**WELCOME TO GRADE THREE**

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 **2017-2018**



 **GRADE 3 NEWS**

Dear Parents:

I would like to welcome you once again to grade 3. We believe that we are a special community where we can grow in faith and knowledge together.

**HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS**

Students will be given homework on a weekly basis in grade 3. Homework is usually assigned on Monday and will be due on the Friday of the same week. In the event of a short week, longer assignment or test, dates will be communicated in advance. It is important that your child learns the importance of “Homework Time”.

Homework Package

Students will be receiving Weekly Spelling Words, Math and other activities aimed at reinforcing and extending skills and concepts being taught in class. Reading should be done on a nightly basis. (15-20 min. each night) Have your child get into the habit of packing his/her Homework and all necessary items including the Agenda and Communication Folder in his/her school bag before going to bed.

Successful Study Habits

Set aside a quiet area in your home, free from distractions. Teach your child how to manage his/her time in order to complete and submit homework by the due date. A little bit each night will relieve “last minute stress.” In the event that you experience a family emergency or your child has experienced difficulty with the assignment, please send a note with your child explaining the situation.

***\*\*\*Please check your child’s Agenda for homework information and reminders.***

**UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS**

Since students have Gym Class after Recess each day, they should come to school wearing Gym Strip or OLS Sweats during cooler weather. Full uniform and shoes should be packed. During warm weather, students will not be required to change back into uniform. Please remember that for MASS---Usually the First Friday of the Month, ASSEMBLIES or SPECIAL EVENTS, students must be in FULL UNIFORM. This means school sweater, vest or cardigan and proper shoes. Thank you in advance for your support.

**OVERVIEW OF TERM 1:**

Below, you will find a brief introduction to some of the themes we will be studying this term. This will assist you in reinforcing the concepts and skills being addressed in class. If you should have any resources that may enhance our units, we encourage you to share them with us. Please note that due to time constraints, some units may have to be extended into next term.

**RELIGION: “CARE FOR EVERYONE IN OUR COMMON HOME”**

Unit 1 of the We Believe Series, “God Calls Us to Faith”

 Themes:

* God Calls Us
* God Calls Us to Use Our Gifts
* We Are God’s Holy People
* Mary Is Called to Be God’s Mother and Ours
* We Are Called to Follow Jesus

Prayers to Learn:

* Prayer Before and After Meals
* Review: Act of Contrition

***Pray these prayers together as a family on a regular basis.***

**LANGUAGE ARTS:**

**READING THEMES**

* Celebrating Who We Are
* Thanksgiving
* Peace

During our shared reading lessons, students will be exposed to a variety of literature. There are also opportunities for students to do Independent Reading. As well, students will continue to work through the various levels of the Bookmark Series. The placement of your child is dependent on where your child left off last year and also on the daily progress that is being made.

 \*Level 6: World of Surprises (Grade 2)

 \*Level 7: People and Places (Late Grade 2 to Mid Grade 3

 \*Novel Study: Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes (Peace Unit)

 Decoding Strategies/Language Skills:

* Analyzing vowel sounds
* Syllabication]
* Recognizing prefixes, suffixes and base words

 Comprehension Skills

* Making predictions
* Recalling details: 5 Ws (Who, What, Where, When, Why)
* Sequencing events from the story

**WRITING**

This term’s writing will focus on SENTENCE WRITING. The emphasis will be on writing in complete, punctuated and expanded sentences. Students will be challenged to self-edit and revise their written pieces using a 3 point check system.

 Poetry: Autumn Cinquain

***\*\*\*Provide your child with opportunities to read and write at home. Listen to your child READ! Writing can be done in the form of making shopping lists, keeping a journal of weekly activities, writing a card or message in printed or electronic form. Focus on having your child review his/her work and assist him/her in making any necessary revisions.***

**SPELLING**

Students will be using the Grade 3 Canadian Spelling Program. The following units and skills will be addressed…

 Units 1-4 Short Vowel Review (A,E, I, O, U)

 Units 5-9 Long Vowel Introduction (A, E, I)

 Unit 10 “ING” Endings

***\*\*\*Assist your child in learning the Words of the Week. Weekly Word Lists will be glued in his/her Agenda on Mondays.***

**MATHEMATICS**

**Unit 1: Patterning and Place Value**

* Patterns in a Hundreds Chart
* Counting on a Hundreds Chart and Number Line
* Grouping and Counting to 100
* Showing 2 and 3-Digit Numbers in a Variety of Ways
* Comparing and Ordering Numbers

 **Unit 2: Patterns in Addition and Subtraction**

* Patterns in an Addition Chart
* Addition Strategies
* Subtraction Strategies
* Related Facts to 18
* Addition of 2 and 3-Digit Numbers With and Without Regrouping
* Subtraction of 2 and 3-Digit Numbers With and Without Regrouping

***\*\*\*Reinforce newly taught skills by doing homework practice which is sent home on a weekly basis.***

*1. Practice skip counting forward and back by 2s, 5s, 10s, 25s, 100s.*

 *2. Practice basic addition and subtraction facts to 18.*

 *3. Provide opportunities to learn about Canadian money. Have your child identify Canadian coins and bills and practice counting various amounts.*

**SCIENCE**

Students will explore Matter: “The material of the universe”.

Through discovery, experimentation and inquiry, we will focus on the following concepts:

* All matter is made of particles; atoms (the building blocks of matter) and molecules.
* Properties of materials including density, viscosity, electrical conductivity.
* The relationship between energy and matter.

**SOCIALS**

Our Socials Studies Themes will consist of “Celebrating Who We Are” and “Our Community”.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Theme 1: Doing Your Part (Roles, Rights and Responsibilities)

 Making Your Community/School a Friendly and Safe Place

Theme 2: BC Communities and The Cultural Way of Life of BC’s First Peoples

**ART**

 Students will experiment with a variety of art mediums. This term’s art focus will be on Line and Shape and Colour and Value. Students will also have opportunities to work on arts and crafts which support our calendar themes.

 **MUSIC AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

 Music and Physical Education will be taught by our school specialists. Music will be taught by Mr. Pepe on Wednesday and Friday afternoons. Grade 3 students will have an opportunity to join the School Choir this year.

 Physical Education will be taught daily by Mr. McCloskey.

 I am enjoying getting to know your child and look forward to working with you this year. In advance, I would like to thank you for your support in your child’s learning. If you should require any further clarification of the overview or any other matter, please feel free to contact me at the school. Let’s work together to build community with one another and have a positive year!

 Sincerely,

 Mrs. Bortignon

 