

September

Grade 1/2 News

Mrs. J. VanDamme

September 2016

5 Day cycle

The Lambton Kent District School Board continues to follow the 5 day cycle. In most cases Day 1 will be Monday, Day 2 will be Tuesday, etc. However to make up for holidays and PA days, occasionally there may be two day 1's or day 5's in a week. This only changes the subjects your child will be taught that day. Sept. 28th is a Day 5 because Sept. 30th is a PA day. I've provided a copy of our class schedule on the back of this newsletter.

Physical activity is scheduled for each day. Proper shoes and clothing are needed. Ms. Zimmer will be teaching physical education, Science and the Arts. Mrs. Badder will teach your child French.

Classroom Rules

Working together in a school setting successfully requires certain social skills. To foster the development of these skills and provide a safe, inviting learning environment we will be following Mrs. V's 4 BEs: be a good listener, be kind to everyone, be safe, and be the best student you can be.

Planner

The planners are a great way to organize communication to and from the classroom. For this reason, students are expected to bring their planner to school each day and take it home each night. The students will occasionally record homework or events into their planner. **Please check your child's planner each night for notes and any homework that needs to be completed, then initial it.** I will check the planners in the morning for any communication from home. I encourage you to use the front pocket to place any forms and/or money that needs to be sent to school throughout the year.

The first planner is purchased for your child by the school. Replacement planners are \$5.

I will also be using SeeSaw to highlight student work, broadcast class news and communicate individually with parents. The information page in your child's backpack tells how to register.

School Supplies

Please ensure your child has the basics: a pencil case, crayons or pencil crayons, pencils, covered sharpener, eraser, glue stick, scissors, **headphones** and indoor shoes.

Reading Program

I encourage reading nightly with your child. This can involve you reading to your child, or listening to your child. Levelled books are available for your child to take home. Soon I will be starting a reading incentive program.

Weekly Words

For the first few weeks, we will start learning the weekly word wall daily routines using classmates' names. Although this will help students become independent with the activities, **they will not bring home spelling homework nor be tested on classmates' names.**

After this initial training, I will post the upcoming week's words in SeeSaw on Friday. Typically there is a mixture of words that follow a spelling pattern and high frequency words. Throughout the week at school, your child will complete activities that will help them quickly read and correctly spell the words. A spelling homework sheet reinforcing the weekly words will be sent home on Friday, giving your child 7 days to complete the 5 activities. Please ensure homework is completed and returned by the following Friday. Spelling dictation will be on

that Friday and the words will become part of our ever growing word wall. Your child will bring home his/her spelling test book for you to see how he/she did. Feel free to work on any errors and **return the initialed book ASAP.**

I look forward to teaching your child. Please contact me with any questions or concerns.