

La gazette de 1^{ère} année

École Brooklin Village - Salle 202

Welcome Issue

Written by Mme Janice Witzel

August 2018

Welcome to French Immersion!

My name is Janice Witzel and I will be your child's Grade One French Immersion teacher this year. For those of you whose children I did not have the pleasure of teaching in previous years, please feel free to get to know me further by viewing my autobiography listed on my classroom website. A few highlights are listed here to give you a flavour of who I am. I am originally from a small village near Ottawa. Following my post-secondary education at Brock University, I moved to the Durham Region with my husband and now have three young girls whose passions are dance, music, art, and swimming. I greatly enjoy the richness and diversity that this community has to offer and I am proud to contribute to the language opportunities of Brooklin Village's young learners.

If you wish to know even more about me, please view my autobiography by clicking on "About Mme Witzel" on my website. You will also find a wealth of useful resources that will support your journey in French this year with your child.

www.mmewitzel.ca

In the meantime, here are a few items that you may wish to know in order to prepare for the upcoming school year.

What to Bring on the First Day?

- **knapsack** – comfortably large enough to hold a full lunch, a water bottle, and the school agenda
- **Indoor shoes** – must have non-marking soles; you are encouraged to choose a pair that can be worn to gym; children should select shoes with fasteners that they are able to fasten independently
- **Outdoor Shoes** – must have a heel-strap (thongs and flip-flops are not permitted); you are encouraged to choose a pair that can be worn to participate in Outdoor Phys Ed activities
- **Litterless Lunch** – consisting of a reusable lunch bag and reusable containers; two healthy, peanut-free snacks and a lunch are strongly encouraged – the active mind is fuelled by nutritious foods and rich experiences
- **Water Bottle** – students are encouraged to bring a reusable water bottle each day to use in the classroom; to prevent spills, bottles with flip or pull spouts are preferred to those that must be screwed shut
- **Spare Clothing** – students inevitably have spills, get messy, or have accidents so a full change of clothing placed in a large zip-lock bag can save you driving to school to rescue a soiled child

□ **Art Smock** – I love art and enjoy challenging students to create projects involving a variety of media. An oversized shirt or an art apron can save you some annoying laundry when paint or glue don't quite make it to the art project

□ **A 1st Day Note** – take a moment to write down your child's first day transportation routine. Students are encouraged to use the bus right away if possible, but if your first day pick-up will be a little different, please write down the changes in order to help your child and I get him/her to the right place. **Reminder, please note that school dismisses at regular time on the first day (3:30pm).** If your child has any allergies or medical concerns, please also speak to me on the first day to ensure that your child receives the required care in order to support his/her needs.

Other Suggested Items:

While the following are not mandatory, personal materials can reduce the spread of germs and help to keep everyone healthy and happy. Here are a few suggestions.

- **Pencil Case** (un étui) – large enough to hold the following:
 - **Pencils** (des crayons)
 - **Pencil Sharpener** (un taille-crayon)
 - **Eraser** (une gomme à effacer)
 - **Coloured Pencils** (des crayons de couleurs)
 - **Crayons** (des crayons de cires)
 - **Scissors** (des ciseaux)
 - **Glue Stick** (un bâton de colle)

It is recommended that you label all items with your child's name in order to help identify the owner of any stray belongings.

A Few Classroom Wish List Items:

- **Pick a Size Paper Towels & Liquid Hand Soap** – unlike kindergarten, our classroom is located further from the washrooms so regularly washing our hands in our classroom helps to save time and keeps us all healthy
- **Kleenex** – no tissues containing Shea lotion please as this is considered a tree nut allergen
- **Non-Edible Incentives** – I encourage students to use French as soon as possible and in order to reward their efforts we have a prize bin that they can select items from!

I look forward to meeting you soon! Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at 905-655-8959.

**À bientôt
Janice Witzel**

