

MARCH NEWS GRADE 1

Thank you for all of your support with our special events last month. It was great to see a sea of pink on our “Anti – Bullying” day. Thank-you also for the time you took with your child to make valentines and snacks to celebrate Valentine’s day.

Language

In Language, we will continue to learn about non-fiction features and how they help readers. Discussion at home as you read non-fiction materials with and without your child is beneficial (**draw your child’s attention to a map in the centre of the mall or a heading you came across in the newspaper, point to a photograph on a bill board or diagrams in IKEA instructions**). Students will also be applying their knowledge to read non-fiction texts in books, handouts and online (using Pebblego articles) and will be working on pulling out information as they research various topics. Their last project will be researching an animal of their choice that they will later share with their classmates. We will also continue to read fiction with a focus on retelling a story and sharing the story elements (characters, setting, problem, solution).

Students are encouraged to continue to read with someone each night. They should continue to read both fiction and non-fiction working on their use of expression and intonation. They should also work on sharing information as they read. **Below are some suggestions to work on these skills with your child.**

When reading fiction books...

Have your child share who the characters are, the setting, the problem and the solution

Have your child retell the story in detail with limited prompting

Have your child share what they think the lesson was in the story

When reading non-fiction books...

Have your child point out features they see as they read and share how it helps a reader (title –tells what topic the book is, table of contents-tells you where you can find particular information, headings – tells you what you will read about in that section, photograph- allows you to see what something looks like in real life, caption- tells you what the picture is about, diagram- shows you what the parts of something are, map- shows you where something is or where it moves)

Have your child share three new things they learned from the book

Math

Students have continued to work with money, addition and subtraction. They have been applying their knowledge to add and subtract money amounts. We have also been looking at different strategies to add and subtract. Ask your child to show you some of these. We have been using counters, counting back and forward on the number line, putting a number in our heads and counting on (16 plus 2 put 16 in our head and count on 2 with our fingers) and using doubles (I know $4+4=8$ so $4+5$ is 9). Students will continue to use strategies to solve problems and should continue to work on reviewing money, addition and subtraction at home to further strengthen their skills. Students have also been working on equality ($3+4=1+6$ or $13-5=6+2$). We will also spend some time on symmetry and area.

****Keep using Dreambox regularly to reinforce math concepts. The goal is to have each student using the program for at least 30-40 minutes twice a week.** This program is carefully designed to meet your child where they are and build on their skills. If you need instructions on how to get on the program please send me a note. **

Other ways to help with math at home: skip counting by 1's, 2's, 5's, 10's, 20's and 25's. Counting backwards from 50. Practice mental math skills to 20 (addition and subtraction). Keep exploring equality (example: $13+4=9+9$ True or False?; $6+7= \underline{\quad} + 9$ Fill in the missing number)

*Please be sure your child has an extra pair of socks and maybe even pants at school in case they get wet at recess. During the winter weather, always send your child with their winter gear.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Perseverance – trying something over and over even when it is challenging and never giving up.		1 Day 1 Phys. Ed. Computers Michael Mitchell Presentation wear red, white and Canadian gear	2 Day 2 Pita Day for those who ordered	3 Day 3 Library Phys. Ed.	4 Day 4 Visual Art Pizza Day for those who ordered	5
6	7 Day 5 Music	8 Day 6 Phys. Ed.	9 Day 7 Pita Day for those who ordered	10 Day 8 Computers Scholastic book orders due for those who want to order	11 Day 9 Music Phys. Ed. Fun in the sun day-dress tropical Pizza Day for those who ordered	12
13	14 MARCH BREAK	15 MARCH BREAK	16 MARCH BREAK	17 MARCH BREAK	18 MARCH BREAK	19
20	21 Day 10 Welcome Back!	22 Day 1 Phys. Ed. Computers	23 Day 2 Pita Day for those who ordered	24 Day 3 Library Phys. Ed. Pizza Day for those who ordered	25 Good Friday (no school)	26
27	28 Easter Monday (no school)	29 Day 4 Visual Art	30 Day 5 Music Pita Day for those who ordered	31 Day 6 Phys. Ed. Wild West Day- get out your cowboy hat and bandana	Notes:	