

# February

Dear Parent/Guardian:

It is very important that we establish a connection between home and school through our reading program. Please make sure that your child is reading every night for at least 20 minutes and that you sign their Lights Out Club Record Sheet when they have finished. This newsletter will update you with this month's focus in all subject areas.

## **Mathematics**

The math strand that we will be working on for this month is Number Sense. A letter will be attached pertaining to ways you can help your child work their way through this unit of study at home. This, in combination with regular homework will help to reinforce math skills that will be taught in the classroom. Students will focus on adding, subtraction and estimation through mental mathematic skills and various ways of communicating their answers and abilities.

## **Language**

This month's focus for writing will be Narrative. A narrative tells a story to entertain, teach or inform; can be fiction or non-fiction; has a beginning, middle and end; includes one or more well developed character(s); includes a defined setting, a problem that is established early in the story, a sequence of events and a solution to the problem; includes dialogue and descriptive language and is usually written in the past tense. We will be studying Fairytales to help us with narrative writing. The students' culminating assessment will be to write a Fractured Fairytale.

In reading, the students will be focusing on the concept of inferring text. Inferring is when you use prior knowledge and textual cues to draw conclusions and form unique interpretations of the text. We will also be continuing with our two type of reading responses: Retell Relate and Reflect, and Better Answers Responses. Throughout their reading and responding students will also be focusing on details and making connections. Connections that students are asked to examine are: text-to-text, self-to-text and self-to-world.

## **Science/Social Studies**

Students will still be learning about the Physical Regions of Canada in Social Studies. This month's focus will be on the Interior Plains, the Artic Lowlands and the Canadian Shield. As well, they will be having a quiz on last month's focus of the Cordillera Region at the start of February.

In Science, our class will be finishing up our Rocks and Minerals Unit and working towards our next unit of Pulleys and Gears. Therefore, there will be a Rocks and Minerals test during the second week of February.

**Music**

The class has been reviewing basic music theory. They will be asked to display knowledge of the treble clef, whole note, half note, quarter note, rest and the five lines and four spaces. Students will also be expected to study various types of music (rhythm, tone and pace). Our music unit will be incorporated into our art and dance concepts that will be studied by the end of this month.

**Physical Education**

Our class will be working on co-operation skills in this month's unit of Co-operative Games. Students will engage in a variety of games that will display skills such as: working as a team player, responsibility, participation, appreciation and respect. As well, by the end of this month our class will be introduced to various dance forms, techniques and elements.

**Signing Rubrics/Assessments**

In order to keep all of our material organized and in the proper place for time of reports I would ask that a guardian signs the rubric of your child's test or tasks and have them return it to school the next day.

If there are any concerns or questions please feel free to leave me a note in your child's planner as I do check them daily or call me at the school (519) 892-3981.

Mrs. J Kemp