

# Grade 2/3-News



Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup>

Dear Families,

As incredible as it seems, it is already November... I continue to be amazed as I watch the children learn and grow in grade 2/3. October kept us very busy – making sharing soup (delicious), writing our Secret of Saying Thanks stories (heart-warming), constructing scarecrows (adorable), and of course Halloween (spook-tacular). I would like to thank the parents who came in to help us last month in our classroom, and to also send a thank you to all parents for your continued support in helping your child continue to grow as an independent learner! I wanted to send home a classroom calendar for November and to share some information about what we are doing in grade 2/3.

We will be beginning several new units of study after the November break. Here are some highlights...

**Language Arts:** There are many things happening in language arts. Here are a few of the things your child could tell you about:

- Daily 5 (Work on Writing, Word Work, Read to Self)
- Story Circles (Thinking About Connections)
- Writing Projects: Autumn Acrostics, Secret of Saying Thanks, and Scarecrow Paragraphs

We continue to work on developing our reading comprehension, as well as add to our Café Menu, reading strategies that we can use during independent and guided reading sessions. Our writing continues to explore the use of organizers to help us plan our thinking as we write poems, stories, and descriptive paragraphs. Students are encouraged to tune into interesting, memorable, million dollar words which they then can apply into their own writing and speaking.

**Math:** The grade two's and three's have both begun their new units on "Data Analysis". In grade two, we are exploring and constructing pictographs and also using tallies to collect information about a question, while in grade three we are examining and constructing line plots and bar graphs. A letter was sent home earlier this week regarding our new units of study with an overview of the

concepts and some activities you can do at home. These letters can also be found on my eTeacher page.

**Grade 3 Social Studies:** In grade three, we have now begun to learn about quality of life in Peru, India, Tunisia, and Ukraine.

**Grade 2 Social Studies:** In grade two, students will begin to learn about and examine the traditions and culture of our three Canadian communities under study.

**Grade 3 Science:** The grade three's next unit of study is all about building with a variety of materials. We will focus on design features and integrity. I will be asking the students to start bringing a variety of materials to school for our construction projects. A letter regarding this will be sent home before the break. The best part of this unit will be our connection with fairy tales as we explore a variety of building tasks.

**Grade 2 Science:** The grade two's have finished up their unit on "Small Flying & Crawling Animals" and our learning will continue to ebb and flow as we begin to explore our new unit on "Exploring Liquids".

With so much going on, it's no wonder that time is flying by this year and I look forward to celebrating and sharing your child's learning and progress at the end of November. Report cards are only one aspect of assessment – The importance of having your child show you their understanding of concepts cannot be exaggerated.

Please remember to enjoy the Fall Break next week and I encourage all students to remember to visit my eTeacher page to access the math and language arts sites in order to review concepts.

Thank-you again for all you do,

Mrs. Kuzyk

*"The heart that gives thanks is a happy one, for we cannot feel thankful and unhappy at the same time. The more we say thanks, the more we find to be thankful for. And the more we find to be thankful for, the happier we become."*

*~ The Secret of Saying Thanks~*

*by: Douglas Wood*