



## **Mrs. VanDamme's Grade 1/2 Newsletter**

Jennifer.VanDamme@lkdsb.net

### **Nightly Reading Using the Planner**

This month your child should start reading each night, but instead of filling out a reading log, please just write the title of the book your child read or listened to, in the planner. Remember to include your signature. Students have a choice of reading a book from the library, home or school for at least 10 minutes. Please reinforce the reading strategy of predicting by having your child tell what the story may be about by the cover and predict different events throughout the text. Thank you for your support!

### **Writing**

Our first writing form is Recount, which retells a real or invented event. I will be reading mentor texts that illustrate good recount writing and your child will be given the chance to write a number of pieces. As we build our anchor chart and success criteria we will be looking at the following components that make up a recount:

beginning – tell when, where, who, what is happening or why it is happening

middle – retell what happened in order, use order words (first, next, then, finally)

end – tell how you feel

To reinforce your child's recount writing skills, I encourage you to have your child orally recount a day or special event using the above mentioned key points. To further enhance their learning, encourage them to write meaningful recounts at home. They could start writing a diary or journal at home to retell the day's events or write a letter to a grandparent retelling a special day or hockey game.

### **Mathematics**

We will wrap up Patterning and start Number Sense and Numeration. The primary grade lessons build a solid sense of quantity by understanding the “howmuchness” of a number. The **grade 1** students will be counting to 100 by 1s, 2s, 5s and 10s. They will start by comparing and ordering whole numbers to 50. The **grade 2** students will be counting to 200 by 1s, 2s, 5s, 10s and 25s. Students will start by comparing and ordering whole numbers to 100.

### **Social Studies**

We have started with the Heritage and Identity strands. Grade 1s are exploring Our Changing Roles and Responsibilities while the Grade 2s are investigating Changing Family and Community Traditions. More specific expectations can be found on line under the Ontario Curriculum.

### **Math At-Home Activities**

You may want to visit the Nelson Web site at [www.mathk8.nelson.com](http://www.mathk8.nelson.com) for suggestions to help your child learn mathematics. Select the Companion Sites icon, choose the appropriate grade, select the Teacher Center, then Surf for More Math for links to other Web sites that provide online tutorials, math problems, and brainteasers. We have only completed Chapter 1 on Patterning.

**Scholastic Book order due Wednesday October 12.**