

4/5 Updater

Still Winter!!!

This winter has been as cold and snowy as any in recent years. It is sometimes a difficult stretch for students and teachers to get through, but it is important to try to remain motivated and on task. Term two reports are due to be sent home in an just seven weeks, so it is imperative that students make the connection between those grades will largely be based on the tests and assignments being completed right now!

Academic Endeavours

This term has presented some significant challenges in math. In our attempt to create a solid base for the math groups that are the engine that drives the instruction in our class, we were only able to complete two strands of math. That means that we have to be diligent this term and work through four strands. We have completed geometry and data management and will be beginning measurement and a brief stretch of number sense before reports are released, but this tight schedule means that everyone will have to keep their thinking caps tightly fastened!

In language, Mrs Hurd is guiding us through the process of writing a narrative piece. We are being challenged to remember to use the structure of a plot studied in class as the skeleton upon which to build our creative ideas. We are also involved in a classroom novel called “Ghost Letters”, which allows us the opportunity to have rich discussions about parts of a narrative as well as literary tools used by the author to improve writing. We have finished a book called “Elijah of Buxton” which describes a the life of a boy who was never a slave, but lives his life on a settlement of former slaves, surrounded by the paranoia and uncertainty that might be expected. It was interesting to explore such a topic with people who really know very little about that part of our cultural history.

Our social studies curriculum this term continues to focus on government and in particular government buildings. Our trip to Queen’s Park in Toronto was the perfect compliment to the pictures and discussions generated in Class.

In Science we are focussing the different states of matter. The Junior Division has recently spent a portion of their budget on new Science textbooks, so we are hoping to be able to take advantage of some of the experiments found there to add concrete understanding to the information already shared in class.

Please continue to check and sign agendas on a regular basis. We spend at least 10 minutes everyday keeping ourselves organized here.

T. Robinson