



Grade 3 January 2022 Newsletter.

Welcome back and Happy New Year to you all! I hope you all had a blessed and restful holiday and are ready for another busy term!

'Tús maith, leath na hoibre' - Irish Proverb ('A good start means half of the work).'

Curriculum focus for the month of January.

Religion: The students will be taking part in the *'I am a gift from God'* programme. As mentioned in the 'Meet the teacher' newsletter, parental involvement in this programme is important. Parents are asked to initial the work sent home for review (this will be once weekly, early in the week). This way you can take the remaining evenings of the week to review the specific concept being covered. The concepts covered are a review of those explored in Grade 2. If you have any questions about the programme content throughout the month, please reach out to me via email at grainnekinsella@spev.ca.

Reading:

→ **Reading Power:** Introduction to *The Power to Question*: Students will be guided to use 'Quick thinking (QT)' and 'Deep thinking (DT)' questions to engage deeply with reading material.

→ **Main idea and key details:** Students will learn strategies to identify the main idea and key details in fiction and non-fiction texts.

- ★ Please ensure that your child reads for at least 15 minutes every day. Encourage deeper engagement with the text by asking questions and stimulating conversation about characters, making connections, using picture words to visualize and generating quick and deep thinking questions together.
- ★ Please ensure that your child reads aloud to you for a portion of this time, to give you the opportunity to help them with phrasing and intonation.

Writing:

→ **Paragraph writing:** Students will continue to work on paragraph writing across curriculum areas, with a focus on persuasive writing. Students will work on editing their own work and peer-editing using editing symbols.

→ **Word Study:** Silent consonants (e.g knight, wrong, know), suffixes, wh, ch, sh.

→ **Speech Arts:**

Class poem: Our class poem this year will be 'The Tiger Who Wore White Gloves' by Gwendolyn Brooks. The students will be memorizing the poem a few lines at a time this month. We will focus on intonation, phrasing, volume and choreography also. Closer to our performance, we will prepare costumes in class.

Individual prose: Students will be given a choice of three excerpts on the first week back. Students will choose ONE prose piece to practice in class and at home over the coming weeks.

Individual poetry: Students will be given a choice of three poems also. Students may choose their own poem, with the support of parents at home, should they wish to do so.

★ The deadline for choosing a prose piece and poem is **Monday January 10th 2022**.

Math:

→ Introduction to **multiplication:** using arrays, repeated addition, area models, number lines and skip counting to understand this concept.

→ Daily **skip counting** by 2s, 3s, 4s, 5s and 10s to develop fluency when multiplying.

→ Students will also continue to develop **word problem-solving skills** using multiplication. It is not necessary to memorise multiplication facts at this grade level. However, I recommend that each student begins to familiarize themselves with multiplication tables over the course of this month, particularly the 2, 5, and 10 times tables.

Science: Students will begin our unit on Landforms with a focus on the processes of weathering, erosion and deposition.

Socials: Students will continue our unit on Local Indigenous cultures, with a focus on the cedar tree and potlatches.

French: La meteo (the weather)

Career Education:

→ Growth Mindset continued: Students will focus on how 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.

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

Art: Canadian artists (Ted Harrison & Emily Carr)

S.T.E.A.M: Landform diorama.

- Students will work in pairs to plan and construct a model of a landform containing key features as explored in class.
- Students will evaluate their work using a rubric generated in class and through reflective writing using competency prompts.

A note on homework



Homework should not take more than approximately 40 minutes to complete each evening (including independent reading).

In class, we are placing an emphasis on focusing and applying ourselves to the task at hand and completing it within the allotted class time. Time management is an important skill which the students will carry forward with them into the intermediate and senior grades in the school. Therefore, I recommend you establish a time management routine with your child at home around homework. This may involve physically looking at the clock and counting out the minutes to be set aside to focus on a task, or it could even simply involve organising the order in which tasks will be completed and ticking them off in the planner as they are completed. A systematic and routine approach to homework will result in efficiency and more productivity.

If you have any concerns regarding homework or how to create a routine at home, please do not hesitate to contact me at grainnekinsella@spev.ca.

I look forward to another productive term with Grade 3!

Le meas (Respectfully),

Ms. Kinsella.

