



October Update...

Dear Parents:

By the end of this month the senior kindergarten class will have been to school for 21 days! During this time we have been busy learning classroom routines and learning how to work cooperatively with our friends. Our literacy work stations are well established. We have been reviewing the Jolly Phonics letter sounds and we have just started our "writer's workshop" sessions. Please be sure to ask your child what tools a writer uses and to ask him/her what we do during writer's workshop time!

As always, if you ever have any questions or concerns regarding your child or the kindergarten program please don't hesitate to call me at school or send an email or note.

Sincerely,

Mrs. J. Smith

More Information...

Halloween: We will be celebrating Halloween on Thursday, October 29th. Please send a costume on this day that your child can easily change into (no makeup please!). I will be providing some healthy "orange" drinks and snacks such as orange juice, carrots and cheese on this day. If you would like to send in some other healthy orange treats as well, that would be great! I would also like to carve pumpkins on this day but I will need more adult volunteers and some pumpkins to carve. If you are able to help in the morning of October 29th or donate a pumpkin please let me know as soon as possible.

Classroom Family Book: If you haven't already done so, please send a family photo to school with your child so that your family may be represented in our classroom family book. The students really enjoy this book. The picture does not need to be a formal family portrait. A snapshot of a sibling or a pet will do!

Indoor Shoes/ Outdoor clothing: This is just a reminder that students are required to have a pair of indoor shoes in order to keep our classroom clean and dry. Running shoes are preferred since they are needed in order to participate safely during physical education classes in the gym. It would also be a good idea to pack extra clothes that your child could keep in his/her backpack. Puddles have a way of attracting five year olds during recess time! Since we go outside each day please dress your child in outdoor clothing that is appropriate for the weather conditions of the day.

Learning Buddies: Our class has been paired with the grade 5 class for learning buddy time. Buddy learning sessions are held on Tuesdays. During this time the older buddies read to their younger buddies and assist them with other literacy related activities.

Kindergarten Webpage: I hope that you have been visiting the senior kindergarten webpage. I try to change things up at least once a month. I am hoping to post some student artwork soon. Students like to see themselves and show off their projects. Please note that I will never add a child's name to a photo or to a piece of work. You can access the kindergarten webpage through our school website- <http://clinton.hpcdsb.edu.on.ca>

Read Along Duotangs: Last week I gave your child a duotang of poems to take home. I explained to the students that this was a special "present" that would help them learn to read. Please help your child develop his/her literacy skills by reading the poems etc. found in this duotang on a regular basis. All poems will be ones that we have studied in class. Please remember that it is perfectly fine if your child is reading from memory! Please ensure that the duotang is returned to school each day so that we can read them at school and so that I can update them with new poems as needed.

Toys: We have lots of toys to play with in the kindergarten classroom. Please remind your child that toys from home should not be brought to school.

Library: Our class visits the school library every Thursday. Please ensure that your child returns his/her library book each week so that he/she may sign out a new book.

Staying Healthy: Thank you for keeping your child home from school if he/she is unwell. We wash our hands regularly in the kindergarten classroom and we have been practicing how to cough and sneeze into our arms in order to keep our germs to ourselves. Thanks to Joanne Smith (Colton's mom not me!), our classroom toys are washed on a regular basis.

