



March News




Dear Parents,

Can you believe this weather?!?!? Poor Mother Nature must have such a headache from all the changes! The students and I were discussing the weather wives' tale that says "If March comes in like a lion, it will go out like a lamb.", and visa versa. With the impending snowstorm, most of us thought that March was coming in like a lion this year. This would be in line with the Groundhog who predicted 6 more weeks of winter. Some of us are happy that there might be a chance to make one more snowperson before spring, and some of us were ready for spring now! (*cough cough* – Mrs. Johnson!). We'll have to see if our prediction will come true. For those of you heading for warmer climates over March Break, be sure to bring back some sunshine in a bottle, just to encourage the lion's stay to be brief! On that note, I would like to wish everyone a relaxing March Break, whether you are travelling or staying close to home.

March is a short month, due to our Break. In math we will begin our geometry unit. We will talk about 2D shapes and symmetry, and then move to 3D figures.

In language, we are finishing up our Arthur stories. I have high expectations, but I would like to have most finished by March Break. The students are doing an awesome job! I'm very impressed with the creative details some of us are using! Most of us are on our rough drafts, and a few are working on publishing already!

After March Break we will be working on the comprehension strategy of 'asking questions'. We can ask questions before we read – during our picture walk preview of a book so we can predict what may happen and some of the vocabulary we might encounter. We can ask questions while we read – to check our understanding as we read. We can also ask questions after we read to check our understanding of what we have read - perhaps the teacher will also have questions that we might need to answer about the book. We have already discussed that there are 3 levels of questions which all require different levels of understanding for the answers, but we will focus on how to best answer these different kinds of questions. **Hand questions**  are questions that we can look back into the book for the answers and put our

 answer is found. **Head questions** are a little bit higher level questions in that

they require us to combine information from the book and information in our schema to create an answer. **Heart questions**  are the highest level of question as they require us to reflect about what happened in the book in order to generate our answer.

In Social Studies we will begin our mapping and communities unit. We will make clay world maps as a follow-up activity to reading the book “Gifts” which is about a Grandma who travels all around the world, bringing back gifts for her granddaughter. After discussing that our world is made up of continents, we will talk about the fact that continents are made up of countries, countries are made up of provinces, and that provinces are made up of communities. This will lead us to the Grade 2 Communities Around the World unit where we compare different communities and how they meet their needs for survival.

Well I think that is all for now. As always I want to thank you for your continued support and encouragement. If you have any questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to contact me at the school (905-765-4700)

Sincerely,
Suzie Johnson

