

So much for planning. Who can make plans in times like these? If it isn't the pandemic, then it is the weather.

When remote teaching became a teaching style, there were many discussions about snow days and remote teaching. Some statements were made that schools would no longer lose educational time because teachers could pivot to remote teaching on snow days. Education would seamlessly carry on. It isn't that easy. Plans teachers make for in-person teaching don't always adapt to remote teaching. Scrambling around first thing in the morning to create or re- create lesson plans doesn't always result in the best educational experiences. I never felt that remote teaching on snow days was the best idea. We never committed to that pivoting but we also have not had a snow day since remote teaching became an option.

Today, Monday, is the day. Monday, I asked staff to at least make a connection with students via remote teaching. Maybe they are just doing devotions, maybe their morning circle, maybe they are providing curriculum. Since we are just coming off of remote teaching, we have a practice in place that works. We also know that home environments are set up for remote learning, including everyone with access to a device. That makes this snow day unique. For future snow days, if they are one day in the middle of many in-person learning days, we will just take a snow day as a regular, non-teaching day. There are many things students also learn by being at home.

As well, also when it comes to planning, we have made plans for a PD day on Friday. This year Edvance has the theme of hospitality. On Friday, Sara Pot from Edvance will host two sessions with us. Sara's role with Edvance is to support schools in becoming schools of belonging, where every student feels cared for, loved, valued, appreciated, and that they belong at LCS. It is our hope that, through Sara's presentations, our staff is encouraged in our current practices and challenged to improve. In the meantime, it means your children will be home on Friday.

Enjoy the day.

January Events

21 - LCS PD Day - No school

Hockey Tournament (TBD)

Birthday Corner

January 17

Noah S

January 19

Esther K

January 20

Olivia V

January 21

Joshua J

January 23

Myjah V

Jordyn L

Boston B

February Events

18 - LCS PD Day - No school

21 - Family Day - No school

From the Classrooms

Junior Kindergarten – Mrs. Baarda

I want to take this opportunity to thank you, parents, for your cooperation and hard work during our online learning these last two weeks. I am so happy to be back in the classroom with students this week!

We will be continuing with our **winter theme** this week by creating mittens to help decorate our classroom.

In **language**, we will be focusing on letter Nn and will learn the Jolly Phonics song for Nn. In our workbooks we will print letters T, I and U and we will learn about Magic C! We will also continue to learn about rhyming words.

In **math**, we will continue exploring size, comparing items by how tall and how long they are.

In **Bible**, this week we will learn about a girl named Esther and how she became Queen and helped to save the Jewish people.

In **health**, we will begin a new unit about our families.

Library Day- Just a reminder that Tuesday is library day. Please return any library books so students may choose new books.

School News

Senior Kindergarten - Mrs. Heida

This week we will be focusing on the beginning and middle sound of short vowel Ii. We will be reviewing the letters Hh, Tt, Nn and Ll. Our new sight word is "see". We will be doing lots of sorting by the number of syllables per word and working on our rhyming skills.

Students will be introduced to segmenting a two letter word, which means they will be encouraged to hear each letter sound.

In **math**, we are learning about measuring capacity and height. We will be counting to 30 and practice printing numbers to 15.

We will learn more about the different species of penguins and be making a penguin in art class.

In **Bible**, we will be reviewing what happening after Joseph's brothers threw him in the pit and sold him into slavery and learning how God helped Joseph to interpret the dreams of the cupbearer and the baker. Our memory work is Romans 8:28, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose."

Looking forward to being in the classroom again!

Have a great week!

Grade 1 and 2 – Mrs. Dykstra

We praise God that we return in person this week! Please ensure your child has spare masks and extra socks in his/her backpack.

Bible: During online learning, we completed a portion of our unit on Jesus' ministry.

We will now look at how Jesus called his disciples, as well as the Sermon on the Mount this week. Our in-class memory words are Matthew 4:19: Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people."

Language Arts: "Learning about God's World through Non-fiction." Our reading and writing mini-lessons focus on this genre and how we can get super smart about non-fiction topics. Step one: filling our book boxes full of non-fiction books.

Phonics: We meet some characters to add to our strategies for reading. We read sounds, not letters! Lefty Larry (start at the left hand side of the word) and Grapheme Grasshopper (hop to each grapheme, left to right, and say EACH sound). We will focus on blends this week and next, to reinforce good reading habits.

Spelling words for testing Friday, February 4.

Orange (blends; 8 words total): twin, twine, twist, whip, wheel, quit, quiz, queen

Blue (blends): stop, step, star, stab, stem, stamp, shot, shop, shed, shin

Green/red (cvc words): net, pet, set, get, leg, beg, ten, men, pen, hen

Creation Studies : Our unit is centered on Global Communities in God's World. The plan for the week is to talk about needs (and how God fulfills those daily), and discover more about the equator, hemispheres, continents, and oceans. Our goal for this unit is to see that God cares for all children of the world, "just like me!"

Grade One Math: Measurement lessons continue. I will undertake some one-one assessment with each Grade 1 student this week on the concepts in this unit.

Health: God's desire is for us to honour our bodies; thus, we look at what substance use, addiction, and related behaviours are (in a faith-based, age-appropriate manner).

Library day is tomorrow.

Grade 2 Math - Ms. ten Brink

We will be spending time in review this week to go over what was covered the last 2 weeks before moving on to learning our strategies for addition and subtraction using a number line. I appreciate all the support that you as parents have provided over the last few weeks. Thank you for welcoming me into your home!

Fundraising Drive

This week is our a fundraising drive to support our budget.

Please prayerfully consider how you might contribute to the drive.

An LCS Board member will call you to follow up with you. Look for a mailing with more details coming to your house this week.

Battle of the Books

Please return all books read over the extended break to Mrs.

Delleman! She will hand out duotangs of questions before the

PD Day so students can start studying and preparing! Meeting dates will be announced next

week.

Grade 2 and 3 - Mrs. Claus

I am proud of the hard work the students put in over remote learning. They did great! This week is a short week due to the snow day and the PD Day on Friday. We will pack in as much as we can. Tomorrow I will be away at an appointment for the second and third blocks of the day. A supply teacher will be covering my absence.

This week:

Bible- We finished up our unit and now are reviewing for our test on Thursday. We also have memory work due next week Friday: Genesis 8:22 "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease"

Language- Last week we tried writing Haikus. This was a struggle for some so we will review them again. Word sorts will be sent out tomorrow (Tuesday).

Creation Studies- We are starting our unit on magnets.

Grade 3 Math- We are finishing up our unit on geometry. We will have a quiz this week and a test next week.

Grade 4 and 5 - Mrs. Delleman

IKnowIt - Missing Numbers (Multiplication and Division up to 10s) - due THURSDAY

Math - We are going to have a quiz on THURSDAY on topics we have covered so far in our division unit. Students will need to know how to draw pictures and write equations for division facts, how to answer word problems, and how to find missing numbers in fact families. We will be reviewing in class in preparation for the quiz.

Spelling - Below are the spelling teams and their words. Each team will need to study all these words in preparation for NEXT FRIDAY where 10 words from their list will be chosen for their dictation.

Word Wizards - cool, crook, fool, wood, could, noon, groom, hoof, root, stood, smooth, hook, troop, route, hoop, should, brook, stool, proof, shook, would, gloom, roost

Spelling Squad - close, moan, wave, using, eating, looking, eat, skate, closing, trading, cleaning, clean, use, moaning, trade, skating, waving, look, mail, mailing

Super Spellers - run, fan, tan, man, bun, fun, fin, ran, van, pan, win, plan, chin, grin, than, skin

All spelling lists can be found on Spelling City, with games available to review words. Go to spellingcity.com/tdelleman to find links to all the spelling list words and activities.

Please note that we will not be having a dictation for spelling words studied during online learning.

Memory Work - Isaiah 55:6 - "Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near." - due NEXT FRIDAY.

Online Learning Missing Work - Students are asked to return to school all materials they brought home for online learning. This includes their orange duotang, two notebooks, a bag of spelling words, Jump Math Workbook, Cursive Workbook, Elephant in the Garden novel, along with any personal items (pencil cases/water bottles/books). Assignments will be marked and returned this week. Any missing work will be sent home to complete over the long weekend.

Grade 5 and 6 – Mr. Siebenga

Information will be sent out to parents and students.

Grade 5 and 6 French - Mrs. Vogel

We are going to review *etre* and *avoir* today and begin looking at *-re* verbs

Grade 7 and 8 – Mrs. Vogel

Devotions - Students are going to be responsible for devotions a minimum of 1 time a term either on their own or with a partner. They will be signing up weekly until they have all had a turn between now and the beginning of March. Some students have already led us in devotions on google meet over the past week and they have done a great job.

Bible: We have finished our look at Job and are moving into Ecclesiastes.

WWW: Word Analogy set 5 will be assigned this week. Due Thursday.

G.R.: "The Rocket" Questions are due Tuesday (Jan. 18). We will be looking at 2 other short stories in the same theme called "The Beginning of Wisdom" and "Crazy Carl".

History: We are continuing to look at the development of New France through the presentation of our projects. Looking forward there will be a test on New France next Tuesday (Jan. 25).

Art: We are going to be looking at our unique beings made by God through paper mannequins and discovering many different movements God has created us to make.

Health: We are continuing our unit on Character through everfi.net. Modules 1 and 2 should be completed by the end of this week. Most students are already on #1.

Writing: We are going to continue looking at writing in our own idiolect and using creative writing to enhance our writing. Students need to bring in a piece of personal memorabilia for Wednesday.

French: We are going to review a few verbs at the beginning of the week and move on to *-ir* verbs.

If you have any questions or concerns please email me at j.vogel@listowelchristianschool.ca

Grade 7 and 8 – Mr. Boelens

Math: Monday we will make sure we are all caught up and review what we have learned. This week Grade 7 will be looking at line graphs as well as mean, median, and mode. Grade 8 will be looking at histograms and circle graphs. Daily assignments will be given again.

Science: On Monday, we will experiment with gravity.