



Welcome 2019!

Happy New Year and welcome back to school in the year 2019. I hope everyone had a lovely holiday. We are already off and running in the grade 4 classroom. With only being back at it for a few days of 2019, we have already started a new reading and writing unit, math unit and have continued our social studies work. We have a lot to look forward to this year and I'm sure it will include a bit more cold weather before it warms up. So let's remember to dress appropriately for the weather. Extra socks are always a good idea, and remember your indoor shoes!

Curriculum

In math, we will be starting to work through number sense and numeration focusing on multiplication. During class time, we will be practicing our times tables through games and activities. Please encourage and help your child to study and practice their facts to 9x9. Knowing our multiplication facts are the building blocks to many math concepts. There are many ways to do this such as flash cards, card games, online games and plain old memorization.

A fun and easy card game to play is Dueling Products, a game similar to War.

Rules: Deal out all the cards to 2 players (remove the kings and queens) keeps the jokers they are zero.

Players flip over one card at a time. The first player to correctly multiply the two cards wins the cards. The object is to try and win all your opponents cards.

To add difficulty to the games include the queens as 11 and kings as 12.

In language, we have started our new reading unit on visualization. During this unit we will be using our brains to imagine the story in our minds and add extra details using our senses. In writing we are beginning a fun and exciting unit on letter writing. We are reading the book Flat Stanley by Jeff Brown. It is a fictitious story about a boy who is flattened one night when a huge bulletin board falls on top of him. Being a good sport, he makes the most of it and is able to do things such as slip under doors and fly like a kite. When his friend moves to California, he knows it is too expensive to fly and visit. So his parents decide to mail him in a large envelope for a short vacation. As a class project, we will be making our own Flat Stanley's to mail to someone that we know outside our area. I am asking that you find a friend or family member somewhere other than Brantford that would be willing to host your child's flat person for a couple weeks. We will be able to practice our letter writing skills to our friends and family and then receive letters back telling us all about Stanley's adventures.

In gym, we will start to learn about and play basketball. As a reminder, our scheduled gym days are 1 and 5. Please remember to have your running shoes at school on those days so you don't miss out on the fun we have during gym. Gym shoes can always be left at school during the week on the shelf in the coat closet.

In social studies, we are continuing our unit on Canadian Provinces and Land Regions. We have been travelling across Canada learning all about the landforms, climate, recreation, and industries. Stay tuned for more information on mini projects in the upcoming weeks.

Dates to Remember:

Skating – Friday, January 18 9am – 11am Red Rink

**Remember your skates and CSA approved helmet.

Pizza day every Tuesday.

Hot Lunch Fridays – Check cash online for information

January 21 – PA Day

