

La gazette de l'ère année

École Brooklin Village

Issue #5

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What's New:

Happy New Year 2019!



Welcome back! I hope you had a safe and restful holiday with family and friends. Although we have had a gentle beginning to the winter season, winter brings brisk weather and snow. Nevertheless, we continue to enjoy time outdoors, therefore we encourage parents to send students to school with warm boots to keep feet cozy and dry. Mittens, hats, and snow-pants will also ensure that your child is comfortable when going outside at recess and for outdoor gym. Students require appropriate clothing for active participation in the program. In addition, it would be a good idea to send an extra pair of mittens and socks in case they get wet. Please be sure to label all clothing in order to help identify misplaced items.

If you send snow-pants for your child, we will expect that your child wears them at each recess. If your child is allowed to choose whether or not he/she wears the snow-pants, please indicate this in writing through the student agenda.

Just a quick reminder that your child's shoes were sent home during the holidays. **Please ensure that your child has brought indoor shoes back to school** that are comfortable, easily fastened, and appropriate for gym.

In Each Subject

Language:



Beginning in January, students will be expected to use only French to communicate in the classroom. While it may seem at first a daunting task, students have acquired a great deal of vocabulary during the first term to express their needs effectively. The more they use the language, the more they will become confident and fluent speakers. To help support students in confidently using all known vocabulary, we have been celebrating French speaking efforts through our "**Je parle en français!**" tickets. Students collect tickets for French sentences they speak without my verbal assistance. Prior to the holiday break, they were encouraged by their peers to speak consistently in French and were trying to maintain as many of their 5 daily cubes as possible. If they succeeded in maintaining at least 1 cube for the entire day, they received a ticket to enter in our weekly prize draw. While we will no longer be using the cubes by the end of this month, students will still receive tickets for their French speaking efforts. At the end of each week, a number of tickets are drawn and students are invited to select a prize from our prize bin. Many of our students have been working hard to speak in French since the progress report in November!

Calendar Leader:

This month, students will begin leading the calendar and describing the weather each day. Calendar Leaders will be required to ask and answer questions related to the date, number of school days, and weather. For the date in which your child will lead the calendar, please refer to the classroom Monthly Calendar on reverse of each month's Newsletter or posted on the classroom website.

Home Reading Program:



Students are encouraged to continue bringing in their books to exchange as soon as they are able to read them fluently. When a home reading book is considered fluent, please initial the title on the classroom **Je peux lire!!! Reading Tracker Sheet** and return the book and sheet to school in order to present it to your child's teacher. If a particular text is providing some challenges, please do not hesitate to send it back in order to review it with the teacher or a reading buddy. While I will make every effort to exchange books frequently, sometimes there are many eager readers that return their books and I am unable to get to everyone every day. I will attempt to conference with students as often as possible in order to keep them progressing quickly through the literature.

Be sure to also regularly visit the **Je lis, je lis littérature website** to log reading progress. When a book has been explored at least 3 times and can be read fluently, be sure to click the green button at the end of the text to record reading achievement. This site is a fabulous reading resource that includes links to many digital books that have audio support to assist student in developing reading fluency. However, regular usage is imperative for our school to justify purchasing an annual licence to this in the future.

Many books are available in audio format to support your child's reading acquisition. Please be reminded that you can access the **Reading A-Z** audio files at:

www.mmewitzel.ca

For **Étincelle books**, please refer to the audio support at:

<http://www.duvaleducation.com/fr/ressources-francais/litteratie-1/etincelle-5/>

Tumble Books can be accessed at:

<http://www.tumblebooks.com/talkingbooks>

Mathematics:



For the next few days, we will concentrate on linear measurement skills, prior to continuing with numeration concepts involving addition and subtraction strategies. Students have been exploring non-standard measurement units (such as paper clips, shoes, hands, linking cubes, etc.) in order to evaluate the relative size of a variety of objects.

Science:

We are wrapping up our Life Systems unit by exploring the Five Senses. Senses are important for living things to explore their environment and meet their needs in order to successfully sustain life. Following discussions of the five senses, we will then begin exploring Matter and Materials as we extend our understanding of the needs of living things and how humans and animals transform materials into objects that serve a purpose.

Social Studies:



Students will learn about buildings in the community, the people who work in them and the responsibilities of these community workers.

As they work towards building their understanding of their local environment, the students will acquire vocabulary in preparation for map-making in the next term.

