

May News..... Room 216, Grade 1

Dear Families,

During the month of May, we will continue our work with amounts to 50 in various mathematical contexts. Students will determine amounts that make up a total, and write equivalent number sentences. They will count, estimate, draw on math facts, and use mental math strategies. Students will also split amounts (areas) equally among 2 or 4, and describe each amount as one-half, or one-fourth, of the whole. They also will share collections among 2 or 4, and split any remainders.

In Language, we are continuing to practise reading to ourselves, reading to someone, listening to reading, working on words, and working on writing. We are writing short stories in order to have some prepared for our school-wide 'Authors Day', which will be happening next month. We have been practising our revising skills, where we check for correctly spelled sight words, punctuation, neat printing, and using descriptive words. Once the students are happy with their 1st-draft stories, they create their good copies.

The students are enjoying the routine of their weekly spelling words now. We work on them in class at the beginning of the day. Every day we do a different activity with our spelling words: Monday is "Take-3" (write the words 3x); on Tuesday, they write the words in different colours; on Wednesday, they write the words and highlight the vowels; on Thursday, they practise reading and spelling the words to a friend, and on Friday, we have a quiz.

In Science in May, we are examining the needs and characteristics of living things. We are growing marigolds and bean plants in the classroom, and will participate in other 'planting and growing' projects as well with Ms. Foster. We will be examining the various types of trees that grow on our school grounds. The students will also be working on projects about animals of their choice.

Also this month, we are looking at our local community in Social Studies, especially focusing on creating maps and understanding the basic elements of a map.

That's all for now!

Ms. Cundari

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