

Valleyfield JS Newsletter

November 2018

From Principal's Desk

Dear Parents, Guardians and Caregivers,

First of all, I have to say that October was quite a busy and exciting month! Among the many events that took place, we had a *Cross Country Meet, Boys and Girls Soccer Tournaments, Walk to School Day, Take your Kids Outside Day and Math Night*. Now, if you can believe it, we are entering our 3rd month of school. The weather will be changing soon. Please ensure that your children are dressed for the cold weather.

November 11th is a significant day for so many reasons as Valleyfield has always had a strong tradition of creating meaningful Remembrance Day assemblies to honor those Canadians who gave their lives in combat so we could live in freedom and prosperity. Our school wide assembly will begin at 10:15 am on Friday November 9th. All are welcome.

The Progress Report is one way teachers have to effectively communicate with parents about evidence of students' progress towards the achievement of curriculum expectations and learning skills. For students progressing with difficulty, teachers will use the Progress Report to identify early in the school year strategies to improve academic achievement.

Progress Reports will go home Wednesday, November 14th. **Interviews will be held on Thursday, November 15th in the pm and Friday, November 16th in the am.**

Sincerely,

Barbara Dixon



Upcoming Dates:

- Nov. 6
Picture Retake
- Nov. 9, 30
Pizza Day
- Nov. 9
Remembrance Day Assembly
- Nov. 16
PA Day
- Nov. 15, 16
Parent Teacher Interviews
- Nov. 28
French Immersion Info Night
- Nov. 29
Character Ed. Assembly

PARENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Congratulations to Ms. Armina Dopple (Chair), Louise Kyprianou (Co-Chair), Catherine Palmos (Secretary) and Pat Bajwa (Treasurer) who were elected to represent the Valleyfield Parent Council for the 2018-2019 school year. Our next Parent Council meeting will be November 22nd at 6pm. Hope to see you there!

LIFE THREATENING ALLERGIES

Within our school community there are several students who have potentially life threatening allergies (anaphylaxis) to nuts and seafood. Smelling even a trace amount or coming in contact with a nut product can result in anaphylactic shock. Staff have been trained on the use of the Epi-Pen. We also have a number of teachers who have been trained in First Aid.

We need your assistance in helping to make sure Valleyfield is a safe environment for our children. We are seeking your support in not sending lunches or snacks that contain any type of nut. ***Birthday treats must say Peanut/Nut Free Product on the packaging.***

WINTERY WEATHER

Occasionally severe weather conditions may require the Toronto District School Board to cancel transportation and or close schools. This may occur before the beginning of the school day or, if conditions become severe during the day.

In the event that the Toronto District School Board closes schools due to severe weather, please keep your children home where it is safe. Closures of schools or cancellation of transportation services will be announced at 6:00am on many TV and radio stations. You can also check the TDSB website at www.tdsb.on.ca.

FAMILY MATH NIGHT

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Family Math Night on October 24th. It was a tremendous success as many families came out to participate and learn different ways to explore Math.

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EQAO

If your child wrote the grade 3 EQAO assessment last year, you should have received the results which were sent home.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES (PLC'S) FOR TEACHERS

Teachers at Valleyfield work together on a weekly/bi-weekly basis to discuss teaching and learning strategies that support the TDSB's 3 foci of equity, academic achievement and wellbeing for our students. The Kindergarten Division will be focussing on pedagogical documentation and how they can encourage student voice in their classrooms. The Primary Division and Junior Division are currently looking at our data (i.e. EQAO, Parent/Student Census, Report Cards) to get to know our students and families and support academic achievement.

REMEMBRANCE DAY ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION CONTEST

All Valleyfield students are encouraged to participate in the Royal Canadian Legion Remembrance contest. The deadline for submissions is Monday November 12th. All submissions should be given to Mme Henri with a signed permission form which is available via homeroom teachers. Students whose work places in the top three will receive a small cash prize. The first place entries move on to multiple layers of the contest and the winner at the national level receives money and a trip to Ottawa for next year's Remembrance Day celebrations.

Primary students (K-3) can enter by submitting a colour or black and white poster. (As children do work in their class, teachers may send home a permission form for parents to sign in order to enter their work into the contest, but students can also create something at home and bring it in).

Junior students have more options this year!

Colour or black and white poster

Essay

Poem

Video

Speech

Each homeroom teacher has a set of complete rules and permission forms.

Good luck to all Valleyfield contestants!

Mme Henri



Ms. Rattner's Grade 2

Language: In grade 2 we continue to develop a love of literature and work on building fluency and comprehension skills. In September we worked on building our reading stamina. We can read for a whole 10 minutes without getting up or moving. We are also working on vowel sounds and doing some fun activities to help us learn. We have been writing recounts with partners and on our own.

Math: This term (September-November), our class will focus on: Reciting, reading and writing numbers 0-50 and beyond. Skip counting by 2,5,10 to 50 and beyond. We are also developing strategies for recalling math facts to 18 through a variety of math games.

Social Studies: We are learning about the different types of families. We'll be creating a family tree.



If you haven't already signed up, please add the Remind app to your phone, it's a great way to stay connected with what is going on in the classroom and school.

This is the link: <https://www.remind.com/join/grade2msr>

Ms. Mishos' Grade 2/3



The boys and girls in Ms. Mishos' Grade 2 & 3 class have been very busy since the start of school. In **Language**, they have been learning how to produce a piece of recount writing. They have already written about their summer memories and are currently working on their own autobiographies. In **Math**, the class just completed a unit on Number Sense and are now beginning to work on Data Management. They are learning how to ask survey questions, interpret and display the data that they have collected. In **Art**, the children began the year by painting special rocks collected from the shores of Lake Ontario and placing them under a tree in front of the school to show their appreciation for nature and the environment.

Sports Update

We had 43 students in grades 2 to 6 participating in the west qualifying cross-country meet on October 3rd. They had a wonderful time and did a great job representing our school. Special congratulations go out to Willow in M. Alexandre's grade 4 French Immersion class who moved on to the West Conference Finals. We are very proud of her!



Twenty-five boys and girls in grades 5&6 represented our school at soccer tournaments the week of October 15th. The weather agreed with them and they fought hard while being good ambassadors of Valleyfield JS. Well done!

Unfortunately, there was not enough interest for our boys grades 4&5 volleyball team with Ms. Malenkovich. Girls volleyball season is later on.

Mr. Choudhri's Grade 3/4

Students have been very busy in our Grade 3/4 class since September.

Reading: During October, we are looking at two reading strategies: Making Connections and Determining Importance. While reading at home, students are encouraged to make text to text, text to self, and text to world connections to their text. They should also be trying to understanding the main idea of a text and the important details.

Writing: We are learning how to come up with ideas as a writer, organizing these ideas, and writing our narrative paragraphs using proper paragraph structure. The students are focusing on writing traits that make them better writers. We are trying to incorporate the six writing traits (Ideas/Content, Conventions, Organization, Word Choice, Voice, and Sentence Fluency) as well as The Writing Process for our paragraph writing.



Math: We are currently working on Number patterns after finishing our Place Value unit. For these units, Grade 4's are expected to describe, extend, and create a variety of numeric patterns, and make predictions related to the patterns. They also need to demonstrate an understanding of equality between pairs of expressions, using addition, subtraction, and multiplication. Grade 3's will need to describe, extend, and create a variety of numeric patterns as well as demonstrates an understanding of equality between pairs of expressions, using addition and subtraction of one- and two-digit numbers, using a variety of strategies and algorithms that are discussed in class.

Science: We will continue our Science unit on Habitats and Communities (Gr. 4) and Growth and Changes in Plants (Gr. 3).

Social Studies: We will continue our Social Studies on Canada's regions, provinces and territories (Gr. 4), and Living and Working in Ontario (Gr. 3).

Valleyfield Spirit Wear Sale!!

The week of parent interviews (November 12th), Mme Henri will be selling Valleyfield JS school spirit wear. Parents will be able to see samples at interview times near the school office. We will be asking for "cash online" payment if possible. Items include light grey or navy t-shirts, navy hooded sweatshirts with logo in the front, navy hooded sweatshirts with zipper and logo in the back, knitted navy tuques, and a small selection of navy shorts. All items (except shorts) are available in children and adult sizes. Prices range from \$8 to \$25. Look out for order forms the week of November 12th!

