

C L A S S 1 / 2 C

# October News

2016



Mark your calendars!

Friday October 7<sup>th</sup>:

**Picture Day**

Monday October 10<sup>th</sup>:

**Thanksgiving, NO school**

Tuesday October 12<sup>th</sup>:

**ATA Institute day, NO school**

Friday October 21<sup>st</sup>:

**Early Dismissal**

Friday October 28<sup>th</sup>:

**Fall Festival**

**Dear parents,**

It's hard to believe, but the first month of school is already over!

In order to keep you up to date with what is happening in our class throughout the year, in addition to daily updates and weeks at a glance, I will be sending home monthly newsletters.

Please take a look at this month's news.

## THANK-YOU

A big thanks to all of our September volunteers!

Cultivating the garden, sight words and Terry Fox run could not have been done without you!



## Home Reading

On Thursday September 29<sup>th</sup>, your child brought home a Teddy bear reading log. Please remember to fill it out so your child may participate to our pajama day!

Our home reading program is officially underway and we're off to a great start! Hopefully, your child has been reading the classroom books that he/she has been bringing home each night in his/her 'Just Right' book bag. Each student is permitted to take home up to 2 books at a time, to practice reading (Grade 2's bring home 2 English books, and 2 French books). All books should be at appropriate reading level for your child. Throughout the year, as your child progresses, he/she will move up reading levels and his/her books will increase in difficulty. Grade 2 students do not go up as many levels as Grade 1's, as their challenge in reading will be to gain better comprehension.

### Please note...

The book bag your child brings home is to be kept in their green/blue pocket folder at all times, so that it comes to school each morning, and returns home each night. Please take the time to practice reading these books with your child for 10-15 minutes every day. Your child is free to exchange books whenever necessary.

## Sight Words \*Grade 1

On Wednesday, your child will be tested on their sight words by a parent. You will notice a note in your child's agenda informing you of the list your child is now required to practice.

More information regarding our sight words program, as well as a list of games and activities to help practice sight words can be found on our classroom website.

Grade 2 students can review their sight words, as these will become **spelling** words.





## Spelling/Dictée \*Grade 2

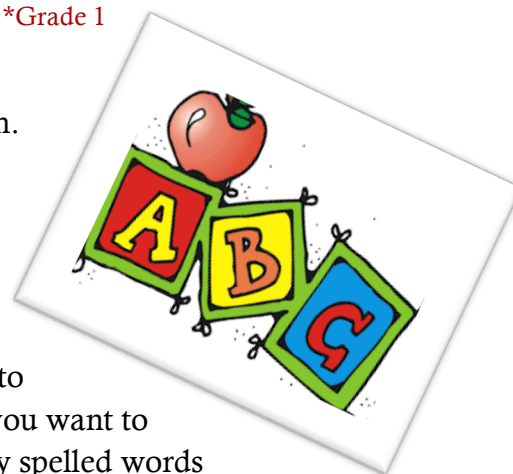
Grade 2 students will begin our spelling/dictée next week. The language of the spelling will be alternated week by week and the words will be chosen based on commonly miss-spelt words that are regularly used in everyday writing.

Every Monday your child will bring home a list of 5 words. In the classroom, we will practice spelling the words in different ways throughout that particular week., and so they will be receiving practice. On Friday your child will be tested on their words.

You may practice at home by encouraging your child to spell their words with objects in the house, or do some writing using those words.

## Animated Literacy \*Grade 1

Since the beginning of the year, we have been reviewing letters and their sounds in English. In class, we have been using a modified version of a program entitled Animated Literacy. This program uses actions and key words to help students remember letter sounds. A sheet describing the action and keyword for each sound is available on our classroom website. If you'd prefer to have a hard copy of this document, please let me know, as I would strongly encourage you to continue practicing letters and sounds at home with your child. If you want to have some fun, you can have your child act out certain phonetically spelled words (mom, dad, dog...) as it helps in learning to sound out new and unfamiliar words. Another fun activity is to play charades by guessing the word/letter that is being acted out. Both of these activities are great for developing reading skills.



## French Flashcards \*Grade 1

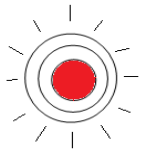
Please continue to practice your child's French flashcards on a regular basis. The students have been doing a great job with their school words, so keep it up! Later this week, I will also be sending home some number words (0-20).

You may wish to play a game of memory with these cards as your child tries to match the word to the number. If you need help with these numbers in French, please go to our classroom website. You will find some helpful links under the French section.

## Assessment



Later this week, in your child's homework folder, you will find a copy of our very first Math test. On the sheet, you will see a description of the outcome being tested, as well as a target indicating how your child did.



### 4 – Wow!

You have an excellent understanding of this outcome.



### 3 - Good job!

You have a good understanding of this outcome, but there is still some room for improvement.



### 2 – You're on the right track!

You have a basic understanding of this outcome, but you still need a lot of practice.



### 1 – Oh, oh!

You do not seem to understand this outcome. We'll have to work together to help improve your understanding.

This system of assessment & evaluation will be used throughout the year in all subjects. The students love it and understand exactly what it means. They always strive to achieve that 'shining bullseye'.

## Thanksgiving Celebration & Service Project

Our Thanksgiving celebration will be held at Holy Family Parish this Thursday at 9:30am. If you have not already done so, please be sure to return your child's permission slip for this outing as well as the rest of the church visits for the school year. All parents and siblings are welcome to attend.



In conjunction with the celebration, we are collecting food for the St. Albert Food Bank. If you wish to contribute, please be sure to send in your donation by October 6<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your generosity!



# READ-A-THON

Today marks the beginning of READ IN week! It's a great opportunity to promote reading and literacy, both in school and at home. This year, in addition to having a special guest from the St. Albert Public Library come in and read with our grade ones, we will also be holding a school-wide read-a-thon! More information about the read-a-thon, and the prizes available to be won can be found in your child's homework folder.

## Library

Our library is open and ready for students! On Tuesday we will have our first visit, and each student will be able to select two books to bring home, one in English and one in French. We will be visiting the library every Tuesday to exchange our books. If there is no school on Tuesday, we will keep our books for an additional week. Please help remind your child to return his/her books on library day! Thank you!



## Mathematics

### Grade 1

Grade 1 students have completed their patterning unit, and will soon begin their unit on numbers to 20. We will start by learning how to represent numbers by writing the words, representing numbers numerically and pictorially. You can help at home by looking for numbers in the environment and counting together starting at one, or from another chosen number in **French**. It would benefit your child as well to have them count sets of items in order to help them understand that numbers represent sets of 'things'.

### Grade 2

Grade 2 students will be completing their patterning unit this week, and will begin their unit on numbers to 100. We will start by reviewing the different ways to count objects (grouping, count by two's, five's, ten's). We will also be reviewing the ways to represent numbers. You can help at home by practicing skip counting by 2's (even/odd) 5's, 10's up to 100 (in **French**) as well as noticing groups of objects.



Our Fall Festival will be taking place on the evening of Friday October 28<sup>th</sup>. Once the orders go out, please be sure to get yours in as soon as possible to ensure that you get tickets, as they often sell out. This is your opportunity to dress up, visit, and boogie down with your child and other EMP families!

## Homework

Homework can sometimes be overwhelming for students and parents alike. Grade One and Two students should have no more than 15-20 minutes of homework a night the following is how I would break it down;

5min- home reading  
5min- sight words  
5min- flashcards or math

Set a timer for the amount of time that you would like to set for homework with your child. Do as much as you can within that given time and then stop, relax, and enjoy your evening. Whatever you were unable to cover will be there tomorrow to review.

Please keep in mind that as the month goes on I post weekly updates, and daily updates on my website.

Thank you so much for your wonderful participation so far this year and have a blessed Thanksgiving!

