

September 2011

Welcome to *Grade One!* Our primary goal this year is to promote growth and development in the spiritual, intellectual, physical, artistic and social/emotional areas. It is my hope that each student will try their best in all aspects of school life and that each family will be of support in this goal. I look forward to working with you and your child! If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Ms. Anna Clarke

Routines

A major focus for September is establishing new routines. Please ensure that your child is responsible for his/her belongings and actively participates in packing and unpacking their school bag. This will help them develop a bit of independence!

Healthy Eating & Allergies

I encourage all students to bring nutritious lunches to school! A balanced meal that includes fruits and vegetables helps small kids grow big and strong! Please do not include nuts or fish in your child's lunch because we have children in the class that are allergic.

Water Bottles

Students are encouraged to bring a water bottle to school which can be left on their desk throughout the day. Research suggests that frequent intakes of water help children's attention spans, concentration and behaviour.

Physical Education

Grade 1 will have P.E on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings. The children are asked to wear their gym strip into school and bring their school uniform with them so they can change into it after P.E class. Any changes to this schedule will be written in their homework journal.

Gym Strip

The students need to have a full gym strip, including white socks, in order to take part in P.E. Please make sure all items are labeled including socks. This really reduces the amount of lost and found items within the class. The students are required to have a gym bag to hold their uniform.

Lost and Found

Any items found within the classroom will be placed in the lost and found area beside the office. Please check here for any misplaced items. Should your child bring home another child's property, please return it to school the next day. The best way to prevent this is to label everything including water bottles, lunch containers, pencils, erasers etc. Children are asked to leave all toys at home as items can easily get lost.

Supplies

This year students are required to order their own supplies. Any supplies that your child still needs should be brought in as soon as possible, including a box of tissues. Everything should be labeled! Thank you.

Homework Planners

The students will write in their homework planner daily. In addition, Grade 1's are expected to read daily as well as practice their spelling. Please sign your child's homework journal every night and feel free to write any comments/messages to me in the journal. I will check and stamp this journal every day as well as write any comments to you, if necessary.

Money

We will be collecting money from the students for a variety of events throughout the year. The students are asked to bring money only in envelopes with their name, grade and event written clearly on the front. This is very helpful. Thank you.

Scholastic Orders

Children will be given the opportunity to purchase books from Scholastics each month. Please ensure you look at B.C. prices and send orders to class in an envelope. Thanks.

Fieldtrips

Grade 1 will be taking part in a few fieldtrips and outings this year. Parents are invited and your help is always appreciated.

Student of the Week

Each week, we will have a "student of the week"! If it is your child's turn, a notice will be sent home the previous week explaining what this entails. Part of this responsibility means completing an "All About Me" project which must be brought to school on the Monday of their special week. All the pieces of the project should be cut out and displayed on a large piece of paper or a poster board. They will share this project with the class.

September's Curriculum

Religion

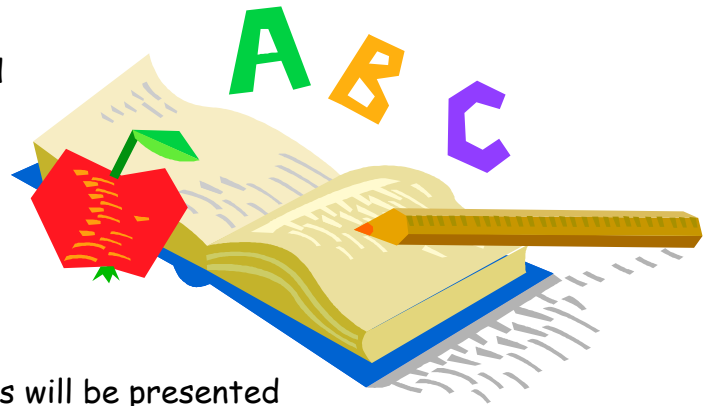
Our theme this year is "Serve with Joyful Hearts". Children in Grade One will learn about the importance of being kind and helpful to one another.

Home Reading

We will begin our home reading program shortly. I will send home a letter explaining the details of the program. Stay tuned! 😊

Spelling

Spelling will begin this week and you should expect to spend five to ten minutes per night on spelling. They are asked to practice printing the words at home. We will have a spelling test every Friday.



Math

Our first unit in math is Patterns. Students will be presented with a variety of tasks which will allow them to explore and create different kind of patterns. A huge part of the grade 1 mathematics curriculum is to develop number sense. This month, students will also practice number recognition and printing numbers.

