

 Grade 4/5

 Class Newsletter

 February 1st, 2019

Dear Parents,

 February is such an exciting month for exchanging gratitude for friendship! We will be doing a valentine exchange for those who would like to participate. If your child is choosing to exchange valentines, please make sure that they have one for all their classmates for inclusion purposes. It makes everyone feel valued and equally respected in the classroom. I will provide a list of students at the end of the newsletter.

 Many students have faithfully brought their student planners filled out, signed by a parent, and to organize homework every day. Students also get their name put in the weekly dayplanner draw when they bring back a work package or test signed by a parent. The signed work is then filed away into the student’s folder for term 2 reporting and conferencing. Some student’s folders are bursting with work while others don’t have anything in them. I have found packages that have been corrected stuffed into desks, lockers, or in binders. I can assume that parents have not seen or signed the work. Please ask your child to bring these home so you may peruse the content. I usually tell students that parents don’t like surprises on report cards, they usually like confirmation of what they should already know. Remember to check the class blog daily for files on assessments, tests and updates on class work: <http://www.cuming-klassenclassroom.com/>

 Although February is such a short month, it is super busy. We have two field trips and of course the annual February break. Because math tests are posted on the blog and emailed to parents in advance, some questions arise to students knowing the content vs test results. Students are aware that I have created a cumulative math test based on the last 3 math units studied. This test will not be posted because the rationale is to see if students have retained skills they have already been taught and tested on. It also assists me in being able to address concepts that may still need further working on. If you have any questions or concerns please let me know.

Although family absences and vacations has been covered in my October newsletter, the school newsletter and in the student planner already, I am still receiving many requests for student work packages or students asking me to catch them up on missed work. I will try to send anything I have prepared in advance if possible, but it is still difficult to anticipate what will be missed or re-simulate centers/ group work, and lab experiments. While I do empathize that accumulated class work may be overwhelming for some, I think one resolution would be for a student to have a reliable homework buddy that they can connect with in the after-school hours or weekends. Thank you for your consideration with this.

 In January, Ms. Lyla Phillips taught our class the Michif language and culture. We have learned jigging, some phrases and words in Michif, hand on experiences with pelts and trading items for the fur trade and played games. It has been an excellent experience and students were engaged in the teachings. Thank you to all the parents that supplied the jam and bannock for our wrap up class. We wish Ms. Lyla great success in her future endeavors.

Students: **Yara, Kenzie, Finn, Elena, Grace, Matthew, Bennett, Souad, Zoe, Ava, Michael, Reid, Alexis, Milana, Sadie, Angela, Alex, Rebecca, Amirali, Jayda, Emery, Trinity, Ella, Talia, Zixuan, Hudson. Crystal**

 **Calendar events for February 2015:**

 **Monday, Feb. 4 -Subway hot lunch**

 **Thursday, Feb. 9 -Smencil sale**

 **Tuesday, Feb 12 -Pizza Hut hot lunch**

 **Friday Feb. 15 -pm Eastview bowling with carepartners and class party**

 **Feb 16-22 -February break, no school for students**

 **Wednesday, Feb 28 -Remai Center with carepartners in the pm**



Curriculum Themes for February 2019

**Language Arts:**

-explicit instruction on making connections reading comprehension strand and connections reading logs (10 reading logs in total)

-writing: legend writing

-figurative language introduction: reading, writing and exploring various types of figurative language (alliteration, hyperbole, onomatopoeia, irony, metaphors and similes)

**Math: Multiplication**

-locating products using a variety of problem-solving strategies

-double- and triple-digit multiplication

**Science: Sound**

-exploring the characteristics and physical properties of sound in the environment and how those sounds are detected by humans and animals

**-** drawing conclusions about the characteristics and physical properties of sound, including pitch and loudness, based on observations through hands on experiments and documenting observations in lab reports

**Social Studies: Interactions & Interdependence (ongoing)**

-the fur trade, the history and culture of Metis peoples in Saskatchewan and Canada pre-Confederation

**Health: Abuse in Relationships and Bullying (on going)**

-looking at conflict and responses, bullying, roleplay and conflict resolution strategies

**Art Education: Elements of Dance (ongoing)**

-small group work: developing themes, routines and movement collaboratively using the elements of dance for expressing themes (shape, dynamics, form, space, pathways/ locomotor)

-participation: performing routines for others and being a respectful audience member

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If you need to contact me, please email me at cumingc@spsd.sk.ca

Check out the blog at <http://www.cuming-klassenclassroom.com/>

Best regards,

Coralee Cuming