



October 1st 2018

Dear Parents,

October is upon us and Grade 3 are settling nicely into classroom routines!

As the year progresses, students will be learning to develop more responsibility and independence with regard to their schoolwork, homework and general organisational skills. Your support in this development is greatly appreciated. Here are some ways in which you can help your child develop these skills:

- Encourage your child to read their own planner and approach their homework systematically, working down through each number and ticking off work in the planner as it is completed.
- Encourage your child to organise and pack their own bag with all they need for school the following day (ensuring that their homework, their planner and sometimes, PE gear, are ready to go the night before).
- Involve your child in lunch preparation the evening before or the morning of school. Give them a role to play in this preparation and emphasise healthy food choices for their lunch box.

Curriculum Focus for the month of October:

Religion: We will deepen our understanding of our theme; '*What do you want of me, Lord?*', by continuing to explore the parables. The mysteries of the Rosary: Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and Mysteries of Light. Students will record their personal responses to mysteries in their prayer journals. Students will participate in the 'Living Rosary' and daily Rosary with the whole school.

English Language Arts:

Reading: Reading Power: *The Power to Connect*: Text to text and text to world

connections. Decoding strategies, buddy reading (3 ways to read a book: 1. Read the words, 2. Read the pictures, 3. Retell the story). Daily D.E.A.R time, daily read aloud.

Writing: The Writing Process (continued): 1. Planning, 2. Drafting, 3. Revising, 4. Editing, 5. Proofreading, 6. Publishing and Sharing. Focus on self-assessment during this process. Introduction to peer assessment.

Writing techniques: Similes.

Word study: Compound words, plurals (replacing 'y' and adding 'ies'), contractions (Cannot= Can't).

Poetry: Acrostic and Sensory poems.

Math: Review of place value and numbers up to 1000. Addition and subtraction with three digit numbers using renaming/regrouping. Counting forwards and backwards daily to 100's by 2s, 3s, 4s, 5s, and 10s. Quick recall of basic addition and subtraction facts up to 18. Mental math strategies.

Patterning: Creating and identifying increasing and decreasing patterns.

Science: *Biodiversity:* Food chains/food webs, types of consumers, ecosystems, biomes of Canada (tundra, desert, grassland and forest). Biomes of BC: Semi-arid desert, temperate rainforest, boreal forest (taiga) and alpine tundra.

Socials: Review the concepts of *worldview* and *culture* (aspects of culture such as language, food, clothing, beliefs/religion/festivals and celebrations, stories and legends, music, art etc..) Exploration of Canadian culture: Multiculturalism within Canada. Canadian symbols.

French: Parts of the body, days of the week, months of the year. Fall/Halloween themed vocabulary.

Career Education: Introduction to self-regulation: Exploring and identifying emotions and placing them in the 'Zones of Regulation' (Blue, Green, Yellow, Orange, Red). Introduction to self-regulation/coping strategies to move between zones. Zone idioms (connected to Language Arts): 'Feeling blue' / 'Down in the dumps' / 'Under the weather' / 'Butterflies in my stomach' / 'On top of the world' etc....

Art: *Visual elements:*

Line: Silhouette and symmetry art.

Colour: Exploring colour using various materials (paint, pastels). Mixing and experimenting with colours. Connecting the use of colour to the Zones of regulation. Fall and Halloween themed art.

Important dates to note in October:

Friday October 5th :Walkathon. There will be mass as usual at 8.15am. 1pm dismissal.

Monday October 7th: No school for Thanksgiving weekend.

Tuesday October 23rd : Open house from 3pm-5pm and 6pm-8pm in the classroom.

Wednesday October 31st: Halloween Carnival. Students are encouraged to come to school in costume. 1pm dismissal.



If you have any questions, please feel free to write me a note in the planner or email me at grainnekinsella@spev.ca.

Thank you for your support,
Le gach dea-ghuí (Blessings),

Miss Kinsella.

