through our playground and it is important that students stay warm. Please send warm jackets, hats and mitts for your child to wear. If the weather warms up they can always take off extra clothing.

Looking ahead:

November 1st- Scholastic sent home

November 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th- Pizza Days (thank you for identifying pizza \$)

November 8th- Scholastic orders due

November 11th- Remembrance Day Assembly (10:45 a.m.)

November 15th- Progress Reports come home

November 24th- Parent Teacher Interviews

November 26th- Santa Claus Parade (join me on the Santa float)

December 19th- Art Gallery (details to follow)

November Character Trait: COURAGE- the quality of being brave, facing difficulties or personal challenges and standing up for what you believe in without being overcome by fear or being deflected from a chosen course of action.

Language Arts: Students have been working hard at their independent reading and we have now established our routines for daily 5 (read to self, read to partner, listen to reading, writing and working with words) and I was very impressed that students were for the most part able to independently complete their activities while I worked with small groups. Our focus this month will be on the topic of courage and Canadian heroes. Students will continue to analyze and

respond to a variety of texts that relate to our theme of heroes. Students will also design a poster to reflect the significance of Remembrance Day, complete a short report on a Canadian hero, and write a letter to a current Canadian soldier. In writing we will focus on reports, descriptive paragraphs and juicy words. Students have been looking for descriptive, interesting words in their daily reading, and now we are trying to use some of these words in our daily writing to bump up our work. We will also be working on our oral communication skills by presenting some poems, skits and reports to our classmates.

Math: We are currently working on an algebra unit where students prove that both sides of a number sentence are equal. They have developed several different strategies including using 10's, familiar numbers, patterns, 0 in an equations, the old "switcharoo" $(4+5=5+4)$ and trading numbers. Students will also learn to solve for missing numbers in an equation $(4+__=7+1)$. We will also be starting our measurement unit which will include measuring length and width of different objects using both standard (cm and m) and non-standard (hands, feet) units of measurement. We will also be measuring the perimeter of different objects and using what we have learned to solve a variety of problems. Keep up the good work on Math Problem of the Week books. I have found students using some great strategies!

Social Studies: We are just winding up our first unit on mapping and mapping skills. Students will have the opportunity to design their own map while using the information they have learned about what makes a good map. We will be starting our next unit shortly. Grade 3's will be learning about urban and rural communities with a focus on Ontario, and Grade 2's will be taking a tour around the world to compare our community with different communities around the globe.

Physical Education and Health: In Phys Ed our focus has been on cooperative games, leadership and safety. In Health we have looked at fire safety both at home and at school.

Volunteers: Thank you to all the volunteers that came in and helped in our classroom in October. I look forward to seeing you again this month. A volunteer schedule has been attached to the newsletter.

Home Reading: Keep up the great work on Home Reading. It is very important that children are reading on a daily basis. Some of the reading should be independent, while some should be with a parent. Please ask your child questions about what they have read.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Parent Teacher interviews later this month. In the mean time if you have questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Mrs. L. Sutherland