



Mrs. Wilson

November

James Hillier has had a very busy fall!!! From field trips to sporting events to creative work at school, it has been a fun month of October! The grade 4 class have proved their school spirit, school involvement and enthusiasm by being involved in several of the activities this school has to offer. I am very pleased with the number of students trying out for teams, dance club and showing their school spirit by participating in Colour House days. Keep up the good work grade 4 kids! We have a lot to look forward to in the upcoming winter months.

Curriculum

In reading and oral communications, we just finishing our unit on Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone. What a fun and exciting read this book proved to be. Throughout the unit, students completed several reading response activities. Some students even created their own reader response ideas inspiring other students to do the same. Students brought in Lego scenes and characters, and made symbols to represent characters from the novel. The students have demonstrated a good understanding of this book. We will be moving onto a unit called Listening to Your Inner Conversation. This is where we begin to learn about reading comprehension strategies and that reading is thinking. Over the next few weeks we will be reading several different kinds of texts including nonfiction articles and leaving tracks along the way. This means, we will

write down what we are thinking as we read. This kind of reading demonstrates how well the students are understanding what they are reading.

In writing, we are continuing to learn about the Writing Process.



We are currently writing paragraphs about the history of Halloween. We will be moving toward writing multiple paragraphs very shortly.

In Math, we are just beginning our unit on Patterning. From traffic to petals on a flower – patterns are how we make sense of the

world around us. Patterns occur regularly in math. As children learn to analyze patterns, they develop powerful reasoning skills that will help them make sense of math and science. In this unit, your child will: use charts to display patterns, identify the rule for a number pattern, extend number patterns, create number patterns, use patterns to solve problems and investigate equations. Patterns occur in many different forms. Encourage your child to look for patterns around the home, and talk about them. You may find regular repeating patterns- maybe you mark the calendar to remind you of soccer practice every week. Other patterns may be growing or shrinking – the number of cookies remaining in the jar, if it's "take one at a time."

In Science we are just beginning our final Habitats and Communities Project. The students will be researching an animal of their choice and creating a diorama of the animal in its habitat. A short research organizer will be completed by the students first before beginning the model. Students are asked to bring in books from the library or research from home to complete this portion of the assignment. Students are asked to bring in any materials they need in order to make their diorama. For example, plasticine, plastic plants and animals, cotton balls, lego, etc..

In Drama, we are just in the beginning planning stages of a big theatrical

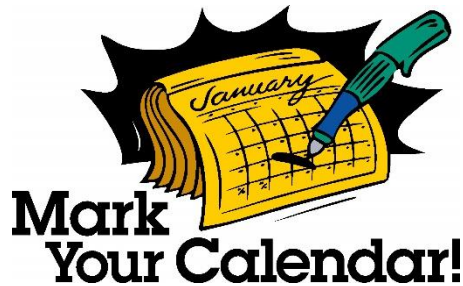
performance. The students are writing scripts for a play based on an event from Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone. Each group will be responsible for the writing, practicing, presenting and creating backdrops and costumes for their skit.

Indigenous Studies – We are very lucky to have Johnny Powless from the Toronto Rock professional lacrosse league come to our class! We spent the afternoon learning about the Six Nations and the importance of lacrosse. We learned how to play and even got autographs! We were so lucky to have this experience.

Book Fair - Nov. 15

P.A. Day - Nov. 16

**Parent/Teacher Interviews -
Nov. 15, 16**



Field Trips

We went on a very exciting field trip this month. Our trip to the Norfolk Fair and Horse Show was fantastic. Thank you to all the parent volunteers who joined us on the trip. We had such a beautiful day to explore all the fair had to offer. I know my group loved the animals, art and of course all the food!! Other groups were able to track down all the stamps to complete the booklet including the mystery stamp. I think it was a positive learning experience overall.

Halloween

What a great day we had. It was a lot of fun to see the scary, creative and funny costumes in our classroom. All the students participated in and enjoyed the parade and Colour House Monster Mash. Thank you to all the families who brought in treats and snacks to share.

Remembrance Day

The Remembrance Day assembly will be held on Friday, November 9th. Time will be sent home. Our class will be providing artwork for the gym. The community is always welcome.

Important Dates to Remember

Remembrance Day - Nov. 11

**Progress Reports go Home -
Nov. 14**