

January 23, 2023

In the last school I worked at we owned and operated our own school buses. That meant that, among other things, the decision whether to cancel school for inclement weather landed on me. I did not enjoy that part of my job. One advantage I had was that I lived in the city and most of our buses ran within the city limits. On potential snow days, I remember waking up early, turning on the television, checking my computer, and calling a few people to hear their thoughts on the weather conditions. On mornings with a significant snowfall the previous evening, it was easy. On mornings with a storm happening right then and predicted to continue, it was easy. On mornings when we were dealing with a storm that was predicted to come in during the day, it was far more difficult. I remember getting a few of those decisions correct, and I remember getting a few of them wrong.

Last week, we had two of those difficult situations of determining whether to run the buses on days where predicted weather indicated it would be unsafe. Sometimes the predictions actually happen and sometimes they don't. Given the large geographical area we cover with our buses, sometimes it happens in some areas and not in others. To be honest, I am thankful that Newry Bus Lines is making those decisions. They work with a variety of companies and collectively make their decisions. The primary concern for them is student safety.

I think of decisions I make as a teacher. When I plan my classes, I assume that the students and learning environment will be a certain way. If that is all true, my plans work out. If that isn't in place, my plans and my teaching are not effective. The truth of it is, very few people will really know if my planning decisions were good or not.

Last week, I called John Chapman at Newry Bus Lines and encouraged him. They offer us great service with great bus drivers. Sure, he has to make decisions and those are very public and affect many people. Most often, they are good decisions but sometimes they don't quite work out as intended or planned. In those times, we offer them grace.

To our LCS family and supporting community: on behalf of Peter and myself- we would like to say a heartfelt thank-you! Your willingness to give freely of your time, make lunches for our children, and powerful prayers certainly lifted us up during those difficult times. It is greatly appreciated and we can't thank-you enough! God bless, Rastorfer Family

January Events

27- Skating



**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

Jan 25
Carson W

Jan 26
Kenzie T

Jan 26
Faith T

Jan 30
Trey VD

February Events

2- Hockey Tournament
17- PD Day, No School
20-Family Day

Junior Kindergarten- Mrs. Baarda

I missed seeing students last week! Hopefully the weather cooperates and we will have some school days for JK this week. So let's try this again!

We are doing some cool artwork in JK this week - painting with ice! We will also be playing penguin tag in the gym on Thursday. Our **focus letter** this week is Mm. We will learn the Jolly Phonics song for letter m and practice the sound as well as finding the upper and lowercase forms of Mm using our letter find page and activities "Mr. Moose's Menu" and "Many Moons".

In our **workbooks**, we will do some colouring, printing the letter U, and meeting Magic C Bunny when we learn to print letter C.

In **math**, we will be exploring size and talk about taller and shorter.

In **Bible**, we will read about Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and we will also learn about Daniel.

Just a reminder that Tuesday is library day. Please remember to send in books from last week.

Report Cards: First report cards for JK are scheduled to go out next week. This week I will be doing some assessments as I prepare to write report cards.

Senior Kindergarten- Mrs. Heida

Thank you to all the parents who helped out with skating on Friday. So amazing to have so much help! This week is our last week of skating. So please remember your skates, helmets, and mittens again for Friday. Please feel free to join us and see the amazing improvements your child has made. So many of the kids can skate.

This week our focus letter will be Kk. We will be reviewing letter Ll by the following students bringing in show and tell items.

Monday: Delaney, Boston and Seth

Tuesday: Charity, Hailey and Emily

Thursday: Ruby, Bryer and Kyla

Friday: Faith, Isaac and Jazlyn

We continue to work on identifying words that rhyme and the number of syllables per word. We are rhyming with the “am” ending and the “at” ending.

We have been reading the following words: I, a, like, Sam.

In **math**, we are printing numbers 6 to 10, learning the teen numbers, counting to forty and using strategies for counting out objects.

This week, we will learn about polar bears and create a polar bear craft.

In **Bible**, we will learn how God provided food and drink for the Israelites while in the desert and rules to live by, the 10 commandments.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at m.heida@listowelchristianschool.ca or text me at 519-492-2981.

Have a great week!

Grade 1 - Mrs. Dykstra

I'm so grateful to be back with students. Thank you to our guest teachers for filling the gap. Thanks for your prayers that I could feel better. Things are slowly improving for me. Praise the Lord. How can I pray for you this week? Please let me know if there is something specific to offer up in prayer for you or your family.

Last week left gaps, so let's try our plans again this week!

Bible: God has not abandoned Joseph! As we study the next stories of Joseph, pray that we may notice that, despite the trials Joseph faced, God was with him - just like us.

We are learning Psalm 100 as our memory words. We practice daily in class; this is a longer piece so practice at home may help. Video was posted on Seesaw as well.

Math: We continue with geometry. Students will compose and decompose shapes; after that, we take time for counting to 100, with a focus on 10s.

Phonics: introduction of the ng digraph. The ng sound is also known as the ringing sound. To voice this sound: the back of the tongue is up; voices on, noses tickle.

Spelling words: NG digraph words. Here are the words: bang, flung, sang, stung, bring, king, ring, sing, swing, dong, song, lung, strong. Show what you know for these words will be on Friday, January 21.

Heart word study: about, would

Creation Studies: We had one lesson on roles and responsibilities this past week. This week, we will look at the different roles we can have in groups we belong to. We can belong to different groups at the same time. We make a “me” puppet, along with our family as puppets too. We will begin our family crest, seeing ourselves as belonging in different places. Best of all, we talk about how we belong in God's family!

Writing: Our writing is family focused; using our homework pages, we will rewrite our basic family story. From there we will try our hand at writing some sentences.

French: families; we focus on vocabulary in our lessons.

Read Aloud: We will continue on with Flat Stanley books. Soon our exciting project will be revealed!

Art: We are trying our hand at Wassily Kandinsky inspired heart art; hopefully we like our collaborative art enough to share in the Communicator.

Grade 2- Mrs. Grundlingh

Math: We are still working on shapes this week.

Writing: We continue our narrative writing that we started last week.

Spelling & phonics: This week we will work on final blends.

Reading: This week we will still be reading familiar fairy tales. We will be using them to discuss characters, settings and events to help inspire our own narrative writing process.

We are also working on explicit and systematic decodable passages in our class.

Library: Tuesdays is our library day! Please remind your children to pack their library books in their backpacks tonight.

Announcements

Upcoming Pizza Days

Wed. Feb 1: New Orleans Pizza

Wed. Feb 15: Domino's Pizza

Skating

Last week of skating:

Friday January 27, we will be going skating at the Steve Kerr Arena again. The

hockey team will practice from 12:00 – 1:00. Students from grades 4-8 will skate from 1:00 – 2:00 and students from SK – grade 3 will skate from 2:00 – 3:00. All parents are invited to join us, and it would be very helpful to have some extra hands for skate tying!

A reminder that all students must have a helmet and mittens/gloves in order to be on the ice surface. We require all adults also **wear helmets** when on the ice surface, regardless of your own confidence in your own skating ability.

Battle of the Books

The JUNIOR team will be meeting every WEDNESDAY at SNACK RECESS. Students need to keep reading and studying questions for the books printed in their duotangs.

Grade 2- Mrs. Koersen

Last week of skating! We are so thankful for parents that have come and will come to tie skates! There is also an assembly Friday morning - all are welcome to attend.

Here's hoping I get to see the students Thursday AND Friday this week as we work at the following:

Bible: Last week, memory work verses went home. This will take us into mid to late February. We continue to learn about the Intertestamentary Times. Last week, we learned about Greek and Roman influences and this week we will look at different groups of people within Israel as they waited for the Messiah.

French: We missed last week - we will continue to work on our greetings and numbers.

Creation Studies: We are learning about everyday structures and objects and materials. We've been doing building centres and writing about what we've made. Pictures are posted to See-Saw - if you still need access let me know.

Health: I hope to start our first health unit in the coming weeks once skating is done.

Art: We will do some winter art to reflect the season and learn about cardinals and how to draw them.

Grade 3- Mrs. Claus

As we continue to carry on through January, I am reminded of God's goodness to us. Our class has been relatively healthy with most days including all of the class present. I am doing my best to focus on sharing God's love in our class, in our school, and in our community. I pray that the kids connect with this message and care for their peers.

Bible- Last week, we were unable to cover any lessons so we will start where we left off the week before last.

Math- Our mental math has switched from addition to subtraction. Take note of any Mad Minutes that come home.

Science- We are still on our exploration of space.

Language- Since we had 2 days off last week, I have postponed our spelling test to this week. Our words are:

crawl, chalk, growl, boy, spoil, mouth, caught, point, taught, draw, couch, stalk, drown, brought, cloud, gown, lawn, salt, haul, noise, joy, rough, fault, could

Health: I am still awaiting assignments from a few students. They were to journal something that made them happy each day for a week and note how they felt each day.

Grade 4 and 5 - Mrs. Delleman

Memory Work - 1 Corinthians 10:13b - "God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it." - due FRIDAY

Spelling - We will be working on different spelling teams this term. Below are the new team names and their spelling lists:

- Trio Spelling Team- price, drill, trap, pray, dress, tracks, prize, drip, tractor, pretzel, dream, triangle, dragon, truck, drive
- Dynamite Spellers - grew, truth, dune, trunk, chew, do, due, brush, glue, fume, junk, true, stuck, flew, stew, knew, crew, blew, dew
- Word Crushers - caught, paws, straw, fault, law, claw, sauce, taught, draw, laugh, haul, pause, song, frost, hawk, crawl, dawn, lawn, vault, shawl, cloth
- Spelling Chipmunks - doctor, spider, sugar, brother, collar, favor, solar, sister, silver, weather, error, mother, flower, father, mirror, under, rumor, motor, tractor, grammar, harbor

NEXT FRIDAY we will have a dictation where 10 words from each lists will be chosen. If you go to spellingcity.com/tdelleman, students will be able to access their lists and play games online using their words.

I Know It - due FRIDAY - "Basic Division with Remainders"

Grade 4/5 and 6 French- Ms. VanKampen:

The two inclement weather days of last week resulted in losing 2 of our 3 French classes. Thus, our current unit will require some additional time. As I shared last week, students have been responding to "Qu'est-ce que c'est?" [=What is it?] and soon I'm hoping to employ "Ou est _____?" [= Where is _____?] where students have to identify the location of a particular classroom object or that of a student using "dans/sous/sur/devant/derriere/à côté de" [=in/under/on top/in front/behind/beside]. In the meantime, this allows for developing an increased vocabulary, and ideally, recognizing what is being asked and then forming short, complete sentences in response.

Grade 5/6- Mr. Siebenga

Bible - As the line of Kings struggled to walk with the Lord, we come to Jeremiah the Prophet. As he is filled with doubt, and fear in these tasks laid out in front of him, may we all find strength in the working of the Lord in our lives, being witnesses to the story of Jeremiah.

Math - Grade 6 measurement tests were sent home, have a look. Make sure to check in with your students. A reminder, the students are working to accomplish one lesson's practice per day. If they need more time, and support, they can reach out, but more importantly, they can bring their books home to continue to work on them. Accountability is being responsible. The Grade 5 measurement test is on Wednesday. Measurement is followed by geometry and the measuring of angles.

Science - With last week's weather disturbances, we hope to get cracking with some energy sources. This quick review will lead to more practical conservation exercises, looking at how we turn on the lights, and what this convenience means for our planet. On Tuesday, Bostech will provide us with a demonstration of what Geothermal energy is, how it works, and how it can support the decarbonization of our planet.

Reading - This week, we will read and discuss chapters 13-14. Remember there is the internetarchive.org to support listening/reading along, as an option. A quiz was taken today to resync ourselves with the story's plot development. Literacy circles will continue to be utilized, as will regular comprehension questions

MAP tests this week and next.

Memory Work: Psalms 103:8-12 NLT

The Lord is compassionate and merciful, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. He will not constantly accuse us, nor remain angry forever. He does not punish us for all our sins; He does not deal harshly with us, as we deserve. For his unfailing love toward those who fear him is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth. He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west.

Have a wonderful week!

Grade 7/8 Science- Ms. VanKampen

Last week's inclement weather days resulted in a loss of both our science blocks; last week's plans to deal with the topic of Greenhouse Gases will wait until the week of January 30 th.

As this week's topic is "Heating the Home," we will receive a presentation and demonstration on Geothermal Energy/Heating from Mr. Arnold Bosman of *Bostech Mechanical*. This will use approximately half of our Tuesday science block. To continue on that thread, information on other methods of home heating will also be covered.

Grade 7/8- Mrs. Vogel

Bible - While we were going to have our test this coming Thursday, that will be postponed as we missed quite a lot of our Bible class time last week with the 2 ice days. The Bible test will now be Monday, January 30. Students have already received a review sheet that they can work from, study off of, and add to as we continue to finish the unit up this week. No memory work this week.

Art - Our 6 pointed, geometrically designed snowflakes are due on Wednesday, January 25.

Geography - We continue our current unit of study.

French - Students finished one half of our unit assessment last week and will be completing the final written assessment for the unit this week. This should all be done in class and/or at school.

Writing - We continue to work on formatting stories, proofreading marks, and being able to check for spelling, grammar, and word usage in given passages and sentences.

W.W.W. - Again, because of the ice days last week, Unit 10 will now be due this week Friday, along with the unit test.

Guided Reading - We were able to watch a video clip last week that helped students to see what crossing the Mediterranean Sea was like for many Syrian refugees like the character in our class novel study. We continue to read through our novel, answer questions, and have class discussions.

Healthy Living - Every student has been updated with what they need to finish for the Everfi unit before the end of February. We have started a badminton unit in Phys. Ed. for the next few weeks.

Grade 7/8 Math- Mr. Boelens

This week we will continue to work through our data management unit. Daily work will be assigned so make sure you are keeping up. Marked work should be coming home for parent signatures if it hasn't already been done.