

Science

The Grade 1's are investigating Materials, Objects and Everyday Structures. The Grade 2's are learning about Movement, including Simple Machines. It has been great listening to the Show and Tells and discussing the materials used to make the objects and how they move. We will be starting a unit called the Teddy Bear's Picnic. The students will be creating items that would be used to make a picnic successful (e.g., table, wagon, slide, swing set, etc.). We will be using jinx wood, glue and tools to complete this project.

Math

We have begun a unit investigating fractions. The students recently created fraction trees. In the near future, we will be learning about adding and subtracting with coins. A new math homework sheet for March was sent home. Please encourage your child to work on 2-3 activities per week and return the notebook at the end of the month. Your child's *Mathletics* username and password are attached inside the front cover of their agenda. They can use the program from computers and devices connected to the internet.

The math course I have been attending is about recognizing the different strategies primary students use to add and subtract. Upon identifying the articular strategy a student or group of students use, I can then have them engage in activities that promote the development of more sophisticated

adding and subtracting strategies.

Language / Miscellaneous

I am happy to report that the students have shown great interest in listening to stories about different types of bullying. Upon reading books together, we have been discussing the main idea and some interesting details of the stories. We have also been discussing strategies to solve tricky words when reading. When decoding a challenging word, we are learning to think about what would make sense, sound right at that point in a sentence as well as match the letter sequence of the word. Also, we are getting our mouth ready to pronounce the first sound of the word.

We will be engaging in book talks this month. Please refer to the class calendar for your child's scheduled date. Please encourage your child to read on a nightly basis and to complete the reading log sheet. A book mark with some useful questions to ask during and after reading will be provided to the students. Reading log sheets are to be returned to school on Thursdays. Please also encourage your child to practice their spelling each week. Please send the spelling binder to school each Friday so I can check it and it will be ready for a new list of words on Monday.

The book fair is in full swing. Students are welcome to visit the fair in the second half of lunch, afternoon recess and after school until 4pm. Special thanks to Ms. Keeley and Ms. Dean for organizing and running this wonderful event.

We had a great time at the Art Gallery of Ontario last month. It was a pleasure viewing the amazing art work in the gallery as well as the pieces created by our students in the Art Workshop.

February 2019 – Keyes, Rm. / – Greek Heritage Month

March Character Trait: Honesty - "The person who is straightforward and honest doesn't have to worry about a faulty memory." (Author Unknown)