



October 1st 2019

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; *'I Can Do All Things Through Christ'* by exploring 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.

Introduction to Adoration (beginning with 5-7 minutes) in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel once a week.

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: Writing Power: 'Triple Scoop Words' (descriptive words to use when revising writing), Walking and Climbing stories, Elements of story.

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.

Word study: Compound words, consonant blends (bl, cl, fl, pl), contractions (Cannot= Can't).

Poetry: Sensory poem (Fall), Acrostic poem (Thanksgiving), Haiku (Halloween).

Math: Place value and numbers up to 1000. Addition and subtraction with two and three digit numbers using renaming/regrouping.

Skip counting: Counting forwards and backwards daily to 200's by 2s, 5s, and 10s and to 100 by 3s, 4s and 6s. Quick recall of basic addition and subtraction facts up to 18.

Mental math strategies: Daily practice in pairs: 'Name it. Use it'. Strategies include 'Counting on' ("Put the big number in your head and count on!"), 'Doubles' (3 +3), 'Doubles plus one' (3+3+1=7), 'Making ten' (6+4, 8+2 etc..), 'Commutative property' (Numbers can be added in any order e.g. 6+4 and 4+6 give you the same answer).

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: "Digging deeper" into our inquiry question: 'Who am I?': Introducing and exploring the concepts of values, worldview and culture. Exploration of Canadian culture: Multiculturalism within Canada.

Symbols as representative of cultural understanding and worldview.

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

Career Education:

Goal setting: Identifying our 'strengths' and 'stretches' and using S.M.A.R.T goals as a way of supporting students to create personal short term goals.

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 (Halloween and Fall themed).

ADST: Weekly S.T.E.A.M sessions. Implementing 'The Engineering Design Process' when engaging in challenges.

Challenges of the month: The "Not a Box" challenge and "Halloween" challenge.

Important dates to note in October:

Tuesday October 1st: The Living Rosary in the church at 11am.

Friday October 11th: Walkathon. There will be mass as usual at 8.15am. 1pm dismissal.

Monday October 14th: No school for Thanksgiving weekend.

Tuesday October 22nd : Open house from 3pm-5pm in the classroom.

Thursday October 31st: Halloween. 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),

Ms. Kinsella.

