

## GRADE ONE SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Grade One Students:

Welcome to Grade One at Ancaster Meadow School!

Items for next week:

- \* Complete and return Ancaster Fair trip forms (coming home next week)
- \* Meet the Teach Night on Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup>
- \* Please send in an old shirt to be used for painting

PHYSICAL EDUCATION--We will have Gym every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Please dress comfortably on these days. The girls are asked to not wear a dress on these days. **ALL CHILDREN MUST WEAR RUNNING SHOES DURING GYM CLASS.**

INDOOR SHOES--Your child is encouraged to keep a pair of runners at school, especially during mud and snow weather. For safety reasons, children must have shoes on at all times while they are at school.

READING--The reading program in September will be a review of the alphabet, phonics, sight vocabulary (popcorn words) and pattern books. This will allow us time to evaluate the reading ability of each child and will form the basis of our reading program.

WRITING--On Fridays, we will complete a Special Friday Journal entry. The children will bring home their journals for the weekend to share with family members. Please feel free to comment in the journal about what is printed or illustrated, but do not work on any other pages. The journals are to be returned on Mondays.

CHIME IN--Each Thursday the children will bring home this poetry book to read to you. Feel free to comment on their reading at the bottom of the page and initial that the selection has been read. You may also wish to practice previous poems together. Chime In books are to be returned on Fridays.

HOMEWORK--Each night your child should read to you/or listen to a story--this is crucial to their reading development. We will develop homework activities that will be written in the Agenda. The homework will have been explained and practiced at school. Your child should be able to explain the activity to you. The homework should not take more than five to ten minutes. Also, if homework cannot be completed on the given night, use the

weekend or another time when you and your child can relax and enjoy the activity.

**ORAL LANGUAGE**--The children will have an opportunity to develop their speaking skills during "Sharing Time." Each week the children will be asked to bring in a specific object to discuss in class to help us to get to know him/her better. Please do not send in breakable items, or items with strong emotional attachment, as sometimes accidents happen. Please label anything you send in with your child's name. September's topic is "Favourite Things". Please help your child to think about what he/she has chosen the item to be shared, as this is an important part of our Language and Homework assessment.

Sept. 10-14: Free Choice

Sept. 17-21: Favourite Toy (must be no bigger than their backpack)

Sept. 24-28: Favourite Book

Oct. 1-5: Favourite Outfit (a picture in sports uniform, special occasion)

**FRIDGE LIST:** Every Tuesday, we will be sending home a fridge list. On this list will be the word family that we are studying. This list will help the children with both spelling and reading. Please place this list on the fridge and have your child read and spell the words to you. By the end of the year, your child will be able to read and spell 500 words!

**SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB**--Each month your child will receive a flyer from Scholastic. If you wish to place an order, please return the form and your cheque (**made out to Scholastic Book Club**) by the return date. Please note that there may be different money amounts for different provinces; be sure to remit the cost for Ontario orders.

**PARENT VOLUNTEERS**--If you are able to help out in the classroom on a weekly basis, please send a note with your child. We will get back to you by the end of September. Thanks--volunteers are a very important part of our program. Many volunteers already have a police check on file at the office. If you are interested in volunteering in the classroom and on class trips, it is of benefit to both you and the teachers to have a police check completed. Stop in at the office to pick up them forms from the office staff.

**NEWSLETTERS**--Just a reminder to let us know if you do not have computer access and will need a hard copy of the monthly class newsletter starting in October. \*\*If you are new to the school, or if there is a change from last year, please send in your email address as soon as possible.

**\*\*\*\*\* DUE TO THE NUMBER OF PEANUT AND OTHER FOOD ALLERGIES IN THE GRADE ONE CLASSES THIS YEAR, PLEASE DO NOT SEND ANY FOOD TREATS TO SCHOOL.** Thank you very much for your co-operation in this very important matter.

Thank you for all of the encouragement and co-operation that we have received so far!  
This will be a very exciting year and we are happy to be spending time with your children.  
See you at the "Meet the Staff" on Thursday, September 20th!