



# September Newsletter 2T and 2B

September 5<sup>th</sup> 2012

## Welcome, Everyone!!

Mrs. Trevors and I are really looking forward to working with you and your child in the coming months; together, we can make this a most successful and happy year for all of the children in 2T and 2B!! Please join us downstairs in the computer lab for "Meet the Teacher" night on Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M. At this time, we will review curricular expectations and will be happy to address any questions or concerns that you might have.

Welcome to 2T and 2B, everyone; welcome to the team!! ☺

## Math Makes Sense

We are beginning our unit on patterning. You can help your child at home by doing with them some of the following activities, as suggested in the "Math Makes Sense" teachers' guide:

- With your child, look around your home for patterns. Ask your child to draw a picture to represent each pattern.
- Have your child use spoons (large and small) to make a pattern two different ways. Ask: "How are the patterns the same? How are they different?"
- Make a pattern (plate, spoon, mug, spoon) and repeat the core three times. Remove some items and ask your child, "What's missing?" Then ask, "Where does the next spoon go?"
- Look around your home with your child for patterns. Ask your child, "Is this an increasing pattern? Why or why not?"
- Ask your child, "How many socks would we need for everyone in our family?" Then collect a pair of socks for everyone and count the socks.
- With your child, make an increasing pattern using crayons, markers, stickers, pencils, or other favourite objects. Change the order of the objects and make another pattern.

## Websites of the Month

Check out the following:

<http://www.kidsknowit.com>

<http://www.bestapples.com/kids>

<http://www.autumn-orm.org>

## Reading and Writing in Grade Two

### PROVINCIAL ASSESSMENTS @ GRADE TWO:

- Students in grade two write provincial literacy assessments in late May/early June.
- They are tested on reading comprehension and writing.
- Students are expected to be reading at an instructional level of at least M by the end of grade two.
- In order to achieve acceptable on the writing portion, students must score acceptable or better in each of the following areas (the "traits"): word choice; ideas/content; conventions; sentence fluency; organization.
- Parents receive the results of the assessment in the fall of grade three.

### FAST FORWARD:

- All grade two students participate in the Fast ForWord computer program, a district-wide initiative.
- The program lasts for approximately 12 weeks.
- Because the program is self-paced, the children move on to more challenging work when the computer indicates that they are ready to do so.
- We will begin soon, once all students are registered, with a run-through of the exercises on the Smart Board.
- The children work on individual computers on such things as spelling, reading comprehension, reading fluency, etc.

### SPELLING:

- Spelling sheets enclosed in the homework book will include the Spelling lists for four consecutive weeks.
- The regular list words comprise an extensive list known as the "No Excuse" words, which grade two students are expected to spell automatically.
- The "Bonus List" words are intended to provide a greater challenge for those who are ready.
- Each Friday, the students will be tested on the weekly words and the results will be sent home at the beginning of the following week for parents to see and sign.

## A Bit of Humour:

Q. What object is king of the classroom?

A. The ruler!

Q. What did the pencil sharpener say to the pencil?

A. Stop going in circles and get to the point!

Q. What do librarians take with them when they go fishing?

A. Bookworms!

Q. Why did the teacher wear sunglasses?

A. Because her class was so bright!