



November News



Dear Parents,

The weather finally feels like fall (and winter some mornings! ☺). Oneida traditionally has a very cold and windy playground, especially when we are small. Please ensure that your child has an extra pair of mittens and socks, in case they come in from recess with wet feet or hands. If you would like to send an extra set of clothes, for unexpected mud puddle attacks, your child can hang their extra clothes on their hook or keep them in a special pocket in their backpacks.

In language, this month we will be finishing our unit on retelling, and moving to a mini unit on visualizing. Visualizing is a comprehension strategy that helps us to create descriptive 'movies', in our minds, of the stories we are reading. We try to use all 5 of our senses when we visualize, to create a vivid picture of what we are reading. This helps us to have a deeper understanding of the stories we read. We will also be talking about using descriptive vocabulary in our writing so that the people who are reading it can create similar pictures in their minds to the ones that we had in our mind, when we were writing the story.

In math, we are finishing up our unit on graphing. We have learned to ask survey questions, collect data, create a bar graph or pictograph to display our data, and to describe what we found. Our next unit will be number sense. Grade 1 students will explore numbers to 50 and Grade 2 students will explore numbers to 100. We will explore different ways to count, show, and describe numbers, using manipulatives, ten frames, and base 10 materials. This unit is a very important unit as it creates the background knowledge for our adding and subtracting units in January. Grade 2 students, especially, will need a solid foundation of place value before they move to 2-digit addition and subtraction.

In Grade 2 social studies, we begin our family trees this week, finally! Thank you to everyone who sent in their family information. After our family trees are done we will begin our unit on Festival of Lights. During this unit, we will explore the traditions behind such festivals as St. Lucia Day, Hanukkah, Christmas, and Kwanzaa. This unit will end with a study of Chinese New Year, in January.

Well I think that is all for now. I want to thank all of you for your assistance in making Grade $\frac{1}{2}$ a successful year thus far. I look forward to meeting you all next week. Interview times will be coming home shortly. If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to write a note in your child's agenda or to contact me at the school (905-765-4700). I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Suzie Johnson