

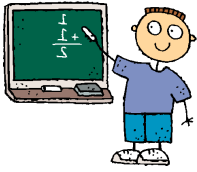
1P Homework

I truly value the support you as parents do at home with your child. I also believe that your role is important to reinforce reading and math, not only does it help to supplement your child's educational progress but you also gain an insight into your child's abilities and what areas s/he finds rewarding and/or challenging. However, I believe in the holistic approach to a child's education and understand that home extra-curricular activities are beneficial to further create a rounded individual. Therefore, we need to have a balance for your child and for you as parents.



Reading

Reading is so important at this young age, and this has to be a key focus. Read at least five times a week 5-10 minutes a day. Parent Readers are to listen to your child usually on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. If your child is familiar with the book the parent will swap for another. Refer to the reading duotang for more information. Additional relevant information will be added during the year. Please also review the current sight words when you can. See information on these on my website. New this year is Raz-Kids. It is recommended that you only read ONE book per night. It is NOT in your child's best interest to plough through. Your child will be allocated an assignment and this will need to be completed by a set date. Your assistance will be required to help your child record their reading- **please** refrain from prompting your child, encourage them to use the strategies. Then await a message from myself. I may change your child's reading level based on class reading observation, sight words and BM Benchmark assessments to find their "Good Fit Book". Please be patience as this can take a little while to establish.



Math

At the beginning of each math unit an outline will be forwarded. This sheet will provide suggestions as to what you may wish to do with your child. These complimentary activities are intended to be fun and easy to do.

To support addition and subtraction of facts to 20 you may wish to play card games. Remove the face cards (King, Queen etc) and play "Addition/Subtraction Challenge". Set the rules beforehand; decide if lower or upper score wins. Deal out two cards per player. Give your child "Time or Coaching" to use strategies (See Math Top Tips- my website). Use the suit counters on the card to add. When subtracting, the lower card value subtracts. Use the following visual tip to help:- If you have 10 of Diamonds and 4 Spades, the 4 card is turned over and covers/blanks out 4 Diamonds on the 10 card, leaving 6 visible Diamonds!

For extra challenge if your child has instant recall, you could add a third card (three addends). In subtraction, add two cards and minus the third card. Dominoes can be substituted for the cards. These are simple, fun and educational games that can be played awaiting a meal in a restaurant etc. Play by the rules, promote and model being a "Good Sport", children need to learn to be both a good loser as well as a good winner.



Spelling There is no weekly spelling test- YEH!!!! However, the students review five high frequency words each week and work daily on their spelling development through "Word Work" activities in the Daily 5 program. I believe that spelling skills are fostered best by developing spelling strategy through direct teaching of word families, analogies, meanings, and encoding and frequent implementation into meaningful writing but also through a variety of fun and stimulating activities. A non-quizzing approach focuses more on a problem solving activity than short-term memorization.

Weekly spelling tests are not a requirement on the Alberta Provincial Curriculum for Grade One English Language Arts. The specific outcomes are to encourage students to check for obvious spelling errors and missing words

within their writing; to identify and use an increasing number of words and phrases related to personal interests and topics of study; and to experiment with letters, sounds, words and word patterns to learn new words.

If you wish to support your child with spelling development a list of words can also be found under spelling. There you will also find some useful learning strategies.



Writing- hopefully during the year you will see your child at home naturally engaging in writing activities as their skill and knowledge increases. Writing may take the form of shopping lists, recipes, writing simple stories etc. If this occurs please encourage and send into school and your child can read out-loud during “Authors Chair”- a favourite activity! There is no designated homework schedule for this.

Hope you find this both informative and reassuring.

Best Regards

Jacqui Pryor