

October News

from Room 3

 October 4, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

 I hope that everyone is enjoying our beautiful fall weather. It certainly is perfect for the fall fairs! Thank you to the parent volunteers who met us at the Caledonia Fair. Everyone I talked to, had a wonderful day.

 This month in reading we are working on reading and writing procedures or “How To” books. Procedural texts teach us or tell us how to do something. The students will be reading procedural texts, as well as writing their own procedures. The most important part of procedural writing is making sure that our details are clear, and in the correct order. Procedural writing will also help us when we are writing our strategies for Math Mission type problems.

 In writing we are continuing to work on writing complete sentences. We have learned how to use **C**U**P**S to edit our writing for capitals, understanding (does my sentence make sense), punctuation (A.K.A. sentence stoppers), and spelling (any words we don’t know we stretchy snake and underline). We will continue to practice using *CUPS*, with increasing independance.

 We are waiting for our subscription to ‘RAZ Kids’ to be activated. As soon as it becomes available, I will import the students’ names into our class and then they can begin reading on the computer for homework. Until then please continue reading library books, books at home, internet resources, etc. for home reading.

 In math we have finished our sorting unit, using two attributes, like size **and** colour, and we have begun our patterning unit. For this unit we will be mainly working with repeating patterns, although we are also practicing growing and shrinking patterns as we skip count forwards and backwards from 200. Once again we will work with 2 attributes when creating our patterns.

 I would like to thank you all for helping to complete the Math Mission problem each week. I love seeing the different strategies that each child comes up with to show their thinking and to solve the problem. It is fun to have them be the teacher and explain the process which they used. It is also very helpful, for those students who were a little stumped on how to the solve the problem, to see how their peers did it. We tried a problem this week in class, all by ourselves, and I was so happy to see how many of the students are beginning to automatically use many of the success criteria in their answers. BRAVO to everyone!

 In science we are continuing to work on our liquids and solids unit. When our science unit is completed we will move to our first social studies unit where we will be talking about ourselves and our families. There will be a few information gathering tasks I will ask for your help with during this unit, but details of these tasks will come home closer to the time.

 Lastly, Halloween is fast approaching. On Wednesday, October 31st we will have a costume parade at 9:30. Students in JK to Grade 3 will wear their costumes to school. Please see the October school newsletter for further details of this day. If you wish to send treats for the students on October 31st please remember that they ***must*** be individually wrapped and have a peanut-free stamp on the packaging/box. Thanks in advance for your cooperation in helping to keep our students safe. ☺

 Well, I think that covers the highlights, from Room 3, for October. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please call me at the school (905-765-4700). I will do my best to return your call as quickly as I can!

 Have a wonderful Thanksgiving and a spooktacular Halloween!

 Sincerely,

 *Suzie Johnson*