



“Fall back” Into routine!



Mrs. Valiant's class

October 2015

Important dates to remember



October Birthdays



27 - Sasha

October 7th & 8th: Early
Dismissal Days @ 12:30pm
Open House/Interviews

October 9th: Implementation
Day (no classes)

October 12th: Thanksgiving
(no classes)



October 23rd: Professional
Development Day (no classes)

Classroom Routines and Procedures

It's hard to believe that September is gone and October is beginning! Where has the time gone? The students are adjusting to Full-Day Kindergarten! They are still a bit tired in the afternoons but that will get better as the year progresses. Routines are in place and friendships are being made. It is so much fun to watch all the growing that is taking place!

If you noticed, a Poetry Duotang showed up at your house this past Friday. The booklet will always be sent home at the end of every week. Please have your child read you the weekly rhyme or poem over the weekend and then send back the booklet on **Monday**. This is a fun way to begin a “home reading program”! In November, the Home Reading Program will begin.

A little reminder about snacks in the classroom...students are encouraged to bring a nutritious snack daily. Fruit, cut vegetables, cheese and crackers or yogurt are all excellent choices. However, since the students do not sit at their tables during snack and our time is very limited (10 minutes), I am asking that the students do not eat foods that require utensils or drink juice boxes as they often make a mess and/or students do not have enough time to finish in the allotted time. Please help us to provide a safe environment by discussing with your child our "no sharing food" rule and by not sending any food items which contain nuts or traces of nuts in the listed ingredients.

As we continue to work on our class rules and routines we are also starting to work with the following program: “Letters in our Name.” (A visual discrimination experience for beginning kindergarten). During the early part of the school year, it is important that children begin to recognize differences between letters. The following visual discrimination exercise encourages the child to look for letter differences without having to memorize each letter.

October 30th: Field Trip to Davison Orchards



Don't forget!



Students are reminded to bring in their completed Homework Calendar for the month of September. Keep up the good work!



Go Glenmore Grizzlies!

Order in which the letters are introduced:

-O----- X----- A----- B----- T----- C

-L----- R----- I----- S

-P----- N----- F----- E----- H

-D----- M----- K----- Z----- J

-Y----- W----- G----- Q----- U----- V

(This order was developed by Dr. John Manning, Univ. of Minn.)

One letter is introduced daily. The letter (both upper and lower case) is used in a sentence along with all of the students' names. The students then look for the "letter of the day" in the list of names. (Students quickly begin to read their classmates' names as well with this program!)

Note:

It is important to remember that at the end of this visual discrimination experience (which takes 26 school days to complete), the children are not expected to have mastered the name and sounds of the letters of the alphabet. Rather, the purpose of this activity is for students to be able to discriminate between all the letters in their own name.

We will then start our printing program called: "Handwriting Without Tears" and a more formal approach to learning the name and sound of the letters of the alphabet.

October Theme:

Autumn, Harvest and Hallowe'en

We will start our fall theme along with some fun Hallowe'en activities prior to the end of October. Our themes for October will be autumn, harvest (Thanksgiving, apples and pumpkins) and Halloween.



In Math, we will continue to work with patterning and shapes. We are working with two colours creating an AB pattern, an AAB pattern and an ABB pattern. If you have time at home, it would be great if you could help your children look for patterns around the house, outside, etc. and try to create simple patterns. As well we will be working with our calendar-related activities (number recognition, predicting what comes next, counting forwards and backwards, associating numbers with quantities) and will be

doing some graphing, estimating and learning to print numbers to 5.

A Couple of House-Keeping Items:

- Shortly, I will be sending home a separate sheet of names and phone numbers for your future reference. This will help in organizing “play dates” and is also handy when inviting classmates to birthday parties. **Please do not send invitations to class unless you plan to invite everyone.**
- I have also sent the October Homework Calendar. If your child is partaking in the homework challenge, please check off each day and have him/her return it to school the last day of the month (please put name on the calendar). Children that bring back their checked off homework calendars will get a treat from the treasure chest!
- I ask that each student has a change of clothes kept at school so if there is an accident or they get wet/dirty from playing outside they have something clean to change into. The change of clothes can be kept in a large ziplock with their name printed on the outside. These bags will then be kept in their bins with their inside shoes.

Upcoming Field Trip: Davison Orchards

Mark your calendars for our first field trip on **October 30th**! I will send home more information as the date approaches. There will be a



permission slip to sign. I will be looking for parent volunteers to accompany us, so please let me know if you are interested and don't forget to complete your Criminal Record Check.

Reminder about Weekly Events

- **Library** - Tuesday

We enjoy story time and a book exchange with Mr. Obst, our librarian, every **Tuesday**. Please ensure that books are returned with your child on or before each Tuesday, inside the plastic book bags supplied by the library.

Please enjoy the books at home for the week and return on Tuesday. If your child forgets to bring back his / her

book on Tuesday, he / she will be allowed to look at books in the library, but not check out until the previous book is returned.

- **Gym** - Tuesdays and Fridays

Please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for active play. Indoor shoes (**please no laces**) will be kept in the classroom. Please clearly label each shoe.

- **Show & Tell** - Daily

Please don't forget to help your child make an All About Me Scrapbook! The rotation has started. If you are unsure of your child's Show & Tell date, please refer to the Show & Tell tab on the website.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at school: 250-870-5136, before or after school.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Valiant

