

November Newsletter 3B

I hope everybody had a fantastic Halloween! I am looking forward to seeing you at Parent Teacher Interviews. More information will be sent home with regard to these meetings. Each interview is approximately 10 minutes long, so if there is something that you would like to discuss at length, please send me a note and we can set up a phone call or a separate meeting at another time.

I will try to keep this newsletter short, but **please continue to look at the class website and Twitter for pictures and reminders. As well, even though we don't write in the agenda daily, please make sure to check it every evening for any important messages or announcements.**

Math

We have just completed one of our **Number Sense** units in Math. We have moved onto our Data Literacy Unit. The expectations are the following:

- sort sets of data about people or things according to two and three attributes, using tables and logic diagrams, including Venn, Carroll, and tree diagrams, as appropriate
- collect data through observations, experiments, and interviews to answer questions of interest that focus on qualitative and quantitative data, and organize the data using frequency tables
- determine the mean and identify the mean and mode(s), if any, for various data sets involving whole numbers, and explain what each of these measures indicates about the data

Language

We have wrapped up our Recount Writing unit and will move onto Persuasive Writing.

The features included in a piece of Persuasive Writing are the following:

- I have an opening sentence that states my opinion (point of view).
- I have stated my **3** reasons (arguments clearly).
- I have included an example, explanation or supporting detail for each reason **(3)**.

- I have a concluding sentence where I restate my opinion (point of view).
- I have used strong **transition** and **persuasive** words.
- I wrote long sentences using linking words.
- I used capital letters.
- I used a variety of punctuation.
- I have checked my spelling.
- I have read over all of my sentences to see if they sound right.
- I tried my hardest and worked to the best of my ability.

Extra writing practice at home is highly recommended. When writing sentences, I ask that the children focus on spelling, punctuation, capital letters where necessary, use of adjectives and creating simple and complex/compound sentences using linking words. An example of a complex/compound sentence would be: **The fluffy black dog ate the large bone because he was very hungry.** The word "because" would be the linking word. Instead of stopping at bone, the sentence was made longer by adding "because" and then the rest of the sentence. The children usually do write longer sentences, however many times the linking word (because, and, but, until, then etc.) is missing and it becomes two sentences with no punctuation. For example: **The dog ate the bone he was very hungry.**

For **reading**, the children will continue to independently read stories and answer questions in which they have to go back through the story to find the answers. They have to use details from the story to support their answers. **This year the children will be assessed through written responses.** One thing the children often have trouble doing is writing enough detail from the text, and their own ideas to show that they understand. We have discussed this at school and will continue to work on this skill throughout the entire year.

Reading at night is highly recommended. Reading to your child is a great way to encourage and help your child with their reading skills. All of the students have a Raz Kids account that can be accessed through the student portal. We have been using this at school. If you find that the reading level I have placed your child in is too easy or too difficult for them, please let me know through a note in the agenda and I will adjust accordingly.

Science

We continue to investigate **Forces**. We will have a formal test at the end of the unit. A review will be sent home with enough time for your child to study.

Homework

Thank you so much for ensuring that your child has completed the homework, as it reinforces what has been done at school and/or other learning skills that we may not be able to focus on at school. I have asked that it be completed by Friday. Please send me a note if it cannot be completed or more time is needed. We will continue to have a weekly Word Wall Word Quiz every Friday - unless noted otherwise. Please review the words with your child on a regular basis as these are words they are expected to know how to spell by the end of grade three.

Assessment

I am in the process of assessing Reading, Writing and Math. I will send assessments home as soon as possible for you to look at. A lot of the work we do (e.g. art, pictures) will be put in a portfolio for your child and sent home at the end of each term.

Pop Can

I cannot tell you why because it is a surprise, but if you could send in a **rinsed out** pop can by December 1st, that would be great! Thank you in advance.

Outdoor Clothing

With winter quickly approaching and the cold weather upon us, please make sure that your child comes to school dressed appropriately. Snow Pants, hats, mittens and a scarf will soon be necessary. I will ask your child to wear what they come to school with, unless they have a note. **If you would like your child to make the choice of whether or not to wear their snow pants at recess and/or on the way home, please write down one single note in the agenda and I will let them make the decision.** Of course, if I feel that their decision is not reasonable on a particular day, I will advise them appropriately. Thanks!

Important Dates

November 10th: PD Day, No School

November 11th: Remembrance Day

November 16th: Report Cards posted on Parent Portal

November 23rd: Parent Teacher Interviews

Thank you for helping to make this a successful school year so far! I really enjoy working with you and your child. Please feel free to contact me at any time through your child's agenda or by calling the school to leave me a message. Thank you as well for all of your contributions to the Kanata Food Cupboard.

Sincerely,
Julie Nihmey

