



Grade Two News- December 2017

In Language: All students are working on developing their reading and writing skills. We will continue to work on learning vowel combinations and consonant blends in spelling/ word work and reading. Home reading is an excellent way to practice your child's reading abilities. Please listen to your child read 10-15 minutes a night or read to them for 10 - 15 minutes.

“Reading aloud is widely recognized as the single most important activity leading to language development. Among other things, reading aloud builds word-sound awareness in children, a potent predictor of reading success.”

In Math: Students are working on solving problems using a graph (data analysis) and developing students understanding of equality and inequality, using addition and subtraction equations Students are developing their fluency with adding facts to 10. By the end of grade two students must be able to **mentally (without manipulatives) add and subtract numbers to and from 10**. For extra math practice please have your child choose a math site from our webpage, pesgrade2.weebly.com, under 'helpful sites'.

In Science: Mrs. Allen's class is currently working on **hot and cold temperature**. Mrs. Abt's class are learning about **boats and buoyancy**. Mrs. Wessner's students are currently learning about **Magnets**.

In Social: All three classes are enjoying learning about the geography, climate and culture of the **Inuit culture in Iqaluit, Nunavut**. Students are learning about the similarities and differences between students in Iqaluit and students in Ponoka. We will continue to learn about the interesting traditions in the Inuit culture.

In Music: (Mrs. Abt)

We are practicing our songs and dances for the upcoming Christmas concert. Our theme this year is a tour through the 3 social studies communities (Iqaluit, NU, Meteghan, NS, Ponoka, AB)

Dec. 22 The last day prior to Christmas break students will participate in a fun 'Polar Express' theme day. Students are invited to wear their PJ's for the day. We will participate in a variety of math and language activities connected to the story 'Polar Express'. **Mrs. Wessner's class will be supplying extra lunch snacks for all the grade 2 classes (please watch for a note in your child's agenda)**. Thank you to Mrs. Abt's class who donated delicious and nutritious snacks for our Halloween lunch. Mrs. Allen's class will be asked to bring lunch snacks for our Valentine's lunch in February.

Christmas Break

Don't forget there is **NO SCHOOL** from Mon. Dec. 25 - Fri. Jan. 5 2017



Christmas Concert



Our grade 2 Christmas concert will be held in our school gymnasium, on **Thursday Dec. 21, 2017**. There will be two performances for you to choose to attend - one in the morning and one in the afternoon. We will send home the specific time closer to the date. Be sure to mark your calendar for this exciting event.

Our theme for the grade 1 + 2 concert is a celebration of Canada's 150th birthday. Grade 2's will be performing songs and traditions from our three special communities that we learn about in Social Studies: Iqaluit (Inuit), Meteghan (Acadian) and Ponoka (prairie). We will be making a few props here at school, and will let you know soon about possible costume/ outfit ideas.

Christmas Gifts

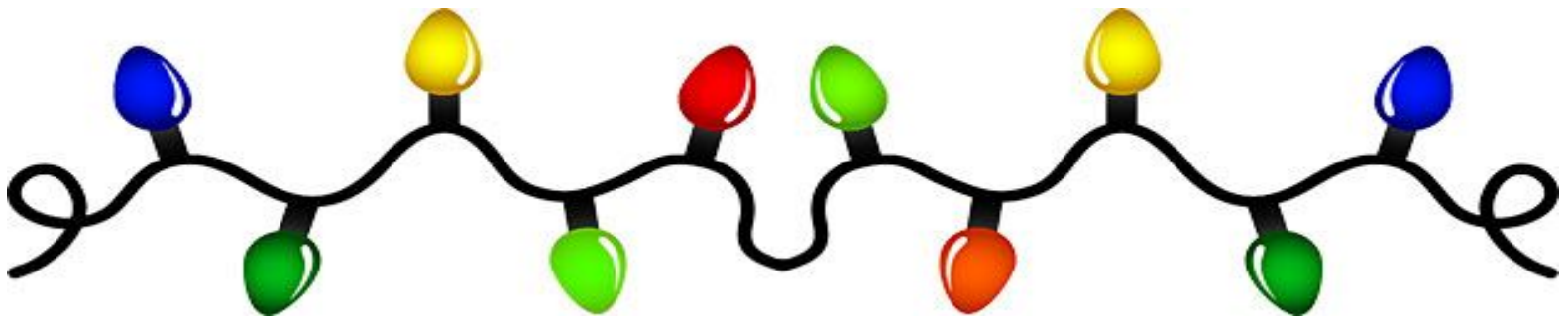
Christmas is fast approaching. Traditionally this time of year revolves around gift giving, including to the teachers. While we truly value this token of appreciation, we are all **EXTREMELY** fortunate to have our needs and wants taken care of so this year we are asking that you refrain from sending in gifts. As an alternative you can choose to send in an item for the food bank. We will use this opportunity to talk with the students about giving back to our community and the concept of volunteerism. On the last day of school we will drop off the items as a donation on behalf of our Grade Two classes. Thank you very much!

Winter weather has arrived!

We feel it is necessary for the children to go outside during the day, and so unless the temperature is below -20, we ensure the students go outside for recesses. The children need to be properly dressed to be outdoors. This includes warm winter boots, ski pants, a heavy coat, toque, and mittens. Please help your son/daughter prepare for the weather by checking that they have the appropriate clothing each day.

Computers

We are very impressed with how well most of the Grade Two students have been working during computer time. Students will be using the computer during a variety of classes (Math, Social, LA, Science). As a class we will be working on Digital Literacy and Citizenship (internet safety: never give out personal information to strangers, not talking mean to others, telling an adult if you feel scared, nervous, etc) but you may wish to discuss this at home too. Media Smarts is a great link (<http://mediasmarts.ca/digital-media-literacy/educational-games>) that has more information and educational games for students to play surrounding digital literacy/citizenship.



December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
					1	2	
3	4	5	6	7 Portfolio conferences 3:30 - 7:00 pm	8 PD day (no school for students)	9	
10	11	12	13	14	15 Christmas caroling at nursing home (pm)	16	
17	18	19	20	21 Christmas concert am & pm	22 PJ day School Assembly (am)	23 Christmas holidays	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 Return to school Jan.8	
		Christmas holidays					