

# Grade One/Two Newsletter

**January 2020**

**Holy Family School**

**Mrs. Nadine Pavan**

Welcome to the New Year! 2020 promises to be a year full of learning, exploration, discovery and excitement for our Grade One and Two students.

In Language, our focus continues to be on developing strong basic reading and writing skills. In Reading, we will continue to explore oral Retells. It is an essential skill for students to be able to recall the events in order from short pieces of text that they have read independently. Soon, the Grade Two students will start to work on Written Retells, which combine both Reading and Writing Skills. In Writing, we will continue to expand student skills in using interesting words, and challenge students to use more interesting sentence structures, as well as continue to focus on using proper language conventions, such as capitals, periods and correct spelling of common words. We will also be investigating the features of non-fiction texts, such as the Table of Contents and Glossary.



In Math, we have focussed on linear measurement and will soon be having a short assessment on this work. One of the key ideas is “iterations”, where students use a tool such as a marker or metre stick, and align it end to end to count how many iterations are needed. Students also need to practice using their finger to “hold” the spot as they move their measurement tool. We have also explored how using a larger measurement tool will mean we need fewer iterations of that object. Concepts in Number Sense will continue to be explored. For the Grade 1 students, we will work on the anchors of 5 and 10, as well as addition to 20 using manipulatives such as Rekenreks and number lines, as well as beginning to commit these basic facts to memory. Grade 2 students continue to work on 2 digit addition, and will add subtraction as well.

In Social Studies, the Grade One students will explore Relationships, Rules and Responsibilities. To assist your child, you can discuss what responsibilities and rules you have at your home. The Grade Two students will learn about Traditions that are common to our Canadian culture as well as traditions unique to their own families.

In Religion, we will complete our Journey to Bethlehem by learning about the Epiphany and the visit of the Wise Men. We will also focus on the sacrament of Baptism. For the Grade One students, this is an introduction to the first Sacrament most of them have received. For the Grade 2 students, this will be a beginning step to working on the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Communion.



## Winter Weather

Please send your child with appropriate clothing for the weather. Students are strongly encouraged to wear all of their outdoor clothing when going outside, and are also responsible for keeping track of their own clothing when they come into the school. Parents can help by labelling their child's clothing, especially snow pants and mittens.

## Snow Rules

- No throwing snow.
- No kicking snow.
- No eating snow.
- No breaking what others students have built.



These are school rules as well as classroom rules. All snow rules are intended to keep all students safe on the playground. The students will be discussing these rules in the classroom.

## Report Cards

Report Cards will be coming home in February. Please remember that report cards are intended to capture a picture of your child's learning at this particular point in time. I encourage you to read your child's report card with them. Included in many subjects are suggestions or next steps that can help your child focus their learning goals for the next term. Formal interviews are not scheduled at this time; however, you can schedule an interview with me to discuss the report card if you so choose.



## First Reconciliation and First Communion

Please watch for information coming home regarding these two sacraments. The parent information meeting will be on Wednesday, March 4 2020, at Sacred Heart Church at 7 pm. All Grade Two students will prepare for the Sacraments here at school, and all students who are baptised are eligible to receive the Sacraments at church.

## Reading Buddies

The Grade 7/8 students continue to be wonderful buddies to our students. As well as weekly reading sessions, where the younger students read to their buddies, we have engaged in activities such as making Christmas decorations and games day. These encounters with older students help to foster a sense of community in our school, as well as provide opportunities to build relationships with a wider variety of students. Our students also enjoy the one-on-one time with an interested and engaged audience.

