



October 5<sup>th</sup> 2020

Dear Parents,

October is upon us and Grade 3 are settling nicely into the new classroom and school procedures.

Each student should be extremely proud of themselves for their effort and ability to adapt to these new circumstances. I can honestly say that I am in awe of their resilience, cooperation and flexibility at this challenging time. Thank you for the supporting role you play at home in ensuring that your child feels safe and calm coming to school each day.

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 homework on Google Classroom and approach their homework systematically, working down through each number and ticking off each item 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 is 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.

**A note about Google Classroom:**

- As you know by now, homework assignments are posted on Google Classroom daily.
- Students are asked to post a photo of their spelling sentences on Monday,

Tuesday and Wednesday.

- All homework assignments that have been handed in on time and uploaded successfully by the student will be given full marks. This mark does not reflect the grade of the student as I am keeping my own records of work uploaded for reporting. However, incomplete work or work with multiple errors will be returned to the student for resubmission to encourage the students to proofread their work and take ownership of their work.
- Online student work cannot be used for reporting purposes. It is important that students participate and submit their work in order to keep up with the class. However, it is not a reliable form of evidence of student learning as I am not present when the work is being done to observe the student. When online students return to class, I will be able to start gathering data and carrying out assessments for future reporting.

### Curriculum Focus for the month of October:

#### **Religion:**

- The Rosary: What is the Rosary? How To pray the Rosary, the prayers of the Rosary (The Apostles' Creed, Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, Fatima Prayer, Hail Holy Queen- become familiar with this).
- Students will be guided through an exploration of The Glorious Mysteries and will be given opportunities to make 'faith to life' connections through prayer journaling and oral discussions in class.
- Students will participate in praying a decade of the Rosary daily as a class.
- Students will continue to pray the Angelus daily as a class. Students are encouraged to memorise this throughout the next month through daily practice.
- Students will learn to pray the Hail Mary in French (Je vous salue Marie).
- Students will have their Learning Group Mass on **Wednesday October 7th** during school time.

#### **English Language Arts:**

- ★ **Reading: Reading Power:** The Power to Connect: Introduction 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: Long vowel sounds (ay/ai/a\_e, ee/ea, u\_e/oo, i\_e/igh/\_y).

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

**Math:**

- ★ Place value and numbers up to 1000:
- Representing numbers to 1000 using standard form, base ten form, expanded form, word form.
- Comparing and ordering numbers to 1000.
- Making estimations.
- Review of addition and subtraction with two and three digit numbers WITHOUT 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.
- ★ 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,

**Socials:** 'Who am I?' unit continued:

- My values, worldview and culture. Exploration of Canadian culture: Multiculturalism within Canada.
- Symbols as representative of cultural understanding and worldview.

**French:** Fall/Halloween themed vocabulary.

**Career Education:**Goal setting:

- Identifying our 'strengths' and 'stretches'.
- Introduction to 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:**

**Wednesday October 7th :** Learning Group B mass.

**Friday October 9<sup>th</sup>:** Walkathon: Students will be participating in themed activities on the school premises. More information will be given on Google Classroom throughout the week.

**Monday October 12<sup>th</sup>:** No school for Thanksgiving long weekend.

**Wednesday October 28<sup>th</sup> :** Progress Report Cards sent home.

**Friday October 30<sup>th</sup>:** Students are encouraged to come to school in costume. 3pm dismissal.



If you have any questions, please feel free to send me an email at [grainnekinsella@spev.ca](mailto:grainnekinsella@spev.ca).

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

Ms. Kinsella.

