

October 7, 2011

Off to a Great Start!

I am happy to report that the *Grade One* class is off to a fantastic start to the school year! The children are now used to their new classroom routines and are working hard on all assignments and activities. Thank you to all the parents for ensuring that your children come to school prepared for the day. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Ms. Anna Clarke



Physical Education

As you know, P.E. takes place every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings. Students must be in their gym strip on these mornings. Please remember to pack their green or black socks as well as their black shoes!

Students are also asked to bring their gym runners on Monday for lunchtime gym activities. Thank you! ☺



Friendly Reminder:

Please remember to sign your child's Student Planner daily. This is essential in establishing successful home/school communication.

Reading and Spelling

Our Home Reading and Spelling program is now underway. The expectation is that your child will spend approximately 5 minutes each night practicing their spelling words. Additionally, students will take home a book appropriate to their reading level every night. My hope is that students will develop their sight word vocabulary and fluency, but most important will develop their love for reading. Please remember to record each book in the Home Reading Log! This should be handed into me each time they've read and recorded 25 books. Now that we've begun the *Hooked on Books* program, students should also record their books for this to collect prizes!

Mathematics

Patterns and developing number sense have been the focus so far. Students have worked on:

- Reading and printing numerals
- Skip counting (by 2's, 5's, 10's, backwards by 1's)
- Building 0 - 20 on ten frames
- Daily Calendar activities
- Identifying and Copying patterns
- Creating and Extending patterns (with 2 - 4 attributes)

Religion

This past month, we have been practicing the sign of the cross, as well as the Hail Mary, Our Father and the Glory Be. Students have memorized a new afternoon prayer and a song to sing before meals. It would be wonderful if you could encourage your child to incorporate these prayers into your prayer time at home. During Morning Prayer, students have started to share special intentions. They are eager to pray for their families, friends and for those less fortunate. Students will be participating in praying the rosary daily for the month of October.

Theme Work

During October, we will continue to work on our themes "All About Me" and Families. Each student will have an opportunity to do an All About Me project when it is their week to be "Student of the Week." Part way through October, our focus will switch to a science unit - Weather and Seasons.