



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome to a new term and a new year! I hope everyone enjoyed their Christmas break and are now looking forward to all the exciting learning opportunities in Grade 7. This month we are holding our first fund-raiser: Movie Night. Students will choose an age appropriate film and are asked to contribute a food product for the concession. Popular items for sale at Movie Night include: popcorn bags, candy bags, drinks, baked goods (e.g. cookies or cupcakes) and chips. Entrance to the movie will be by donation.

For our second fundraiser, we have decided to sell Krispy Kreme doughnuts to both school and parish. This was a big seller last year

and we will be sending a letter home soon for pre-orders up until the end of Term 2. Pick-up of orders will be in Term 3.

We will be taking the Grades 6/7 classes to the Hart Hill for a ski day on 28 January. A letter will be sent home to request parent volunteers, both for driving and supervision, so please consider spending a day with us in the snow.

We will be having an informal birthday celebration for our two January 'babies'. This will likely consist of a class party, where students can bring snacks and drinks to share.

Please check the calendar dates for any other important events this term, and don't hesitate to contact me by email if you need any further information.

REMINDERS

- Please return all signed permission slips and forms as soon as possible.
- Students should be reading regularly for 15 - 30 minutes per night. This is a habit that is hopefully well-established by the time students enter Grade 8. Books should be chosen on the basis of your child's interests and reading level.
- Students should be reviewing math lessons on a daily basis as this will help them to memorize and retain

important information, such as mathematical vocabulary and algebraic formulas.

- Please sign the homework planners every day. Students are encouraged to use their planners as organizational tools, noting any homework tasks, reminders and work due. They are also useful for communication between home and school. In Grade 8 their planners will be an indispensable organizational tool, as they learn to be in the right place at the right time. 😊

WHAT WE ARE LEARNING

Math - We are studying relationships between decimals, fractions, ratios, and percents. Students are expected to complete daily revision of math concepts learned in class, for homework. They will also practise basic math skills with regular 'math minute' worksheets.

Reading/Writing/Speaking - The novel we are studying this term is Madeleine L'Engle's "A Wrinkle in Time". This unit will cover, reading, writing and oral language components of the curriculum, through performance and assigned tasks. We will start with the concept of bravery - doing the thing we are scared of, because it is right, even if we do not know the outcome, and examine the idea of love as a powerful force, more powerful than hate. Students are

expected to participate in class discussions. They will continue with daily journal writing.

Art - We will start with watercolor paintings. Students will be drawing and painting spaceships inspired by Leonardo da Vinci's designs for flying machines, based on a 'Wet-On-Wet' technique. For their second art project, students will be making papier-mache models.

Health - Our topic this term is Social and Community Health. Students will be expected to identify and describe strategies for avoiding and/or responding to potentially unsafe, abusive or exploitive situations. We will be supported in this study through a visit by the RCMP to talk to the Grade 6/7 students about social media etiquette.

Social Studies - Students are researching their cultural origins, and presenting their information in a multicultural fair, where other classes will be invited to view their booths. Some students who are working together, will only have to purchase one Tri-Fold from the dollar store for their chosen country.

SOME DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

January 9 - School Mass @ 0900am

January 15 - Class birthday celebration

January 20 - Grade 8 information night at Cedars - 7pm

January 26 - Pro-D - no classes

January 27 - RCMP presentation for Grades 6/7 @ 0900

January 28 - Ski Day at Hart Hill for Grades 6/7

January 30 - Movie Night from 5.30 - 9pm

All best wishes for a great start to the term!

Kind regards,

Jean Garcia