

November/2009



Dear Parents,

Welcome to the third month of school! It has snuck up on us it seems and along with it the cool weather and need for some warmer clothing...mitts, hats etc. Please remember to label each item your child wears, with many mittens and hats that look similar it is hard for them to determine which is theirs.

We have enjoyed an excellent beginning to Fall with lots of nice weather and many activities! Our KB class enjoyed attending the Thanksgiving Mass, I was very proud of their listening skills and respectful behaviour during Mass. We are fortunate enough to sit with our grade 7/8 buddies when in the church.

The classroom routines are becoming familiar to most students and we are settling very nicely into our comfortable learning environment. Lots of learning both academically and socially, with all working and playing together. To celebrate Halloween many wore orange and black, we had a small treat, carved 4 pumpkins and learned that pumpkins grow from seeds and need soil, sun and water to develop. We participated in our own Terry Fox walk, using the hallway as our venue due to the rain.

We continue with our Jolly Phonics program. Each week we have 1 or 2 focus letters. You will find sound books in your child's baggie. Please encourage your child to practice the letter sound and the letter name. Drawing pictures or cutting out ones that start with that sound will aid in their letter/sound recall. They are all learning the letter songs very well, and would likely be able to sing for you!

Thank you so much for those that were able to send in playdough, we appreciate it!

We continue to work on our -an, -at families. * any practice with rhyming is helpful to aid in learning and prepare for chunking and reading words...."cat and bat rhyme because they have the same ending sound...can you tell me any others that rhyme ?" Our colour focus this month is black and we will be learning and exploring some information about bears!! Our big book focus is Dishy Washy- a funny story about a man accidentally washing his cat with the dishes ! Our Read Alouds will include Remembrance day learning, and stories about bears. We are getting into our Science unit - The Wings of Discovery and will begin with the learning unit Healthy Me! I felt that was fitting due during flu season - many will be able to make connections ☺ . We are working on more or fewer than and one to one counting in Math.

Upcoming events include our Rosary visitors on Wed. November 4th, the Remembrance Day service on November 11th, and the P.A day on November 13th.

That's the month in a nutshell! If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to call the school and leave a message with Judy and I will promptly return your call.

To the many that were ill these past couple of weeks, please take care of yourselves. There seems to be a strong little bug in the KB room! We continue to talk about healthy habits: hand washing, hands out of the mouth, nose and eyes.

Thank you, Jenny Ritsma

