

November News

Class 1/2C - 2016



Dear parents,

The next few weeks are going to be very busy in class as it is almost report card time. That means that we will be finishing up units and doing evaluations. To give you a clearer picture of what we're doing in class and how you can help your child in certain areas, please check out this month's news.

Sleep and Daylight Savings Time

Due to the evaluations we will be conducting in the classroom, it is important that your child gets to bed early, to ensure that they are fresh and ready to continue learning.

A reminder that daylight savings time is on Sunday November 6th 2016.

Mark your calendars!

November 1st:

Rooney and Punyi reading show.

November 4th:

PD Day - No school.

November 10th:

Remembrance day celebration.

November 11th:

Remembrance day - No school.

November 23rd and 24th:

Parent Teacher Interviews.

November 25th:

Day-in-lieu - No school.



Sight Words

Grade 1 and 2 parents

Grade one parents:

Please continue to practice English sight words with your child regularly. A reminder that your child will be tested on his/her sight words each week. His/Her progress will be recorded in the agenda.

Although your child may have already **mastered** the first few lists of words, I would strongly encourage you to revisit the words from these lists from time to time, to ensure that they have not been forgotten. If you are playing games with your child's words, consider using all previous lists of words, instead of only focusing on your child's current list. Remember, being able to recognize sight words is an essential part of being a successful reader.

Grade two parents:

If you are finding that your child is often guessing easy sight words in the books they are reading to you, please **start** by encouraging them to look at the letters on the page, and double check to see if they match the word they said. It may also be beneficial that you re-visit some of the sight word lists.

Please send me an e-mail or a note in the agenda if you wish to receive a list.



Letter Combos

Grade 1 and 2 parents

Now that we have reviewed all the individual letter sounds in English, we are beginning to learn different letter combos. Letter combos refer to a group of letters that make a unique sound when they are together. We use actions, and occasionally our friends' names, to remember some of these combos. Listed below are the combos that we have been practicing in class.

You may find while reading with your child, that they cannot see, nor find the combos in their book, as they can be within a word. If this is what you're noticing, use a pencil to gently circle the combo's before reading the book. Please erase them afterwards. This will be good practice for your child, as it will force them to look out for the combo sounds.

Listed below are the combos that we have been practicing in class, and that will be introduced in November.

Combo	Keyword/Name	Action
th	throw	Pretend to throw a football.
or	'or' Like the sound a seal makes	Clap your hands together like a seal.
ay	yay	Put your hands in the air and pretend to cheer.
ing	ding	Pretend to ring a doorbell.
ch	chop	Pretend to chop something with your hand.
ur/er/ir	turn	Point your finger in the air and turn it in a circle.
ar	'ar' Like a pirate says	Say "ar" like a pirate while swinging your arm.
ow/ou	shout	Hands on either side of your mouth as if to shout
oo	'oo' Like in the word look	Pretend like you just got hit in the stomach
sh	shiver	Wrap your arms around yourself and pretend that you are shivering.



Video Links

Check out the following videos to help you better understand our reading rules.

Magic 'e':

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c3oA4wfUBak>

Two Vowels Walking Together:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7fb3Pdt8kxg>

Reading Rules

Reading can be hard, especially when not all words can be sounded out phonetically. Therefore, we have learned a couple of rules in class that can be used to help us decode new words. Ask your child if he/she can explain the following rules to you.

The **Magic 'e'** rule – The magic e bumps the vowel and makes it say its own name. (ex: the word 'cut' becomes 'cute' when add a magic 'e' to the end)_

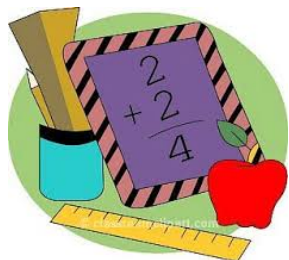
The **Two Vowels Walking Together** rule – When two vowels go a walkin' the first one does the talkin'. In other words, the first vowel will say its own name, while the other one will be silent. (ex: in the word 'boat', the letter 'o' says its name and the letter 'a' is silent)

There are, of course, **jail words**. These rebellious words don't follow the rules.

Reading Strategies

When reading with your child at home, please encourage him/her to use the following reading strategies, **especially** if they are stuck on a word.

- Sound it out.
 - Look at the pictures. (Yes, this is strategy.)
 - Look for word families. (__all, __it, etc...)
 - Look for small words in big words.
 - Look for letter combos.
 - Look for helper Es.
 - Try flipping the vowel (short and long sound).
 - Think...What makes sense?
 - Skip the word and read on. (Don't forget to go back though!)
- Often times, children will be able to figure out a tricky word by using one, or a combination, of the strategies listed. If your child is stuck on a word, **try to resist the temptation to just tell him/her the answer**. Instead, suggest using a specific strategy that should help him/her figure out the word.

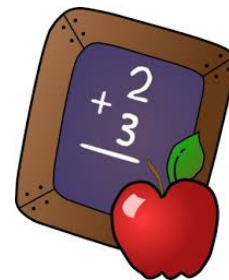


Mathematics

Grade 1

Please continue to practice your child's number flashcards from 0-20. Please note that your child must be able to identify the numbers up to 20 in French, even when presented **out of order**. If you find that your child is struggling to remember the names of the numbers in French, there is a fantastic game on our classroom website which may help. The game is called 'La Planète des Chiffres' and it can be found under the Math section.

There are also many ways to use your child's flashcards to review and practice what we have been learning in Math. For instance, you can have your child choose a number and then find a way to represent it using small objects. You can also have your child practice putting the numbers in order from 0-20, or backwards from 20-0. For an extra challenge, have your child start putting the numbers in order beginning at numbers other than 1. You may also wish to ask your child to name the number that is one more, two more, one less, two less as this will benefit them when we begin addition and subtraction.



Grade 2

Grade 2 parents. It is important that you know that your child **must** be able to identify the numbers up to 100 even when presented **out of order**. If you find that your child is struggling to remember the names of the numbers in French, there is a fantastic game on our classroom website which may help. The game is called 'La Planète des Chiffres' and it can be found under the Math section.

Your child is also practicing recognizing odd and even numbers, as well as counting up to 100 by 2's (starting from an odd or even number) 5's and 10's. If you notice that your child cannot skip count without difficulty, there is a fun game under the math grade 2 page called "Adventure man".

Grade 2's are also using base ten blocks in the classroom. Please review these with your child.



Remembrance Day Ceremony

This year's Remembrance Day ceremony will take place Thursday November 10th at 10:30 am in the gymnasium. All parents and siblings are welcome to attend. Donations for poppies will be accepted.