

News from the Grade One Classroom

Guided Reading - everyone is working on improving their reading strategies and making more meaningful self to text connections. When reading with your child, encourage him/her to use reading strategies such as picture clues, phonic sounds, context clues or little words they see in the bigger word. After the story is finished, engage in discussion about what happened in the text. For a fiction story, pose the following questions to help deepen understanding.

Fiction Text

Name all of the characters. Tell the setting of the story (where and when).
Tell the problem in the story. Sequence the main events of the story.
Explain how the story problem was solved. Tell how the story ended.

Non-Fiction Text

State the title and topic of the non-fiction text. Retell 3 to 5 facts learned by reading the information in this text.

After the Christmas break, each student will bring home a leveled reading book every evening to further develop reading skills and fluency. I am looking for adult volunteers (parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles) who would be interested in listening to the students read their books. I am looking for a volunteer that can commit to helping regularly on one of the five school days. Your help would be needed for about one to one and a half hours. Our reading period is scheduled from 8:05 to 9:45 a.m. everyday. If you are interested, please call the school or send me a note.

Writing – Term 2 text forms are reports and narratives

- reports in Grade One will take the form of interviews and restating facts learned after reading non-fiction texts
- students will write their own variations of well known narratives

Math – measurement unit where students measure and describe lengths, heights, distances and areas using non-standard units

- number sense unit where students learn ordinal numbers to 31st; the number words from one to ten; adding and subtracting to sums of 10; skip counting by 2's, 5's and 10's to 100
- geometry unit where students identify, sort and classify 2D shapes
- patterning and algebra unit where students learn about equality in number equations and describing numeric repeating patterns

Science – understanding the sun is the principal source of energy; learning about different types of energy; assessing energy use and learning how to become more energy efficient

Social Studies – examining the features of maps and using these features to read and create maps of real and fictional places

Arts – the music focus for Term 2 is recognizing and maintaining the beat
- drama activities are centered around role playing where the voice and body movements support the character being portrayed

Health – Term 2 curriculum focuses on the parts of the human body and their functions

Check with your child to see if any of their school supplies need replenishing, especially such items as kleenex and glue sticks. Take the time to discuss curriculum topics when papers come home in the folders. Allow many opportunities for your child to read and write and engage in math activities. Your child has already grown in many academic and social ways throughout Term One. I look forward to helping them achieve even more goals during Term Two.

Sincerely,
Debbie Wellington