
March News

La classe de Mme Pamela



Dear parents,



It's almost that time of year again... report card time. That means that over the next few weeks, we will once again be finishing up our units and assessing your child's progress. It's a busy time of year, with lots going on, so please take some time to read about some of our upcoming events.



Our **Building Things** unit in Science continues. So far we've built a variety of things and we've had a lot of fun! Thank-you for all of the materials that you have provided for the class. Please continue to send in your recyclables for the next couple of weeks.

Bricks for Kidz!

As part of our **Building Things** unit in Science, the grade ones will be participating in a Bricks for Kidz workshop on Tuesday, March 13th. During the workshop, the students will have the opportunity to build two motorized models out of LEGO. More information regarding this workshop can be found on the permission slip that was sent home today.

Numbers to 100

In Math, we are continuing to work on our numbers up to 100. Recently, we have been learning how to count large sets of items in a variety of ways: by 1s (up to 100), by 2s (up to 20), and by 5s & 10s (up to 100). Please be sure that your child can recite the proper number sequence when skip counting and that he/she understands how and when to properly use skip counting to determine the number of items in a set.

In this unit, we have also been working on identifying and representing numbers to 100 symbolically. This can often be a bit of a challenge, as the numbers from 60-100 are especially tricky in French. Luckily, there is an excellent game on our classroom website that can be used to practice those numbers. The game is called 'La Planète des chiffres'. Please note that this game only works on laptops and some desktop computers. We also use a really great app in class. It's called *Blips! Intégral!*; however, it's not free...



Reading Comprehension



I am so proud of the progress that the student's have made with regards to their reading this year. They sure have come a long way since the beginning of September, when most of them could barely read at all. Now that they're reading books, which are getting longer and more complex, it is important to ensure that your child is comprehending what he/she is reading.

Many parents often assume that if their child can read a book, that he/she can understand it. However, that is not always the case. It is not uncommon for children to 'word read', meaning that they are just reading the words on the page, without actually thinking about the meaning of the text.

To ensure that your child is able to understand the books that he/she is reading, I would encourage you to ask your child questions about the text after each reading. Your child should be able to retell the main events of the story in his/her own words, as well as answer specific questions relating to the text. If you find that your child is having difficulty recalling details about the text or retelling what he/she has read, please encourage him/her to go back and reread. You may also want to stop after each page or

paragraph to check and see if your child has understood what he/she has read thus far, before continuing on.

Please note that students can only move up a reading level if they can demonstrate an understanding of what they have read. If you would like more information regarding how you can help your child improve his/her reading comprehension, please feel free to contact me.

French Reading

This is the time of year when the students' French reading really starts to take off. Hopefully, your child has already started to bring home leveled French books from the class. Most of these books should be simple enough for your child to read on his/her own or with limited assistance. Don't worry if you can't read or understand the books yourself, just sitting and listening to your child read in French can be a big help. If you find that your child is getting stuck on words, remind him/her to use his/her strategies. Most of the strategies that we use are the same in English and in French, so you can use your child's reading strategies bookmark to help. Remember, French is very phonetic, so when in doubt, ask your child to look for French combos and then sound the word out.

