

**January News
Happy New Year!**

**Mrs. Adamo
Grade 1 and 2**

Religion and Family Life

In Religion the themes are: God is with us, Jesus is God's gift to us, God takes care of us and the world. In Family Life the students will explore when a family moves, discuss favourite family activities and recognize the need for forgiveness among brothers and sisters.

Language

Reading: The students are practicing how to respond to a question related to a text by providing proof from the story as well as by making a "self to text" or "text to text" connection to it. In our class read alouds we have been using a "Go Chart" as the graphic organizer and impetus for our discussions about books read. This strategy helps students build vocabulary, think through a story, put things in order, and talk about characters and where the story took place.

Word Study: The students will continue to review letter sounds and combinations. The grade 1's will be using weekly word families to practice blending sounds (e.g., et and en family of words) and the grade 2's will learn rules for long vowel sounds (e.g., long "o" sound is formed with "o" followed by a consonant and an "e" and oa, long u" is formed by "ew" and "u" followed by a consonant and an "e". They will also learn about "Y" as a vowel.

Writing: In our printing books we continue to progress in an order that sounds are learned and become aware of the different sounds for letter combinations. For example, "ow" has two sounds. It has ow-as in cow and ow- as in glow. The students will also work on "Writing List". They will discuss the reasons why lists are used and formulate lists of their own.

Reading Log: We will be continuing with the home Reading Log. Parents can help by discussing the stories that your child is reading and using the terminology used in the sub headings. Ask your child, "Describe the setting". Have them become familiar with the vocabulary.

Math: In Mathematics the students are learning about "2-D Geometry". They will explore 2-d shapes, locate lines of symmetry, communicate about 2-d shapes and will flip, slide and turn 2-d shapes. Words to know: area, flip, slide, symmetry, turn, vertex and vertices. For extra practice parents/students can visit the "Nelson Math" website where you can find on line activities that correlate with the units being studied.

Science: The students in grade 1 are learning about "Energy in Our Lives". They are learning that energy has many forms and the sun is the main source of energy. They are identifying everyday uses of energy and the importance of conserving. The students in grade 2 are learning about "Solids and Liquids". They will be learning about the three states of water and about how water changes its state.

Cold Weather: Please ensure that your child wears his/her boots, mittens and hat each day. Students should have a pair of shoes or slippers to wear indoors since boots are not permitted in the classroom.

Planner: Please sign the student planner each day. If at any time you have a question or concern regarding your child please write a note inside your child's planner with a phone number and the best time to reach you.

I wish everyone all the best for 2016!

Mrs. Adamo