



Grade 3 February 2020 Class Newsletter

Dear Parents,

It was lovely to meet you all at the student-led conference last Friday (January 31st), where you so positively celebrated the learning of your child, as well as collaborating with your child to set short term goals. February will another busy month, during which a lot of new learning will take place. I look forward to working with the students to achieve their personal goals this month.



Curriculum focus for the month of February:

Religion: The Seven Sacraments, Saint Valentine short research project.

English Language Arts:

Oral Reading: Continuing to develop fluency, expression and intonation.

Reading Power: Students will continue to strengthen their powers to *connect and visualize*.

The Power to Question: Students will develop their ability to generate **deep-thinking questions** based on reading material.

Students will be developing dictionary skills this month also.

Writing: Paragraph writing; opinion writing (continued), Analysing fables (text structure and elements of story). Writing an original fable.

Cursive writing: Letters 'a', 'd', 'g'.

Poetry: Winter diamantes.

Word study/Spelling patterns: oo, ou/ow, oi/oy, ss/ce.

Speech Arts: Students are reminded to practice *Bible readings, prose, individual poetry and our class poem* each evening. We will soon begin to choreograph our class poem and students are encouraged to practice these actions at home also.

Math:

Division: Representing division (using materials and pictures): Equal groups, repeated subtraction, number lines, arrays, area models. Solving one-step division word problems.

Fractions: Concrete and pictorial representations of fractions, the relationship between parts and wholes and equal partitioning.

Students are encouraged to memorize multiplication number facts to 12.

Science:

We will continue to conduct simple experiments to explore the processes of weathering, erosion and deposition. We will explore Local Indigenous legends about landforms.

Socials:

Students will research a First Nations totem symbol of their choice. Students will connect these symbols to the Core Competencies (The Six Cedar Trees) for reflective learning. We will also explore the *First Peoples Principles of Learning* through stories and legends, comparing and connecting each one to our own principles of learning.

Anti-bullying month: *What is kindness? How can I show empathy? How to be a good friend. Healthy/balanced friendships. Signs of bullying. How to respond to bullying (being a hero, not a passive bystander) etc...* We will explore these concepts through story over the course of the month.

French: La Meteo (The Weather).

Visual Arts:

Valentine's Day art, First Nations art (totems), Students will create simple costumes in class for our Speech Arts poem; 'The Tiger Who Wore White Gloves' by Gwendolyn Brooks.

Career Education:

Growth Mindset continued: Students will focus on mistakes are an important part of learning (the different types of mistakes: 1. 'Aha' mistakes, 2. Stretch mistakes, 3. Sloppy mistakes and 4. High stakes mistakes). Students will carry out a short research project on famous inventions that were created by mistake. The term GRIT will also be introduced and explored through stories.

Students will continue to work on *setting realistic personal short term goals* and identifying the steps to be taken to achieve these goals.

Students will *monitor their own work habits* (during independent and group work) using rubrics created in class.

S.T.E.AM: Inventions: Students will invent and engineer a solution to a problem or challenge they notice in the school/local community. Students will work in pairs to plan, create a blueprint and construct a prototype of their invention. Students will evaluate and

present their invention to the class.

Important dates to note:

Wednesday February 12th: PJ Day and Literacy Day.

Thursday 13th and Friday 14th of February: There will be no school on these days as the staff will be attending the CEC (Catholic Educators' Conference).

Monday February 17th : No school (Family Day).

Week of Monday February 24th : Speech Arts run offs (individuals and whole class).

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at grainnekinsella@spev.ca.



Le gach dea-ghuí (With every blessing),
Ms. Kinsella.