

James Hillier Public School

Grade 5 News

January 2020

Ms. Clarke



Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday. Just want to share my gratitude for the gifts I received in December. Thank you very much for your kind words and generosity.

In Literacy this month, students will be developing their listening comprehension skills, making inferences about oral texts, identifying the point of view presented in a text, identifying a missing point of view and suggesting a possible alternative point of view. Students will continue to develop their writing skills by using figurative language, varying their sentence types and making revisions to improve their work. While reading, they are encouraged to use a variety of reading comprehension strategies to ensure understanding. Students will be developing media texts to persuade someone to conserve energy/electricity.

In math, we are beginning a new unit on Patterning and Algebra. Students will be learning about growing and shrinking patterns (e.g., start at 5 and add 7 each time), representing simple geometric patterns, investigating the inverse relationship between adding and subtracting, as well as multiplying and dividing, using a table of values to describe patterns and developing and interpreting line graphs.

Students will be starting a Science unit on Energy. They will be learning about energy sources, impacts of energy use and conservation. The final task for this unit is to create a Rube Goldberg machine. The point of a Rube Goldberg machine is to do a simple task in a complicated way. Some examples are put a marble in a cup, water a plant, shut a door, turn something on or off (e.g., a light, or radio), ring a bell, sort coins, pop a balloon.

The Rube Goldberg machine should have at least 5 steps. Once you have started your machine, (e.g., placing a ball on the top of a ramp) it should be able to complete the task independently, without your help. You can make it as easy or as complex as you want. **Here is a list of possible materials you might want to start collecting for your machine:** cans, cups, straws, books, balls (ping pong, tennis, golf, other) twine, thick string, toy cars, toy car tracks, game pieces (i.e., Mouse Trap), rubber bands, wooden train track, plastic spoons, dowels, pipe cleaners, marbles and marble run tracks, craft sticks, wooden clothespins, thread spools, aluminum foil, wax paper, wooden blocks, pull back toys, walking toys, motorized toys, pulleys, tape, scissors. Due date: January 31st. Students will have time to work on their project at school.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Book Order due- 17th

P. A. Day- 20th

Assembly 22nd

Skating – 30th (12:15-2:15)

Science project due- 31st.

At any time, please contact me with any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

M. Clarke