

December News from Mme Van Klink's Grade 5 class



Happy Holidays! December is a busy, but exciting month. Although we have a lot of work to do over the next few weeks, we hope to squeeze in some fun too!

Curriculum Corner

Français:

Students have been learning about regular and irregular verbs in the present and past tense. Each week they are introduced to four new verbs and they are asked to apply this knowledge in various contexts (journal writing, oral communication and locating them in passages read in class). This we will do a culminating review of both of these tenses of verbs and students will be administered an open-book Unit Test. Bon chance!

English

I will send a copy of the project assignment as well as the rubric to those on my email list. We have worked very hard on the pre-writing activities of this assignment and are now putting the finishing touches on the final article. I look forward to including all students' articles in our *Did You Know?* magazine. We will begin our oral presentations shortly.

Math

We are finishing up our most recent unit on Data Management. Students have used success criteria to create effective graphs using technology and by hand. Next we will expand our understanding of money (e.g. counting and making change) in a variety of ways. Our Change for Children incentive will help students to conceptualize money in an authentic way. We will also be using problem solving skills to further solidify skills.

Social Studies

Recently, we have read about and discussed various background information and the political career of a Canadian Prime Minister. As a way to help students understand expectations for their independent work, we used Sir Wilfrid Laurier as an example. Using provided text and online resources, students have spent time researching other PMs of their choice using the same categories as our study on Laurier. Next, they will choose a PM that they would like to focus on for a poster project.

Science

In the New Year we will begin our unit on the Human Body.

Routines:

Students are expected to come to school prepared to learn. It is essential that students come to class with their agendas, pencils and homework every day. Also, I find myself reminding students to change their shoes after they come inside from recess. It is imperative that students in Grade 5 take responsibility for bringing their indoor shoes to school and changing into them before entering the classroom.

Change for Children:



I am so pleased to know that my students this year are once again willing to help me with this very important task. Notices were sent home late last week about our Change for Children coin drive. All students have been assigned an "Elf Day" during which time they will be responsible for collecting, sorting rolling and counting money that has been collected from all classes. Once we have a better idea about the needs of our adopted family, we will begin making a budget based on what we've collected. Then we will look at flyers and create a wish list. I will shop for gifts based on what we decide the family would like. During the final week of school "elves" will be needed to help wrap the gifts so that they can be sent to our family. If anyone has extra wrapping paper and/or gift tags, they would be very useful.

Reminders:

- Remaining Yoga dates are: December 5th, January 9th and January 25th. If you haven't already submitted \$6.00 to cover the cost of this program, please do so.
- Change for Children runs from December 4th- December 13th.
- Last day of school before the holidays is December 22nd. We return in the new year on Monday January 8th.

As always, please feel free to contact me if you have questions about what we are doing in our classroom.

Sincerely,

Mme R Van Klink

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