



Dear Parents,

We have had a very busy start to the year, and we can't believe that it is already October! The children are settling into their school routines, and the class is running relatively smoothly. It is a chatty, lively group and they are learning to work together and support each other in so many small, but important ways. Our hike to Shane Lake was fun, although we could have used another half hour at the lake. 😊 Thank you to all the parents and volunteers who came along to help support the children.

October is shaping up to be a busy month. We will need parent drivers and volunteers for our Grades 3 & 7 Buddy excursion to

Exploration Place. A letter will be going home this week. Please check the dates at the end of this newsletter for class activities in October.

FSA testing is here! The students will be practicing completing this province wide assessment in October. It will encompass both Numeracy and Literacy skills.

Our annual Halloween Dress Up Day will be on the 30th October at school and the Grade 7's will be organizing a variety of games for the children in the gym.

I appreciate all the parents who have approached me with questions, queries and concerns so far, about their child's school life. It's been so good to have such clear communication with our families and such a positive start to the year.

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 should be well-established by the time students enter Grade 8.
- 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.

- All parent volunteers need to make sure their CRC and driver's information are on file at the office.
- Students are not allowed to use cell phones and Smart watches at school. Please reinforce this school rule with your child.

WHAT WE ARE LEARNING

Math - We are reviewing and practicing our geometry and measurement skills, as well as completing regular Math Minutes for basic skills practice.

Reading - We are reading the third short story in our series by Roald Dahl: "The Hitchhiker". We will start our novel study of "A Wrinkle in Time" by Madeleine L'Engle. Students read quietly for 30 mins. every day in class (2x 15min. blocks).

Writing - We are starting to write short stories this month, using a narrative pyramid structure. Students will be brainstorming ideas, drafting their stories, peer-editing and publishing their work. For their School-Wide Write, students will be asked to write a mystery story.

Art/ADST - We are constructing papier-mache masks for Hallowe'en. We will also be designing and implementing games for the school-wide Hallowe'en party on October 30th.

Christian Education - Students are working on a whole class project on the lives of saints. Working with a partner, they choose to research a saint and present their findings to the class on a poster.

Social Studies - Students will be researching their ancestry and choosing one country to share with the rest of the class. We will invite the other other classes to help celebrate our different ethnicities and countries on Multicultural Day.

Science - The topic for Term 1 is Food Chemistry. Students will be introduced to the chemical properties of food and how physical and chemical changes affect what we eat. We have harvested the potatoes from the school garden and will be magically turning them into french fries in a cooking lesson this month!

Careers - Students will learn about developing leadership and entrepreneurial skills through collaborative activities in the school and community including fund-raising activities.

Health - In Term 1 we examine a variety of issues and decisions about personal health, (including physical activity, healthy eating practices, relationships, bullying and discrimination, sleep, hygiene

and substance abuse) and examining how media and peer influences can affect their decision-making.

SOME DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

October 1 - Photo Day

October 2 - UNBC Soccer game (11.30am)

October 6 - Cooking Class in Hall (10.30am)

October 7 - Cross-Country Races

October 8 - Exploration Place - Health & Space exhibit
(10.45am-1.45pm) Grades 3 & 7 Buddies

October 9 - Virtue Assembly (11.15am)

October 12 - Thanksgiving Day - no classes

October 13-16 - School-Wide Write

October 14 - Rosary Assembly

October 19-22 - FSA Testing Week

October 22 & 23 - Parent-Teacher Interviews

October 27 - Multicultural Day

October 30 - Halloween Dress-up Day

We hope to see you around the school! 😊

Jean Garcia