

September 14, 2011

Grade 6 Monthly Newsletter: September

Great work and great effort Grade sixes the first two weeks of school! A few reminders regarding homework, planners and classroom expectations. Students complete their planners on a daily basis and parents must also initial every day. Students are responsible for coming to school prepared with their homework complete. If for an unexpected reason this is not possible, students must write a note to Ms. Rasman explaining why the assignment is incomplete. The note must also be signed by the student and parents. Students will typically have homework in Math and Reading on a daily basis. In addition to homework in Reading, students must also be reading a minimum of 30 minutes a day and, on a weekly basis, choose a *prompt* to write one paragraph on in their Home Reading Duotang. The goal is to encourage students to read more frequently and to choose reading material that they find interesting and enjoyable.

Below is an outline of what we will cover during the month of September.

Religion Students will reflect on our theme <i>Serve with Joyful Hearts</i> . Students will explore how to serve with a joyful heart through concrete examples and action.	Science Students will study the characteristics, needs and diversity of living things. Students will carry out an experiment on: What factors affect the growth of plants?
Reading Students will begin the book club unit <i>Mission Space</i> . Students will also learn about the strategy <i>self monitoring</i> . Self monitoring is when readers think about their own thinking (metacognition).	Social Studies Students will study the concept of <i>A Global Village</i> . In particular, students will question: What does it mean to be a global citizen?
Writing Students will study the format of a paragraph: topic sentence, supporting sentences and concluding sentence. Students will explore the language and purpose of the three types of sentences.	French Students will recall familiar phrases such as the date, weather and state of being. Students will conjugate <i>aimer</i> and recall vocabulary to describe their likes and dislikes.
Math Students will study patterns and equations. For example, they will use graphs and tables to describe patterns and relationships; they will use equations to represent number relationships; and, they will identify and plot points in a Cartesian plane.	Art Students will investigate cubism and practice good symmetry. They will sketch and colour a Picasso self portrait.

Please feel free to approach me with questions or concerns before or after school. Keep up the very good work Grade 6!

2011-2012 Year Overview

Subject Area	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Religion	the Old Testament and books from the Old Testament	stories from the Book of Genesis (The Story of Adam and Eve, The Story of Two Brothers, The Story of the Flood)	The Ten Commandments and social justice
Language Arts	Reading self monitoring strategy; book club unit <i>Mission Space</i> Writing format of the paragraph; story writing	Reading inferring and analyzing strategies; book club unit <i>Hero of Another World</i> Writing graphic novel; speech and persuasive writing	Reading making connections strategy; book club unit <i>When Disaster Strikes</i> Writing poetry; report writing
Math	patterns and equations (input/output machines, coordinate grid, equality) understanding number (multiples, factors, order of operations, integers)	decimals (multiplying and dividing decimals by a whole number) angles and polygons (naming, exploring, measuring, and drawing angles) fractions, ratios, and percents (converting/comparing mixed numbers and improper fractions; relating fractions, decimals, and percents)	geometry and measurement (exploring, naming, sorting, and drawing triangles; perimeter, area and volume of polygons/rectangles) data analysis and probability (conducting experiments, interpreting/drawing graphs, theoretical/experimental probability) transformations (transformations on a coordinate grid, successive/combining transformations)
Social Studies	global citizen and global organizations (UN and UNICEF)	Japanese culture; poverty cycle; sustainable management	Indigenous Peoples; cities (water, housing, transportation, and air); government
Science	living things (characteristics, needs and classifying); conducting an experiment	electricity (series/parallel circuits, non-renewable/renewable resources)	extreme environments (polar regions, deserts, oceans, volcanoes, and space); Science Fair
French	familiar phrases; the verb <i>aimer</i> ; comic strip	the verb <i>être</i> ; dialogue; Francophone literature	the verbs <i>avoir</i> and <i>aller</i> ; Francophone music
Art	self portrait and Picasso self portrait (cubism)	shading (hatching, cross hatching, circularism); burn awareness poster	study/project on artist; adopting an artistic style