

January Newsletter

LA CLASSE 1/2C

JANUARY 2017

Dear parents,

Happy New Year and welcome back! I hope you all had a very special holiday season with your loved ones. I also hope that you took some time to relax before having to return to your hectic schedules. Here are a few important notes for the new year.



INFORMATION SESSION: HELPING MY CHILD TO READ **GRADE 1 and 2**

On Monday, January 23rd, from 6:00-6:30pm, the grade one and two teachers will be presenting an information session about how you can help your child with his/her reading. The session will be held in one of the grade one classrooms and shouldn't last any longer than 30 minutes. We hope to give you information that will help you guide your child at home as he/she makes his/her way into the reading world. Often times we are asked by parents what they can do to help their child; our goal is to answer your questions! Unfortunately, this is a onetime session, so if you have any questions or concerns about reading, please make every effort to attend. We kindly ask that you confirm your attendance by sending a note in the agenda or a quick email, as soon as possible. Thanks!



Book Bags

Students will continue to bring their 'Just Right' book bags home, from now until the end of the school year.

As always, your child will bring home both French and English books. Keep in mind that in order for them to progress in their reading abilities it is expected that they continue their reading routine that you have worked hard to establish at home,

Please note that I will be completing reading evaluations as soon as possible in this new year, to ensure your child is reading at the correct levels. With that being said; keep an eye out for that white or green slip in their agenda!

What's on!

Monday January 23rd

Helping my child to read session (6:00-6:30pm)

Friday January 27th

PD Day-No School

GRADE 1

SIGHT WORDS/SPELLING

Sight word testing will resume this week, so please continue to practice regularly with your child. In addition to practicing the new lists, I would encourage you to go back and practice words from previous lists to ensure that your child can still recognize all of the words. If you find that your child has forgotten many of the words from the first few lists, it would be wise to go back and focus on those words, before continuing on with the new lists. Remember, the first few lists are the most important, as they are the most commonly used words. These words must be mastered in order for your child to read successfully and fluently.

Students who have finished their sight word lists will now be moving on to spelling. Information on the spelling program will come home when your child finishes their last sight word list.

FRENCH (GRADE 1 & 2)

This month grade 1 students will be working on clothing and winter related vocabulary. During which time the grade 2 students will be working on winter related story writing. Grade 1 clothing flashcards will be sent home later this week and the winter ones will soon follow. At this point in the school year, your grade 1 child should not only be recognizing the vocabulary based on the picture, but he/she should also be starting to read the words without the help of the pictures. To help your child in this area, you can encourage him/her to use his/her sounds to figure out the words. Grade 2 students should be at ease with expressing themselves in French.

During daily French reading, grade 1 and 2 students may also find it helpful to highlight some of the sounds within the words. French sounds that we have been practicing in class, in addition to the individual letter sounds, are listed below, along with a pronunciation guide.

ou – like the 'oo' of school

ch – like the 'sh' sound in English

é/er/ez – like the 'ay' of day

au/eau – like the 'oa' of road

oi – like the 'wa' in water

The following two sounds are considered nasal vowels, which do not have an English equivalent. The closest equivalent would be the sound in the suggested word, if said with your nose plugged.

on/om – like the 'on' in don't

an/en - like 'an' in want

GRADE 1 MATH

Before Christmas break, we began our addition and subtraction unit (up to 12).

Our focus has mainly been addition, up until this point; however, we will soon be moving on to subtraction. You can reinforce these concepts at home by having your child tell Math stories, such as the ones listed below, and writing the corresponding Math equation.

There are 4 boys playing outside; 6 girls come to join them. How many children are there now? ($4+6=10$)

There are 12 children playing at the park; five decide to leave. How many children are left at the park? ($12-5=7$)

We have also been working on mental Math to learn basic addition & subtraction facts up to 12. You can practice this at home by playing Math games, as well as reviewing math doubles, and naming the number that is one more, one less, two more, two less than a given number.

GRADE 2 MATH

Before Christmas break, we began our addition and subtraction unit (up to 20).

We have been spending a lot of time reviewing simple math strategies, and basic math facts that were learned in grade 1. We have also been practicing telling math stories, and decoding simple math stories.

It would be important that you reinforce these concepts with your child by practicing telling and writing math stories at home as well. (See grade 1 math for an example).

I highly suggest that you encourage your child to step away from using their fingers to complete simple addition and subtraction-especially if the question is either a double, near double, one more, one less, two more, two less. Practice by playing math games, telling stories will help make this possible.

Please check out my Math Grade 1 or Math Grade 2 page for additional games

Addition Quick Draw

2 players / 1 deck of cards

Getting Ready

Deal out all of the cards to the two players.

Play the Game

One player calls, 'Draw' and both players turn over their top card and place it face up in the center.

The players add the two numbers that are showing and the first player to say the total out loud wins the two cards. After all the cards have been used, the players count the number of cards that they have won. The winner is the person who has the most cards.



Beautiful Junk



A reminder that if you have any two-liter milk jug lids, or small boxes (Kleenex/shoe boxes), please send them to school, as we would **love** to put them to use this year!



Birthdays



Birthdays are special and will certainly be acknowledged in class. However, I would like to remind you to **NOT** allow your child to hand out their birthday invitations at school, as it often results in hurt feelings for those who are not invited. You may, however, give the invitations to me and I will discretely distribute them for your child.

