May News

Dear Parents,

Our May flowers should be beautiful this year after all of the April showers, if they haven’t all drowned that is! ☺ I’m sure that before long the warm sunny days of spring will be a consistent reality (fingers crossed!)

In language, we are almost finished our unit on point of view. The toughest part of this unit is choosing the evidence that tells us who is speaking, but we are getting better with practice. Our next unit will be about nonfiction reading and writing. We will be learning what features non-fiction texts have which help us when we are reading. We will also be learning to pick out VIPs (**V**ery **I**mportant **P**oints) when we are reading non-fiction texts. VIP’s are the most important information/facts about a topic. This means that students must rank their facts in order of importance or novelty, to arrive at the **MOST** important information. To finish this unit, we will be completing a research project at school about a Canadian animal. First, we will gather our facts and write them into jot notes, then we will do a rough copy where we put the jot notes into our own sentences, and finally we will publish our research and share it with our classmates. All of the reading and writing will be done at school, however if students want to find additional facts or pictures at home and bring in to school that is fine.

In math we are working on fractions. We have reviewed fractional names and characteristics, and we are now comparing the size of different fractions, Next we will move on to regrouping fractions (1/2 = 2/4, 5/4 = 1 ¼ ). After fractions we will be moving onto time. We will be learning to tell time to the ¼ hour. Quarter to --- is the most difficult concept for Grade 2’s as the hour changes from digital time to analogue time (for example 2:45 is also a quarter to 3.) Please practice telling time on both digital and analogue clocks to help your children with this upcoming unit. Although we have finished our focus on adding and subtracting 2 digit numbers we will continue to practice these skills in our calendar activities, as we are not yet totally confident in these skills, especially when the questions are mixed. Please keep practicing mixed facts at home, as the faster we are with these facts the easier the 2 digit questions become.

 In social studies we are finishing up our mini mapping unit. We know that the world is made of continents and oceans, and that the closer we get to the equator the hotter it is. Next, we will move onto investigating different communities around the world, and how the distance from the equator effects the clothes we wear, the houses we live in, the jobs and recreational activities we have, and the foods we eat.

I think that these are the highlights for the month of May. As always please don’t hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I will do my best to get back to you as soon as I can.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Suzie Johnson

P.S. Don’t forget Playday is May 24, beginning at 9 am. Remember to pack sunscreen, a hat and water, and to wear running shoes! 😊