

Term 2 Newsletter - February 2009 - Grade 4

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The new year is off to a great start. The class has been working very hard this winter and we look forward to spring and the nice weather. It has been a tough winter with many indoor recesses with some extremely cold weather outside. I have continued to encourage the students to be active, as much as possible, and aware of healthy food choices as well as being aware of their environment.

The class is a respectful and polite group of students. We continue to work on the rules and routines of being a part of a classroom community and thrive on being a responsible member of that community. I have (and will always continue to) worked very hard to promote organization as I feel it is an integral part of being a strong student. This will remain a focus as we move towards, and through, the third term.

In the classroom;

- We are just finishing the Pulleys and Gears unit in science. It has been an interactive unit that has allowed the students to explore pulleys and gears through the use of Lego Dacta and Knex. Next, we will be commencing our unit on Light and Sound.
- In math we have been working on multiplying and dividing numbers. This has been a difficult unit for some. Please remember to work at home on multiplication facts from $1 \times 1 = 1$ to $9 \times 9 = 81$. We have also started our data management unit (graphs, surveys, and median) with a focus on Stem-and-Leaf plots and double bar graphs. Finally we will finish the second term studying measurement. This unit will cover expectations involving time, \$\$, mass and capacity.
- For Social Studies, we are working on projects covering Canada's physical regions, presentation are upcoming. We will then begin to learn about Medieval Times.
- Our Language Arts program has and will continue to be focussing on the many aspects of literacy. These include read-alouds, working with words, novel studies, reading (independent, shared, guided and self selected) and writer's workshop. In guided reading we are concentrating on text features and characteristics of certain genres.
- In phys. ed and health we continue to work on basketball skills and other activities that promote participation and daily physical activity. *Please ensure your child comes prepared for phys. ed, with proper athletic shorts and a t-shirt (this has been an area of concern for some students!). All students are expected to have a pair of athletic shoes (and socks!) here everyday as we will be continuing our D.P.A. (Daily Physical Activity) program on the days without gym classes*

Thanks for all your hard work at home.

Sincerely,

Mr. D. Chuchman

