



October Newsletter



What a wonderful beginning to the year already! We have enjoyed getting to know your children this past month. This month we are focusing on independence. Please help your child practise to do up their own zippers and put their coats right side out. Thank you in advance for your support. For your child's 2nd turn as special helper, We will be sending home the "Special Helper Backpack" . Your child is asked to bring in an item that starts with the sound of the week. There will be a clue sheet in the front pocket for you and your child to come up with 3 clues for the rest of us to guess what is inside.

Curriculum Focus

During the month of October, we will continue with the *Jolly Phonics* programme. Thank you for supporting this programme at home by reading the *Jolly Jingles* and completing the printing sheets with your child. As we will now often be looking at two letters each week, we will only be completing one printing sheet in class and one will be sent home to be completed there. Our Star Strategy for this month is Making Connections. We will be focusing on relating what we read to things we have done (connection to self), things we have seen (connection to world), and things we have read in other books (connection to text). We will also be using the pictures in the books to help us "read".

Our math focus will change to sorting. We will be learning about sorting and classifying objects with similar attributes (i.e., size, shape, colour). This learning can be supported at home by sorting objects found at home (i.e. shoes, books, toys, etc). Thanks for your support.

In Science we will start a new theme on *Apples*. This unit on *Apples* will bring our first fieldtrip. On October 2nd we will be going to Puddicombe Farms to support learning in class on local farming production. Students have been working on asking questions to communicate their findings. This month we will be focusing on asking questions about apples. How they grow, the parts of an apple, their place on a farm and what we can do with them. Students will be asked to make observations and create questions to direct their own learning.

In Music we have been learning many songs and have begun to use instruments! We will continue to explore different elements (e.g., beat and pitch) of music this month. When singing songs with your child at home please encourage your child to clap along to the beat!

Congratulations to...

At the end of each month Jacob Beam holds a recognition assembly where selected students are awarded for their efforts in class. A student who demonstrated excellence in the character trait of the month is the recipient of an award. Another student is awarded the Student of the Month for their efforts in an area of focus in the classroom. Congratulations to our class' September recipients:

Mrs. Haney: Lauren and Alex

Mrs. Howe: Tanner W.

Upcoming News and Important Dates

Here are some important dates to note in the month of October:

October 2nd - Class trip to Puddicombe Farms (8:45 - 11:30am)

October 7th - Class Picture Day

October 8th - Scholastics Book Orders Due

October 9th - Professional Activity Day (No School for students)

October 12th - Thanksgiving (No school)

October 15th - Walk to Lincoln Library

October 21th - 1st Niagara Falls Art Gallery Workshop

October 30th - Halloween Parade and Party!

Thank you to all of those who have offered to help in the classroom and with classroom preparations. The volunteer survey will be sent home for you to sign up.

Reminders

It is a great help to your child to spend the time reviewing the *Jolly Phonics Jingles* (SK's should have these from last year, if you need a copy, please let us know) and completing the printing pages. Thank you for your efforts! Also, starting this month, SK students will be completing a journal entry after reading the library book they take home. In the library journal, the entries will focus on our Star Strategies (this month is *Making Connections*). Please send both the journal and library book back to school before the next library day. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us.

Character Trait: Respect - treating someone in a way that you would like to be treated, showing you think someone or something is important.

Mrs. Haney, Mrs. Howe and Mrs. Peters