

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER
2018
Grade 1L

October has quickly passed and we are already beginning our third month of school. A "**BIG THANK YOU**" for helping to make our **Halloween Festivities** a huge success by supplying the juice and treats for our class party. Thank you also to the parents that were able to take time from their busy day to join us at the Sock Hop. A great time was had by all! November will be another very busy month in our classroom. Our themes for the month of November include:

- Remembrance Day Activities
- Advent
- We will begin working on **CHRISTMAS** activities at the end of November

There are a few items that I would like to bring to your attention:

1. **CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS FOR NOVEMBER:**

Language Learning:

Reading: We will spend the month of November with each child reading several Good Fit Books and books that are interesting to them. They also have a duo-tang of poems that they can also read during this time. Some poems are theme related and will be fun to read as we move closer to the Christmas Season.

We are also focusing on the following reading strategies during daily mini lessons:

- Tracking when reading (touching bottom of word)
- Blend, stretch and reread
- Reading a variety of Fiction and Non-Fiction Books
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The Parent Pipeline for November letter is **Blend Sounds, Stretch and Reread**.

DOLCH Word Lists:

I sent home the first DOLCH Word Lists with the children in the September Newsletter and I am attaching the second list (DOLCH Primer) to this newsletter. Please spend a few minutes on these each day so that your child knows all of these words. Your child should be able to read all of the words on the Pre-Primer Word List quickly (not to be sounded out) by the end of November. Please do not work on the Primer Word List (second list) until your child has mastered the first word list. The flashcards that I sent home in October for the Pre-Primer DOLCH Word List can be made into fun activities that will help the children to learn the words. Some of these activities might include:

- Hold up the card and the child can say the word.
- Using the flashcards to play a fish game (if you make each word more than once).
- Some children might enjoy saying the word and then spelling it out. They pick a card and say word- if they get it correct they get to keep the card on their pile (the person with the most cards wins)

Phonics: We continue to work on our **Building Words** activities each day. We are going to be having fun with the **magic e**. We will be learning how the **e** at the end of the word changes the sound of **a, i, o** and **u**

Printing: We have been working on the correct formation and neatness of each letter and have completed most letters. We will continue regular printing practice with my main focus being the letters that the children are finding difficult to form correctly. **Please make sure that your child always forms their letters from the top to the bottom. I am also talking lots about making letters nice and big and with a space between.**

Writing: We will continue with the "**Work on Writing**" component of "**The Daily Five**" program each day. We are still using simple sentence starters such as:

- On Halloween I can see...
- On Halloween I like to...
- I went ...

I am going to introduce connecting simple sentences together using the connecting word "**and**."

The goal of daily writing is to be writing independently and to have choice in what they are writing about. Extra writing of simple sentences at home would be very beneficial. Encourage the children to sound out the words independently. **Knowing letter names and sounds makes this task much easier. A few minutes of practice each night would benefit your child if they do not know all of their letter names and sounds.**

Spelling: Memory Words:

The grade one visual memory words for the Month of November are:

October 29th - Nov. 2nd	make, me, my, not, one
November 5th - 6th	Short Week- No words- YAHOO!
November 12th - 16th	play, run, said, see, the
November 19 - 22nd	three, to, two, up, we
November 26th - 30th	where, you, all, am, are

Every Friday we will continue to write 5 new words in our agendas. The children are to practice the words so that they instantly recognize them. These words are now from the Pre-Primer and the last week of November are the beginning of the Primer DOLCH Word List.

Math: We will continue to work on our **Patterning and Sorting Unit** and will then move into a quick unit on **Numbers to 20** before we move into **Addition**.

Social Studies: We will continue to work on **Topic 1- My World: Home, School, Community**.

Science: What fun we are having in Science! We are continuing to work on **Creating Color** and **Seasonal Changes (Fall)**.

Religion: We are learning about being Jesus' special friends and how Jesus has a special place in his heart for little children. We will also learn about the Beautiful World that God gave us. We will begin Advent activities near the end of November.

2. CHRISTMAS PROJECTS IN DECEMBER

- Christmas Tree Ornament-** I am looking for 1 or 2 parents that have a couple of free afternoons the first week of December to help paint and decorate a Christmas Tree ornament.
- I am letting you know in advance that our special "**Christmas Stable**" project requires lots of parent help the last week of school before holidays. **Please keep the afternoons of December 18 - 20th free if you can.**

**** You can let me know if you are available as possible so I can add you my list**

3. STAR OF THE WEEK

The "Star of the Week" program begins on **Monday, November 12th**. The name of our first star will be put in our Agenda on **Tuesday, November 5th**. That person will be the special helper for the week of November 12th - November 16th. The children will share their special poster with the class on the Monday. Their poster will be featured on our "Star" bulletin board for the whole week; they will be interviewed by the class and will receive a book made by his/her classmates to keep. Each child will have their own special week to shine. We will pick a name from our special container each Friday and that name will be written in the agenda on that day so that the children know when it is their turn to be the "Star". Please help us celebrate your special child by helping them put together a bristol board poster with information about themselves to share with the class. The poster will be displayed on the bulletin board for their special week and then sent home with the child at the end of the week. Some ideas for the poster include: a picture of the child, photographs that are special to the child, pictures made by the child and anything else that the child would like to share. Please stop by the classroom if you have any questions regarding this program.

4. SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDER

I am sending home a copy of the November Scholastic Book Order. I have attached a copy of "SeeSaw", "Lucky" and "Holiday Gift Books" order forms. You can order books from all three orders and just write one cheque for the total from all orders. Please remember to make cheques payable to "Scholastic Canada Ltd". The deadline for ordering is **Monday, November 5th**.

***If any of the books you order are Christmas gifts, just write a little note and I will set them aside for you.**

5. IMPORTANT DATES IN NOVEMBER

- Monday, November 5th - Hot Lunch- Hot Dogs
- Monday, November 5th - November Scholastic Book Order Deadline
- Monday, November 5th and Tuesday, November 6th - Parent/Teacher Interviews- 4:00 - 7:00 pm
- Tuesday, November 6th- Remembrance Day Celebration- 10:30 am (gym)
(We encourage any children in your class who belong to cadets, brownies, scouts or girl guides to wear their uniform that Wednesday. Everyone else is encouraged to wear RED.)
- Wednesday, November 7th - Teacher Lieu Day- **NO SCHOOL**
- Thursday, November 8th - **NO SCHOOL**
- Friday, November 9th - **NO SCHOOL**
- Sunday, November 11th- Remembrance Day
- Monday, November 12th - Hot Lunch- Extreme Pita
- Monday, November 12th - "Star of the Week" program begins
- Friday, November 17th - Photo Retakes - am only (Please send me a note if your child is going to be getting retakes.)
- Monday, November 19th - Hot Lunch- Subway
- Friday, November 23rd - Teacher PD Day - **NO SCHOOL**
- Monday, November 26th - Hot Lunch-Harvey's
- Thursday, November 29th - Advent STARS (pm)/Spirit Day-Fandom Day
(Privilege Day- Teacher Day- Students can dress up how they think a teacher should dress, or dress like their favorite teacher for 50 cents- all money goes to support our Holy Family School Foster Child)

For Fandom day, students can dress up as something they are a fan of.
This can be a sport, activity, person, or anything that they enjoy!
Hope this helps clear up any confusion.

Thank you for taking time to read this newsletter and for helping us with our classroom projects. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Miss Denise Larre
Grade 1L Teacher