

April News..... Room 216, Grade 1

Dear Families,

During the month of April, we are continuing to develop our mathematical number sense and operation skills as we practice adding and subtracting numbers with answers to 20. We have been practicing with a variety of tools to assist us, including using 10-frames, manipulatives, and working with number lines. Our mental math strategies, such as using doubles, counting on, thinking addition for subtraction, and making 10, are important skills for adding and subtracting. We are also currently learning about Canadian coins and bills. In order to help at home, you can play math games with your child, including dice games, and encourage your child to add and subtract everyday things around the home.

In Language, we are continuing to increase our reading and comprehension skills through our 'Daily 5', where we practice reading to ourselves, reading to someone, listening to reading, working on words, and working on writing. We also continue to learn about the parts that make up a good story, including coming up with our own characters, setting, events, a problem, and a solution. We have been working with story organizers to plan original stories, and then using those organizers to assist us with writing our 1st draft stories. We have also been working on our revising skills, where we check for correctly spelled sight words, punctuation, neat printing, and using descriptive words. Once our stories are edited, we create our good copies. On the home front, students are still encouraged to continue reading at home every evening. Reading on Raz-Kids or books from your own collection are both great reading activities for your child. All students are also able to sign out 2 books from our Library every week. Our borrow book day is Day 3.

In Science in April, we are finishing off our unit on 'Everyday Structures', with building our own structures from recycled materials. The students are working on structures that will safely house small figurines that they created from modelling clay. After this, we will start a very comprehensive unit on the needs and characteristics of living things including plants and animals.

Also during the month of April, we will be covering the part of the Health curriculum that looks at the human body, from the five senses to the correct names for the parts of our bodies.

That's all for now!

Ms. Cundari

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