



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

I hope you and your families are having a wonderful start to the new year. I have truly appreciated the warm welcome from the school community and have enjoyed getting to know the students over the past several weeks. It has been a pleasure settling into our classroom together.

As we move into February, classroom routines and expectations are becoming established, and students are showing growing confidence and independence in their learning. My focus continues to be on maintaining a supportive, structured, and engaging learning environment where every child feels encouraged to take risks and grow. We are off to a strong start and I am looking forward to the learning and experiences ahead.

REMINDERS

- Planners: Please sign planners daily. I want the students to get in the habit of writing two entries each day.
- Reading: Students should read 20–30 minutes each evening.
- Please sign and return all permission forms as soon as possible.
- Mass at the Cathedral and Timberwolves game at UNBC – Feb 6
- Cross country skiing at Caledonia Nordic Ski Club – Feb 12

WHAT WE'RE LEARNING THIS MONTH

MATH: We will continue strengthening mathematical facts to support accuracy and fluency. Students have completed operations with whole numbers and are now building their skills with decimal operations. Our next focus will be fractions and decimals, starting with writing mixed numbers and improper fractions.

LANGUAGE ARTS: We have begun our poetry unit, during which students have written bio poems, "I Am" poems, and haikus. They will continue exploring a variety of poetic forms and will compile their work into a poetry booklet as a culminating project. Throughout the unit, students are learning to use figurative language in their writing, including similes, metaphors, alliteration, and hyperboles.

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We are also preparing to begin our novel study of *Touching Spirit Bear*, with a focus on comprehension strategies, thoughtful discussion, and reflection. Students will continue to develop their writing skills through structured activities that strengthen vocabulary, clarity, and expressive detail.

SCIENCE: We have completed our unit on the endocrine and excretory systems. Students had fun participating in a hands-on “Make-a-Kidney” lab, which helped them explore how the kidneys filter waste from the body.

SOCIAL STUDIES: We just started our unit Let’s End Poverty, which explores the causes and impacts of poverty locally and globally. Students will learn about global citizenship and consider how individuals and communities can take action to promote fairness and justice. This unit encourages thoughtful discussion and helps students understand their role in creating positive change.

RELIGION: We will be learning about the role of the Sacraments and how they help us grow in our faith. Students will explore the meaning and purpose of each Sacrament, and how these special moments connect us to God and to our church community. We will also continue to participate in daily prayer and reflect on how we can live out our faith in our actions.

Career: We are starting our unit Community Connections and Responsibility. Students will learn about the importance of community by exploring reciprocity, cultural and social awareness, and global citizenship through discussions and activities, they will reflect on ways they can use their strengths to positively impact others.

Health: We are continuing our unit on substance misuse prevention and learning how to make safe, informed choices. Students will explore the effects of substances on the body and discuss strategies for handling peer pressure and risky situations. Our focus will be on building confidence, awareness, and healthy decision-making skills.

IMPORTANT DATES

February 13 - Red, White, and Pink Day

February 16 - Family Day – No Classes

February 17 - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Lunch

February 18 - Ash Wednesday Mass at 9 am

February 25 - Anti – Bullying Day – Pink Shirt Day

February 27 - NID Day – No Classes

Warmly,

Mrs. Jackie Bassett

Grade 6 Classroom Teacher

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