



# April News

La Classe 1/2C  
**April 2017**

## Calling all volunteers!

It's that time of year where we begin to think about planning and preparing our gardens. This includes the EMP garden project that is spearheaded by the grade 1's and 4's.

If you have a green thumb and would like to help with prepping, planning and planting, you are more than welcome to join the first EMP Garden Committee meeting on Wednesday April 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm in the Library.

Many hands make for light work!

Dear parents,

I hope that you and your family had a wonderful and relaxing Spring Break. Hopefully, you are all refreshed and ready for the final stretch of the school year. That's right... we're down to the final three months before summer vacation. Check out what's in store for us this month.

## Spring has sprung!

It's been a long winter, but it looks like spring is finally here! Although the weather is warming up nicely, it has also created a mess of mud and puddles outside. Therefore, it is strongly suggested that your child come to school with rubber boots and splash pants, until things start to dry up. It may also be a good idea to keep an extra set of clean, dry clothes in your child's backpack as you never know when they may be needed.

## Mark your calendars!

### Monday April 3<sup>rd</sup>

Criss Cross Ministries School retreat

### Wednesday April 5<sup>th</sup>

Garden Committee meeting

(5:30 in the Library)-All welcome

### Thursday April 6<sup>th</sup>

Franco-Folie Field Trip

### Friday April 7<sup>th</sup>

Hot Lunch

### Friday April 14<sup>th</sup>

Good Friday-No School

### Monday April 17<sup>th</sup>

Easter Monday-No School

### Tuesday April 18<sup>th</sup>

Easter Mass at Holy Family Parish

### Friday April 21<sup>st</sup>

Family movie night at ESSMY

### Thursday April 27<sup>th</sup>

Family Dance 5:30-8:30pm

### Friday April 28<sup>th</sup>

PD Day – No school

## Grade 1 Math

We have now launched our unit on measurement. Your child will be expected to demonstrate an understanding of measurement as a process of comparison by the end of this unit. This means that they will be ordering objects by weight, length, distance, volume or surface area, they will be determining which of the given objects has certain attributes (ex . holds the most/least filling, is the heaviest/lightest, greatest/least area etc) and more or less become experts at comparison.

In order to help at home, I've added some games to my Math Grade 1 tab on my website. they are the ones at the bottom titled: "To practice a variety of measurement skills". There are many games within that link, however I have selected a few that I believe are more relevant.

You may also choose to help at home without the internet, by measuring objects using a referent... how long do you think our napkin is? 5 pencils?

## Grade 2 Math

We will soon be finishing our unit on measurement. So far your child has learned about relating the number of days to a week and the number of months to a year in a problem-solving context and they've used nonstandard units to measure length. We will additionally be learning about measuring and comparing length, height, distance around and mass using nonstandard units. Once this is done, we will begin the addition and subtraction unit up to 100.

Students worked hard with our last addition and subtraction unit, they re-visited many of the strategies they learned in grade 1, they practiced word problems, but now it is time for the real work... They must add and subtract up to 100 ( $32+45=77$   $53-24=29$ ). Practice at home will be necessary... As always, check out the Math Grade 2 tab on my website for ways to help (re-visit the base-ten blocks games, and select harder levels). You may also want to read this document (<https://education.alberta.ca/media/3114946/factsheet-strategies.pdf>) which explains **why** we teach so many strategies for adding and subtracting.



## Grade 1 Social Studies

We will be finishing up our My World: Home, School and Community unit, and leaping into, Moving Forward with my Past: My Family, My History and My Community. It will be especially exciting to learn what events made our community, St. Albert, the community it is today!

## Grade 2 Social Studies

We are continuing to learn all about Iqaluit. We are having fun with exploring how the geography, language, culture and economics-among other things-help to make this community unique. It is lovely to see the students begin to understand and appreciate Canada's vastness and diverseness.

## Grade 1 Sciences

This week we will officially begin talking about spring as well as the **needs of animals and plants** as we prepare our garden for a new growing season.

Students will learn about living things and what they need to grow, they will develop skills for describing and classifying what they see, they will also become aware that groups of living things have some common needs and that different animals and plants meet those needs in different ways. Above all, students will learn about their own responsibility in caring for living things.

Much of our learning will be hands on and done with the help of our EMP garden. Again, if this is something that interests you, please let me know as we are often short of helping hands.



## Grade 2 Sciences

This week we will officially begin our **magnetism** unit with the help of Merlin, Archimede and Arthur (from the movie the Sword in the Stone).

Students will learn about the interaction of magnets with a variety of materials found within their own environment. By testing the effects of one magnet on another, they will learn that magnets show polarity and that the strength of magnetic effects diminishes with distance. Above all, the students will be able to test, and learn how magnets can be used in sorting objects, moving things and holding things together... kind of like *magic*!

You can help by having regular discussions with your child about new and exciting discoveries they will make regarding magnetism.



Thank you to everyone who came out to meet with me during parent-teacher interviews. It was a pleasure meeting with you and discussing your child's progress. If you have any further questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

