



Can you believe that November is already here? We have grown as a group through 38 days of school. We have experienced successes, encountered difficulties, taken on new challenges, and made new friends. Our classes are settling quite well into our routines as students regularly support one another to meet expectations. Bravo Grade One!

Our efforts to keep the children healthy at school include hand washing before each eating break, reminders to cough and sneeze into our sleeves and wash hands after blowing noses. We could use more tissues already, the school does not supply them. Please send your children with a sweater to wear as we will be keeping the windows open for fresh air as long as the temperatures are reasonable. Also, if you have not already done so, please send a pair of shoes that can stay at school as indoor shoes and for gym.

November brings with it another new experience for our Grade One families... Report cards! Report cards will be coming home on Monday, November 30. Conferences to discuss first term achievement will be held on the evening of Thursday December 3rd and the morning of Friday December 4th. Please look for more information in the coming weeks.

In November, Dufferin students will be learning and practising the Virtue of Respect.

Respect is an attitude of caring about people and treating them with dignity & courtesy, including valuing ourselves & others. We show respect by speaking & acting with & treating others as we want to be treated; following the rules of our family & school. We will also be focussing on the Learning Skill of Homework Completion. For Gr. 1's this means having all of our tools and materials at school when we need them, as well as completing all work that is assigned.



This month we will also be sharing with our students, in an age appropriate manner, the reasons for which we celebrate Remembrance Day, and the need for continued efforts for peace. Our Remembrance Day assembly will take place on Wednesday, Nov. 11 at 11:00 am. Parents are welcome to mark Remembrance Day with us in the gym.

Curriculum

Please continue to review the work sent home in the Friday Files each week. Worksheets sent home in the file are yours to keep forever and ever!

Français In the last two weeks we've worked at using Halloween vocabulary to create complete sentences. We also started writing several sentences on the same topic to begin the idea of story writing. Our language focus in November will be on animals, parts of the body and habitats. The children are working in reading groups every day, reading books that are at their instructional level. This means they can read the book with 90-95% accuracy and understand what they have read. When you are reading at home, in English or in French, you should read aloud books that are more challenging and talk about the stories. When your child reads, you should look for a book where they will make very few mistakes, 95-100% accuracy. This is their optimal practising level.

Math We will continue our work with learning about numbers this month.

We will also begin our Measurement unit on Time. We are learning the months of the year and the seasons, and tracking the temperature.

Science

This month we have tried to start some pumpkin seeds to study their growth. We will begin our animals unit by sorting and classifying living beings from non-living objects. We will be discussing the needs common to all living things. We will also be studying the various body parts and habitats of animals. We will be using this information to invent and build our own creatures. This is always a very popular project. The students produce some amazing work which we like to have on display for our parents to see during our family / teacher interviews.

Visual Arts

Most of our work this month will reflect work we will be doing for our Science project. This project addresses the expectation of creating and following a plan to create a 3D work of art. We will need to use Art periods as well as Science classes in order to complete this project on time. We also continue

to learn our primary and secondary colours.

Music

We have been singing many songs for fall and Halloween, keeping time with our hands or with 'instruments'. I am encouraging the children to use their high singing voices by playing a tone matching game. We will try changing the mood of our songs by singing in higher and lower voices or by using different tempo and dynamics (loud/soft sounds).

You can always reach us at the school 519-751-9152. We are looking forward to meeting with you in December!

Mme Gorecki, Mme Gibbon, and Mme Helmer