

September 18, 2023

When I talked with different staff members at the end of August about the upcoming year, there was always some level of nervousness. After two months of not teaching, teachers forget what it was like leading a class, directing behaviours, and meeting the needs of each child. They wonder if they will be able to pick up their craft and start again.

Last week I asked at the staff meeting, "How are your classes going?". As I listened to the responses, there was renewed confidence. Not only did the staff relay their appreciation about how their class culture was developing, I heard in their discussion a renewed confidence in their own abilities. Like getting back on a bike, they were back in the classroom feeling comfortable about their roles and abilities.

As I walk down the hallways, I see and listen to classrooms in action. I see teachers delivering lessons with passion, action, and excitement. I see students engaged in learning, listening to teachers, interacting with peers, and focused on their tasks. I see support staff working with students in the classroom or in small groups in separate rooms. I see movement and the flow of students and teachers making it all happen. I see the daily life of education back in action.

The day-to-day life of schooling is back in the groove again as if July and August never happened. When people ask me how the start of school has gone, I respond by saying, "We have great people serving in good places". I pray that God will continue to bless our staff and that you and your children continue to be blessed by these staff members.

Transportation: After a lot of work by our Transportation Committee in August to design the routes, and some work in September to iron out changes, our daily bus routes are set. The drivers are learning their routes and getting to know the students. They are setting seating arrangements so that bus behaviour can be minimized.

We shouldn't underestimate the work that goes into ensuring the bus ride is a good, safe place. In order to maintain that consistency, we are not allowing significant changes to daily busing. For example, we are not allowing our buses to be used for birthday party transportation. Adding a class of boys or girls to a single bus disrupts the seating arrangements and the bus culture for that ride and often places our drivers in challenging situations. We ask that you respect this decision and make your own birthday party arrangements.

September Events

22- Assembly lead by Gr 3 Class at 11:45am
 22- Media Release, Field Trip Permission and Student Profile forms due to office
 26- Childhood Cancer Awareness Day: Wear Gold
 28-Soccer Tournament



Sept 18 Carina A	Sept 18 Reid H
Sept 20 Bryer R	Sept 21 James T
Sept 22 Hudson K	

October Events

5-Cross Country Meet-Cambridge
 9-Thanksgiving Day- No school
 10-Grade 7 Immunizations
 12- Cross Country Meet-Drayton
 23- LCS Information Evening 7-9
 24- Picture Day
 26 & 27- Edvance Convention- No School

Junior Kindergarten- Mrs. Baarda

For the last two weeks of September we will be exploring a farm theme in JK. This week, we will do an experiment called "Magic Milk."

This week, we will be playing a listening game called "The Name Game". We will be doing some rhyming repetition, listening for first (initial) sounds in words, and blending small words to make a bigger word.

In **math**, we will describe a mystery object and sort items using describing words. We will also learn about opposites.

In **Bible**, we will be learning about what God created on day 4: the sun, moon, and stars; and day 5: sea life and birds.

Tuesday is Library day. Please return books from last week so students can choose new books to take home.

Thursday will be our first Reading Buddies. We will pair up with the Grade 4/5 class to read stories for 15 minutes at the end of the day. We will have Reading Buddies every other Thursday.

Reminder: Our school is nut free - please no peanut butter or Nutella products, or other snacks that contain nuts. We have students with nut allergies at the school. Please save those items for home.

Senior Kindergarten- Mrs. Heida

Thank you to everyone who had a show and tell item this week. We saw a lot of favourite toys, it was so fun!

This week, we are going to be looking for the letter A's in two sentences and will be introduced to the sight word "the". We will be reading our Sound Fluency page for letter A and listening for rhyming words.

I hope you are hearing lots of color word songs at home. This week we will wrap up our colour units by learning about white, brown and black.

In **Handwriting Without Tears**, we will be working on frog jump letters D and P. If you see your child printing letters at home, please encourage them to print from the top of the page down, not from the line on the page and move upward.

In **math**, we are working with numbers up to 5 and using different strategies for counting.

In **Bible**, we are learning about God creating all the animals and Adam and Eve.

Our memory verse is: "in the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. God saw all that he had created and it was very good." Genesis 1:1 and 31a. We say it together every day in class.

In my "Welcome to Kindergarten" letter, I did not include that I would put together a calendar for each month of the school year that I will share just before the new month begins. I have done it for 17 years and thought, I can do without it. This week, I am so lost without it that you will receive one for October next week. .

On September 26, 2023 we will bring awareness to childhood cancer by wearing gold or yellow to school. Keep it simple. If your child does not wear yellow, print out something yellow and attach it to their clothing or tie yellow ribbons in their hair. There will be more details in the Weekly Messenger.

Any questions feel free to contact me at m.heida@listowelchristianschool.ca
Have a great week!

Grade 1 - Ms. Denhartog

The Grade One classroom was a fun place to be last week. We were learning new things, practicing our routines, and getting creative!

Bible: This week we are continuing on with looking at the world God made as well as being reminded to not worry about anything. Our **memory work** is Philippians 4:6 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petitions, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." It feels so good to know that God has everything in His hands.

Math: We will start the week off by working with the words "more", "less" and "fewer". We will be circling, colouring and counting. By the end of the week, we will start our unit on Patterning. We will work with understanding and finding the "core" of the pattern! We will even look around our world for any patterns we can "I spy"!

Language: We will be looking at how our mouths move differently for different sounds! We will also be working in our printing book looking at letters that use the "magic c".

PEN PALS: As a part of our writing throughout the year, the Grade One class will be pairing up with a pen pal to write and draw pictures to. I will be sending a more detailed email this week or next week, once it is all in place! I am really excited to start! So be on the lookout for more info.

Creation studies: This week, we will be looking at symbols on maps and learning how to find our way around using a map.

French: We will be working with simple greeting words this week.

Health: For the next while we will be talking about bullying prevention.

Gym: We are learning about safety in the Gym as well as working with starts/stops and tag games.

Show and Tell Friday September 22: Hailey, Charity, Emily, Ruby

Library: Our Library day is Tuesday this year. Please help your child remember to bring back their library books on Monday or Tuesday so that they may pick out new books! Also if you have a plastic bag to send them in to keep them safe that would be great!!

Have a great week!

Announcements

Christmas Bazaar

Mark your calendars for our annual Christmas Bazaar on Saturday November 25th 10am-2pm

Toys for the Bazaar

If you have any gently used or new toys that you can donate to the **bazaar toy store** please drop them off at the school!

Thank-you!

Gold Day

On Tuesday, September 26 we will be honouring children who are fighting, have fought, and have beat cancer. September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and its colour is gold. We invite all students to come to school wearing gold or yellow to show we care. We will also be participating in an activity as a team event.

Soccer Schedule

The boys team will practice after school on Tuesday and Thursday.

The tournament is Thursday September 28.

Cross Country

Grade 5/6 and 7/8 practices are Monday and Thursday. Grade 3 and 4/5 practices are Wednesday and Friday. This week we will continue to have practices (10:20am) and next week will be tryouts for the team. In order to be on the team, students must run the full laps (properly around the school yard and pylons) without walking.

Save the Date - parent drivers and volunteers will be needed for our cross country meets on October 5th (Cambridge) and 12th (Drayton).

Grade 2- Mrs. Kuipers

A general reminder that we do have a nut allergy in our class, so please take extra care when packing lunches. Thanks!

This week at a glance:

Math - Patterning

Science - God's Creatures Large & Small - we will be focusing on classifying various animals this week.

Health - Who God Created Us to Be

Media Studies - Different forms of media. *Don't forget to be filling in the daily recording checklist that came home on Thursday to be returned this week Thursday, Sept. 21.

Grade 2- Mrs. Grundlingh

What a wonderful group of Grade 2 students. They are eager to learn and to complete their work, they work well within their group and are kind to one another. It is a blessing to be able to teach them. Here is an outline of their work with me for this week:

Math - Number sense: We are working on numbers 1-10 for the month of September.

Phonics, spelling and reading: This week, we finish the introduction of our key concepts of our sound wall and the 44 phonemes of spoken English. Starting next week your child will receive a home practice sheet for the 2 sounds that they will be learning during that week. Please use these sheets to support your child's learning at home.

Creation studies - Social science: This week, we continue our unit on "Mapping my neighbourhood" where our focus for the week will be on where we are in God's world. Please help your child to complete the information on the homework page included in their envelope. We will start using this information tomorrow.

Bible: We are still studying the book of James. For this month our memory verse is James 1:19-20: "Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires." Please help your child to memorize this verse on the bible bookmark included in his/her envelope.

Library: We have library tomorrow. They are allowed to borrow 2 library books at a time. If they return their books tomorrow, they can either renew it or get 2 new books. Please encourage them to develop the habit of bringing their books to school every Tuesday, even if they would just like to renew it.

Grade 3- Mrs. Claus

We are becoming more comfortable as a group and we are learning the rules of the classroom. We have enjoyed getting to know each other and other students in the school. On Friday afternoons, we have reading buddies with the Grade 7/8 class. It's a great time for connection.

Bible: This week, we will finish our unit on Paul and the Ephesians. We will review and have a quiz on Friday.

Math: This week, we will start working in our Grade 3 math books. The focus will be on patterns.

Language: We have been learning about sounds of consonants. This week, we will focus on the sounds of the vowels. We have also been writing, reading, and doing penmanship!

Creation Studies: Our study of trees continues!

French: We start this week!

Please have your child find 3-5 DIFFERENT leaves for Tuesday.

Grade 4 and 5 - Mrs. Delleman

Library - Our library time is on WEDNESDAYS each week. Students need to bring their books back to school each week to return or renew them.

Memory Work - We have been talking about our theme for the year - the Beatitudes - and will be learning the verses for the Beatitudes at the beginning of the year. We will have our first memory work due FRIDAY - Matthew 5:1-2 - "Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them." Students will need to have verses memorized so they can recite it to the teacher.

Spelling - We will be working on different spelling teams throughout the year. Once students come up with names for their teams, their lists will be posted on Spelling City, which was introduced to students last week. If you go to spellingcity.com/tdelleman, students will be able to access their lists and play games online using their words. Students will be working on their words for two weeks, so dictation will be NEXT FRIDAY.

Math - I Know It is a website we use for math practice at home. Students will be introduced to the website this week and assignments will be due weekly, starting next week.

Grade 4/5 French (Madame Van Kampen):

From last week, we will continue to review and learn numbers [i.e. Grade 5 up to 70 or soixante-dix; Grade 4 up to 40 or quarante]. We will also begin to focus on the seasons, identifying them by name, and pursuing some reading [Gr. 5: "Quelle est ta saison préférée?"] with activities/worksheets related to that. On Wednesday's, we welcome Mrs. Anita Dykstra, a former LCS French teacher, who will be assisting us and allow for some smaller group work.

Grade 5/6 French (Madame Van Kampen):

We have been reviewing numbers [i.e. Grade 5 up to 70 or soixante-dix; Grade 6 up to 100 or cent] and experienced great success with a Mad-Minute dealing with the numbers up to 30 or trente. As we continue to incorporate numbers in our learning -- yes, we will continue with Mad-Minute activities -- we will also be focussing on the four seasons [les quatre saisons] and begin reading a passage entitled "Quelle est ta saison préférée?" [=What is your favourite season?].

Grade 5/6- Mrs. O'Boyle

Remind - Please join our grade five and six Remind group if you haven't already so. Our class code is 9g6a69ka This is a great way to get ahold of me with any quick questions or concerns you may have.

Bible - We will continue our unit Colossians.

Our **memory work** is: "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Colossians 3:12-14"

Please have your child practice daily. We will also be practicing at school.

Due: Friday Sept. 29th

Language - We will continue to look at nouns. We will also look at choosing an appropriate topic for our audience in our written work, and work on picking out the main idea and important details when reading. We will also work through our "Teach Your Teacher" presentations this week. I am looking forward to learning some new things! Be sure to check our class Facebook page for pictures and videos of these.

Social Studies - We will continue our unit - "Why is there French on my cereal box?" We will continue to review the terms culture, worldview and choices this week.

Science - We will continue our unit - "Fearfully and Wonderfully Made" where we will be looking at human organ systems. This week we will be doing some labs to look at a variety of cells and explore how to use a microscope.

Art - We will continue to look at the element of line. This week, we will continue to work on our Personal Logo Zentangles and explore the variety of patterns and designs that can be created using line. We will review terms such as string, tile, and tangle.

Health - We will continue our anti-bullying unit.

Grade 5/6- Mr. Boelens

Math: Wow, the students worked hard to complete some early work and show me what they know. So far, so good! Last week, we started with our Jump Math presentations and workbooks and students are getting used to completing their grade work while I teach the other grade. This week, we will continue to look at patterns in math. Daily work is assigned, and I am hoping we can complete it all in class.

Gym: Our first unit is soccer.

Grade 7/8 Science- Ms. VanKampen

Our current unit is *Water Systems*.

This week's topics: the Water Table. Our 'study' will include an inquiry-based research project, in groups, about natural and man-made factors influencing the Water Table; students will present their findings.

Grade 7/8 Math- Mr. Boelens

Both classes are looking at number sense, specifically greatest common factors and least common multiples. The importance of knowing our times tables is showing up daily. This week, students will complete their mid unit reviews. Daily work will be completed in class and/or at home. Students will learn to know when/if they have homework. Please ask them!

Grade 7/8- Mrs. Vogel

Thank you all for all the support you have given the students at they have started this new year together. We have had a great start to our year. Sadly, Sebastian had to leave our class and we miss him.

Just a reminder that scholastic orders do go out this Friday. Our class code is RC177130.

Scheduling reminder - students need to have their instruments at school for band on Monday and Thursday and Phys. Ed. clothing and shoes on Tuesday and Friday.

Homework folders should have come home on Friday and returned today, encourage your children as you see their work and the effort they are putting into their learning.

Our **library day** is Wednesday so students should make sure they bring their books back each Wednesday.

Bible: We will continue our unit setting up the themes of the Old Testament. Grade 7/8 is a little different in that we are not usually studying Bible stories, but are looking at the deeper meanings, themes, and story woven throughout the Bible. This means a higher level of thinking when it comes to the questions and answers given. Memory Work: Matthew 5:1-12. Due date 1 is September 22, Due date 2 is September 29. Students can choose how much they say/write each day from nothing to the whole thing but it all has to be finished by the 22nd.

Writing: We continue to work our health and writing units together looking at online presence and appropriate online actions and behavior's.

W.W.W.: We got a little behind last week and didn't start our first unit. We are working on adjusting a few groups starting sort.

Guided Reading: We started learning about short stories last week and will begin reading and analyzing some short stories dealing with community this week.

History: We will continue to set up the beginning of our unit with extra details and information summarizing the events and people leading up to where Canada is set in 1713.

Band: We are working on getting the right sounds out of our mouthpieces and working on maintenance. Remembering to do Maintenance Monday at school/home will help them keep their instrument working well throughout the year. Band is Monday and Thursday at 1:00.

Healthy Living: We are working on a health unit in connection with our writing unit. See above for details. Phys. Ed is on Tuesday and Friday. Students need appropriate clothing and shoes for outdoor activities each of those days. We are currently focusing on long distance running as well as soccer.

Art: We started and will continue working on our art folders. These folders should prominently display their name as well as show some details about things the student likes, enjoys, or tells a bit about who they are. They are due next week Wednesday