

## November News

### Classroom Newsletter from Mme Van Klink's class

Bonjour!

We have had fantastic fall season so far this year and I've no doubt that the rest of the year will continue in the same direction. Here is some news from our class:

#### Curriculum Corner

##### Français

In French, students have been working on regular and irregular verbs in the present tense. Journals and small writing tasks are completed daily and students are using resources well. We have also been using a variety of visual organizers to better understand non-fiction texts that we have been reading. During the next few months we will be working on verbs in past tense.

##### English

I am in the process of marking students' Autobiographical Scrapbook projects that have been done with care. I have enjoyed reading the scrapbooks and also hearing students orally present their ideas. The scrapbooks were well done and it was a great way to get to know my students better. Thanks for sharing, Grade 5s! For our next unit of study, we will be working on identifying features of text (such as captions, subtitles, images) in non-fiction writing. Over the next week or so, I will be introducing students to their next project which will involve writing a magazine-type article about a topic that is of interest to them. I will send along a copy of the project outline to parents.

##### Math

So far this year we have touched upon 3 strands in math. We began with Number Sense and Numeracy and studied the various forms of numbers (standard, word, expanded), adding and subtracting whole numbers and decimals as well as mental math strategies. Next was our unit on Number Patterns which included topics such as increasing and decreasing patterns with an emphasis on problem solving. Presently we are learning about Geometry and students are perfecting their use of protractors to measure angles. We've also used technology to help students develop a better understanding of how to estimate angles. We will have an end of

unit "Quest" later this week. Our unit for the month of November will be Data Management. We will learn how to use and interpret different types of graphs (bar, line, circle, pictograms). Terms such as median, mean, mode will also be introduced.

### Etudes Sociales

This term we will be focussing on the Government unit. Earlier in October we spent time discussing the three levels of government in Canada (municipal, provincial/territorial and federal) and what the responsibilities of each of the levels are. Later on in November we will discuss the structure of Canada's parliamentary system and will learn more about some of Canada's historically important leaders.

### Sciences

Our most recent unit was "Properties of and Changes of Matter". Using the Scientific Method, students have conducted and reported on an experiment about properties of solids. They can now identify the difference between a solid, liquid and gas and the difference between a physical and a chemical change of state.

### Classroom Routines:

Most students so far have been demonstrating responsibility by remembering to change from outdoor to indoor shoes whenever they transition. This makes our custodians' jobs much easier. Now that the wet and cooler weather is approaching, it is even more important to ensure that students have appropriate footwear. We must also be mindful of our hook area now that we will be bringing more outdoor wear to school. Here are some things to keep in mind:

- ✓ Bring all necessary winter wear to school every day and take it home with you at the end of the day.
- ✓ Label all articles of clothing.
- ✓ Never wear outdoor boots inside the classroom.
- ✓ Be mindful of others when hanging up coats. Everyone has a hook and a space to place boots. All clothing must be hung up as opposed to dropped on the floor. If you accidentally knock someone else's coat off their hook, pick it up and place it where it belongs.

## **Progress Reports**

Progress Reports will be sent home with all students on Monday November 13<sup>th</sup>. Interviews will take place after school on Thursday November 16<sup>th</sup> and in the morning of Friday November 17<sup>th</sup>. An interview request sheet was sent home with the youngest/only student of each family. Spaces are quickly filling up so please ensure that these forms are returned as soon as possible. The date and time for your scheduled interview will be sent along with the progress report. Although every effort is made to accommodate families' requests, not everyone will necessarily be scheduled during their preferred time. If the time does not work out, please let me know as soon as possible so we can arrange another time to discuss your child's progress (either in person or by phone). I also ask that families be mindful of the time and duration of the interviews. Interviews are 15 minutes in length. If you feel that a longer time will be required, we can arrange that at a later time.

As always, please feel free to contact me about questions you may have about what is happening in our class. I look forward to meeting with you later this month.

Sincerely,

Mme R. Van Klink

[rebecca.vanklink@granderie.ca](mailto:rebecca.vanklink@granderie.ca)