

Grade 4/5 Classroom newsletter

 March 1, 2019

Dear Parents:

 It is getting close to progress report time again, please expect to see your child’s progress report on Monday, March 25th. Make sure you pay attention to announcements or school newsletters so you can sign up for 2nd term conferences. The conferences are Thursday evening March 28th from 3:30-7:45 pm and the am conferences are March 29th from 8:30-11:45 am. The Thursday evenings do fill quite quickly and I understand some families have many conferences to align. I will post when the PTI portal is open for conferences.

 At the end of February, students were given a cumulative test on concepts introduced and testing on for the first and second math units. This test was not posted because the rationale is to see what concepts are retained over time, what concepts may need to re-visited before transitioning to the next year, and to help alleviate any questions families may have about progress. Because everyone can access the math tests and can study for the actual tests, sometimes people wonder how valid the information of student achievement may be. So, the cumulative test will give all of us a good picture of where your child is sitting at for term three with grade outcomes. I will send it home corrected in the next week.

 Our class will be joining the other grade 4 classes for the puppet show presentation on “I’m the Boss of Me”. This puppet show is geared toward grades 3-5 on delicately introducing the sensitive issue of inappropriate touches and empowering children to know their rights. This program fits in really well with our health unit. The grade 5’s have experienced the show last year as well. After our abuse unit is over, the grade 4’s will be focusing on safety for their curriculum (fire, bike etc) and our grade 5’s will be combined with Mr. Crockett’s grade 5’s for the introduction to puberty unit. When these are set up I will let you know. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me via email.

 As a class we are exploring dance themes in Arts Education, Social Studies and Gym. Our class has so much experiential learning with dance: learning Metis jigging, the Metis star dance and the traditional Canadian square dance. Term 2 dance activities has been collaborative group work, partner work and improvisational dance. We do Just Dance body breaks every day as well. Many of the students embrace the movement opportunity and enjoy exploring new forms of communication and self-expression through dance. Some are really struggling to assume this new risk-or are feeling less confident. Students will be working collaboratively with classmates to create a choreography routine at the end of the dance unit. Miss Hoffer (grade ¾) and myself have discussed potentially giving students an opportunity to perform their routines for the school at an assembly (totally optional). This is tentative for the moment, I will send an email and post on the blog if it is going to happen, so you can attend if you like.

 Remember to check the class blog daily for files on assessments, tests and updates on class work: <http://www.cuming-klassenclassroom.com/>

        **Calendar events for March 2019**

 Friday, March -Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra to perform “Peter and the Wolf”

 Monday, March 4 -“I Gen” program for grade 5 presenting at 9 am in the LRC

 Monday, March 11 -PD day no school for students

 Monday, March 25 -report cards go home

 Thursday, March 28th - evening conferences 3:30-7:45 pm

 Friday, March 29th -am conferences 8:30-11:45 am

  Please free to contact us via email at any time: cumingc@spsd.sk.ca



March Curricular Outcomes

 2019

**Language Arts:**

-explicit instruction figurative literary Devices: onomatopoeia, alliteration, irony, personification,

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

-animal avatar assignment and spirit animal assignment

-writing: legend writing creating own and self-assessment via rubric

**Math: Multiplication (starting in March)**

-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)**

-Canada’s Explorer’s, the history and culture of Metis peoples in Saskatchewan and Canada pre-Confederation

**Health: Decision Making**

 **Abuse in Relationships, Conflict Resolution and Bullying (on going)**

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

-the types of bullying, problem solving, and dramatic roleplay/group work

-“I’m the boss of me” decision making

**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

-group choreography

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

