

Grade 3 Cuming-Klassen

Class Newsletter

January 8, 2018

Dear Parents,

 Happy New Year! We hope you enjoyed the winter break and benefited from quality family time. We hope that the students are well rested and ready to get back into the working routine. I will be returning to the grade 3 classroom in January half time. Ms. Phillips will be returning to the class the other half. Our schedule presently will be Ms. Cuming Monday, Tuesday all day and Wednesday morning and Ms. Phillips will be in the classroom Wednesday afternoon, all day Thursday and Friday. We appreciate your flexibility and support during this transition.

 One of our New Year’s resolution is to increase student and home communication with the use of our class communication books. Students are given time daily to write items (homework, reminders, and events) in their student planner. Students are asked to write down all items applicable to them, even if they are done assignments, they put a check mark beside the item. The incentive of weekly draws help in building more consistency for the use of the planners for students who are consistently losing, forgetting, or choosing not to use their student planners. Each day that a student has written in their planner and had a parent initial, they then can enter their name for a draw. At the end of the week, students can pick from an assortment of small prizes for their accomplishment of the week. Please inquire daily with your child about seeing and signing the dayplanner. This helps to increase daily communication, good routine and structure for the students, and to help students achieve personal accountability for their own school participation. Please feel free to check and bookmark the classroom blog: <http://www.cuming-klassenclassroom.com/> which will have agenda items posted each day.

 January is a good time for setting goals, both personal and academic, for 2018. We will be starting new units in Social Studies, Gym, Math, and Health. We will continue with building on language arts themes of the reading comprehension strand, visualizing and introducing a new PWIM poster. Students will practice new word families for spelling each week and still have weekly spelling tests.

 On Tuesday, January 16th our class will be going to Market Mall where the children’s museum is located. This is an afternoon trip and the bus will be picking us up promptly at 12:30 and returning at 3:00. There are 2 available spots for parent’s who would like to participate. We will be exploring hands on activities that supports our Structures and Materials science unit. Please let us know if you can come and explore with us.

 We can anticipate frigid cold temperatures for January and February. We will strive to get outside and experience fresh air when the weather permits. Please make sure that your child is prepared for outdoor activity by wearing winter gear (toques, mittens, boots, ski pants, warm jackets, possibly layers of sweaters, and scarves). When the temperature is below 27 degrees we usually have indoor recesses and lunch. It is great to see many students bring their favourite activities from home to entertain themselves, but they also need to keep in mind that items can get lost, stolen or broken.

**Please feel free to contact us with any questions, concerns, or if you want to set up some meeting time:** **cumingc@spsd.sk.ca** **or** **phillipsl@spsd.sk.ca**

 **Calendar events for January 2018:**

 **Monday January 8 -school resumes**

 **Tuesday, January 16th -pm trip to the Children’s Museum**

 **Friday, January 19th -addition & subtraction math test**

 **Monday, January 29th -PD day, no school for students**

 

 Curriculum Themes for January

 ***Language Arts: Exploring Reading Comprehension Strands***

*-DEAR activities and visualizing comprehension strand reading log activities*

*-explicit teaching of visualization reading comprehension strand and culminating class activities*

*-weekly spelling activities exploring word families and spelling tests*

*-responding to Montgomery’s Pen Pal letters*

*-introduction to new PWIM poster and cycle*

**Math:**

**Addition & Subtraction (conclusion)**

*-demonstrate an understanding of addition and subtraction of whole numbers using a variety of strategies*

*-using strategies for adding and subtracting numbers: estimating sums and differences, using base ten blocks visuals, adding and subtracting 2 to 3-digit numbers without regrouping*

***Multiplication (introduction)***

*-using adding, skip counting, and visual models to communicate multiplication*

*-exploring models, arrays, charts and manipulatives to locate products*

**Social Studies: Dynamic Relationships**

*-using models, maps and globe to explore the earth’s features, continents, oceans and factors that affect communities*

*-assess the degree to which the geography and related environmental and climatic factors influence ways of living on and with the land*

*-compare the beliefs of various communities around the world regarding living on and with the land*

**Science: Structures and Materials**

*-assessing the function and characteristics of strong, stable, and balanced natural and human-built structures*

*-investigating properties of materials and the methods of joinery used in structures*

**Health: Understanding of Skills and Confidences**

The health of self, family and home:

*-discussing different roles in a family, the uniqueness of different family types, and communication*

*-brainstorm ways to help make homes and families healthier and stronger*

**Arts Education: Visual Arts**

*-line: exploring different types of lines and how they can communicate mood*

*-contour drawing, creating images using a variety of mediums to explore line*

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