

# November



Dear Families,

A big thank you goes out to our families who supplied all of our boxes for building our community! We had enough for everyone to use what they had plans for! That makes everyone happy! We have already started our Changing Seasons unit in Science.

The list of things that we have added to our routines and to our brains continues to grow daily. We have learned a bunch of new Reading Strategies and have practiced them together as we do Shared Reading with our Morning Messages, Poems and practice reading on the Smart Board. Please ask your child about....Eagle Eye! S-t-r-e-t-c-h-y Snake! Flippy Dolphin and Lips the Fish!

Our Guided Reading is going well. I am trying my hardest to teach reading in a small groups and individualized conferences. This bunch of kids want to read soooooooooooooo badly!! I'm so excited! Be sure that you are helping out by completing your child's Home Reading nightly. To be a reader, you have to read. Once your child fills their reading chart – they get to pick a pretty awesome prize. We will have someone get their first prize this week! Thanks for your support with this at home! If reading is not going well at home – please call me ASAP!

I just finished writing our Progress Reports. I am a pretty proud teacher – we have had some pretty steady growth made so far this year! I can't wait to talk to you about it at our upcoming Interviews.

Here are a few reminders (and my opinions) about Progress Reports:

1. **EVERYONE has made PROGRESS!!!** I just (unfortunately) had to sort students into Progressing Very Well, Progressing Well and Progressing with Difficulty.
2. **If your child has earned a Progressing Well.....it covers A LOT of ground.** By the time Report Cards come along – they could be earning an 'A', 'B' or 'C'. (I'll talk more about the grades in January – or.....please ask me at your child's interview! One tip: Our goal for the year is a letter grade - 'B'. That means your child is meeting Province-Wide Expectations. A 'C' means that they are pretty close!)
3. **If your child has earned a Progressing with Difficulty.....**I want to promise you that the word Progressing is **STILL** in there!!!! **There has still been growth!!!!** There may just be a lot of help from the teacher involved or maybe they just need a bit more time to reach the milestones for each month.
4. **A LOT of PEOPLE want the 3:30 & 6:00 time slot for an interview on the Thursday.** (And I have not cloned myself yet.☺) If you are not happy with the interview time that comes home – please drop me a note. I'm pretty flexible. I can usually meet right after school – or even before school the week following Interview Night.
5. **I am a truth teller.** I have to be. You would hate me if your child was struggling with something big when they got to Grade 3 and I didn't tell you about it when it was happening in Grade 1. I try to be gentle - and I'm always here to support everyone.

Thanks for reading!!!! Mrs. Metcalfe ☺

**P.S.If you happen to have any old and unused colouring books at home that you'd like to get rid of – please send them into us. I have a very limited photocopy budget this year – and we need to practice our fine-motor and colouring skills. We will cut them apart and put them in our craft centre. Thanks! Our co-op student Olivia can even sort through books that are half complete. Send them on in if you're cleaning junk out!**