

A decorative border of orange pumpkins with carved faces surrounds the entire page. The pumpkins are arranged in a grid-like pattern, with some on the top and bottom edges and others along the sides.

ROOM 1 NEWS !

October

Pumpkins, turkeys and ghosts! Just a few exciting things we are looking forward to in October! It was wonderful to meet all of you either on Meet the Teacher Night or throughout the halls here at the school! It is hard to believe that the first month of this school year is already over. The students have done a fabulous job settling into the new routines here in grade 1/2! This transition is not always an easy one with all of the new rules, routines and responsibilities, but everyone is doing an awesome job. Way to go Grade 1/2, keep up the fantastic work!

With a new month upon us, we are about to begin many new and exciting areas of focus here in the Grade 1/2 room...

READING - shared stories, poems and songs

- grade 1 continuing with review of alphabet sounds
 - as a class, sound blending of word families at, in, it, ip, ig for example, grade 1...cat,sat and grade 2...flat,splat
 - working daily with our WOW words
 - getting to know our reading strategy pals. So far we have met our friends...Eagle Eye, Lips the Fish and Stretchy Snake.
- This month we will be introduced to Chunky Monkey!

- story retell...recognizing and discussing the characters, setting, problem, main events and conclusion of a story

WRITING - grade 1 will be printing basic sentences using our word finding strategies such as....sentence starters, picture dictionaries, anchor charts, word mats etc

- beginning to place some detail in our sentences by adding color words
- a focus on using our "HIGH 5"...capitals, no floating letters, finger spaces, no backwards letter and sentence stoppers.
- grade 2 will be using sticker stories, brainstorming box or story cubes to be creating a detailed setting then writing a simple story then editing their work by giving it a HIGH 5

MATH - daily oral counting forwards by...1's, 5's and 10's and counting backwards by 1's

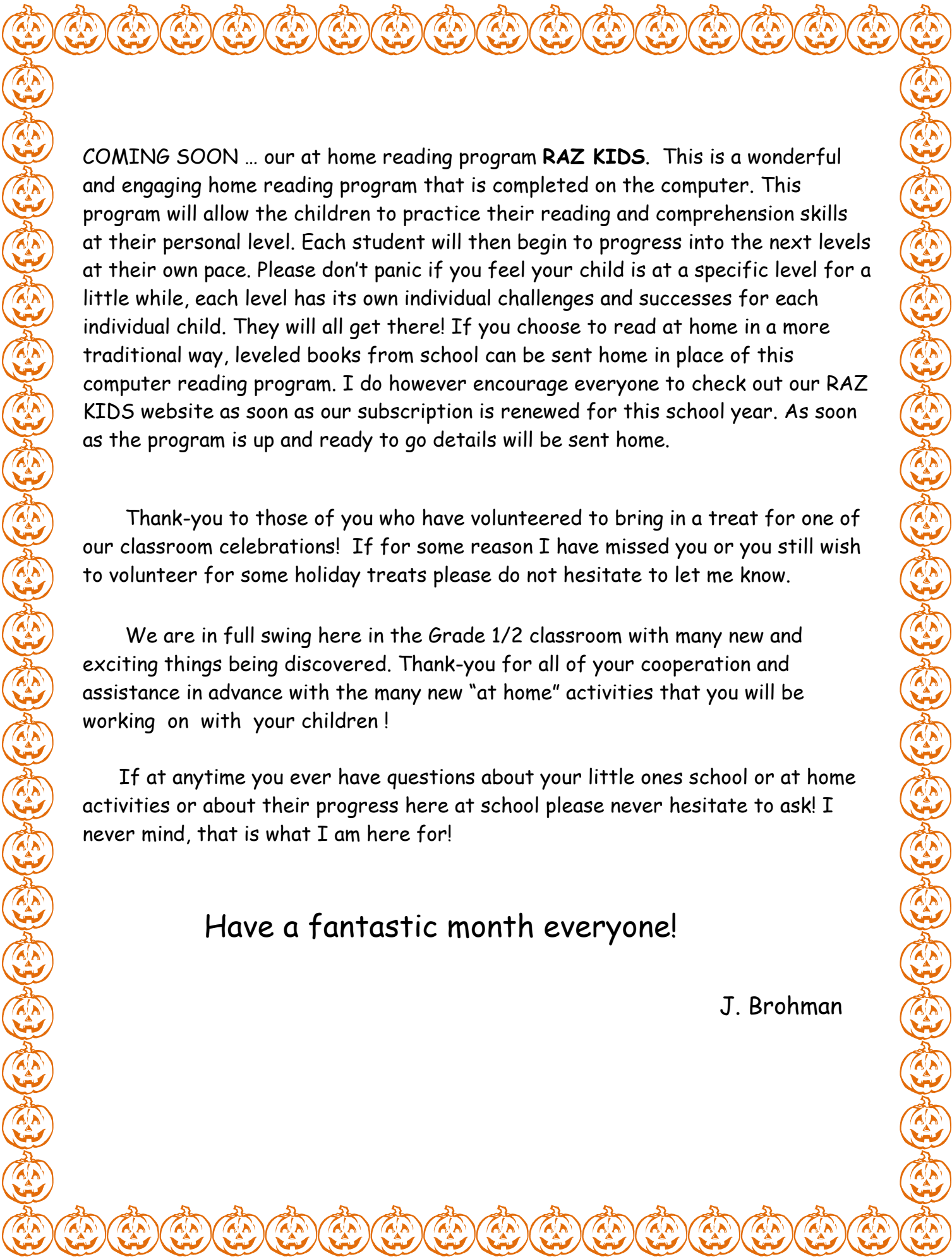
- daily reinforcement of ordinals through calendar activities
- math journal entries to reinforce our math skills
- written numbers and number words
- completion of our work on sorting objects into two or more sets and now placing this information into various graph forms
- continuing to identify and create repeating patterns such as ... ABABAB ... AABAAB... using one attribute (color, shape or size....) and grade 2 creating two attribute patterns...AAbAAb (color and size or shape and colour...)
- written numbers and number words

SCIENCE - grade 1 is discussing and describing their senses with Mrs. McQuay while grade 2 are learning about animal systems

SOCIAL STUDIES - Rules and Responsibilities....All About Me in grade 1 and Family and Traditions in grade 2 with Mrs. Johnson

Each week we will be working on learning and reinforcing their **WOW WORDS**. Each Monday the students will be printing their words into their agendas. We will be working with 5 new words each week through a variety of interactive classroom activities. Each morning while checking agendas I ask the students to read and review the words with me and then on Fridays they will get the opportunity to proudly "Show Me What You Know!" by sitting down with me and reading the words that they know from our list. Their "Show Me What You Know" folder will come home at the end of each week in order for you to see their progress.

We are beginning our **READERS CORNER!** This is an opportunity for each student to share various forms of writing with their classmates. Each student will have an assigned day of the cycle to share a short story, poem, newspaper article, joke, recipe, written advertisement, menu....any form of writing of interest to them! This will give us the opportunity to discover the many forms of writing in our environment and to also give our friends an opportunity to learn how to ask interesting questions. Your little ones day of the cycle for sharing will be in the front of their agenda.

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COMING SOON ... our at home reading program **RAZ KIDS**. This is a wonderful and engaging home reading program that is completed on the computer. This program will allow the children to practice their reading and comprehension skills at their personal level. Each student will then begin to progress into the next levels at their own pace. Please don't panic if you feel your child is at a specific level for a little while, each level has its own individual challenges and successes for each individual child. They will all get there! If you choose to read at home in a more traditional way, leveled books from school can be sent home in place of this computer reading program. I do however encourage everyone to check out our RAZ KIDS website as soon as our subscription is renewed for this school year. As soon as the program is up and ready to go details will be sent home.

Thank-you to those of you who have volunteered to bring in a treat for one of our classroom celebrations! If for some reason I have missed you or you still wish to volunteer for some holiday treats please do not hesitate to let me know.

We are in full swing here in the *Grade 1/2* classroom with many new and exciting things being discovered. Thank-you for all of your cooperation and assistance in advance with the many new "at home" activities that you will be working on with your children!

If at anytime you ever have questions about your little ones school or at home activities or about their progress here at school please never hesitate to ask! I never mind, that is what I am here for!

Have a fantastic month everyone!

J. Brohman