

January Newsletter

Bon retour, welcome back everyone!

I will like to take a moment to wish all of you a marvellous year filled with health and happiness.

The arrival of winter provides us with an opportunity to speak once again of seasons, winter sports and our famous Carnaval de Québec. The celebration of the winter festival or carnival in the francophone culture gives us the opportunity to go outside and have fun with the snow. Painting snow, making snowman (if we have good snow), an obstacle course, and more, and a special snack outside (hot chocolate) will be on the program Thursday January 17th (3 yr old classes) and 18th (4 yr old classes).

On academic side, for the red and blue classes, we will focus our efforts on knowing number 5 and letters with curves. In yellow and Green classes we will focus on counting to 10 and learning at least seven colors.

In the third and fourth weeks of January we will talk about dinosaurs and I am sure children will love it.

Important dates for this month:

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| <i>January 7th:</i> | <i>Welcome back - Have you filled a bucket today?</i> |
| | http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5wWMP8RI_SA |
| <i>January 10th and 11th:</i> | <i>White Day</i> |
| <i>January 15th and 16th:</i> | <i>Pyjama Day and Show n tell: Teddy bear</i> |
| <i>January 16th:</i> | <i>Start special project: Balou and Basile (4-only)</i> |
| <i>January 17th and 18th:</i> | <i>Québec Carnaval – going outside</i> |
| <i>January 25th:</i> | <i>Report Progress going home</i> |
| <i>February 1st:</i> | <i>No school – Parent Teacher Interview</i> |

Balou and Basile project: Both Red and Blue classes ONLY.

We will be having a visit from a very special friend. His name is Balou in the Red class and Basile in the Blue class; they will become an integral part of our routine. They will follow us everywhere. They will have a place at the table for crafts and snacks. In the second week of January both bears will start to make trips home with every child for a few days, from Wednesday to the following Monday.

You can take him anywhere and everywhere you would like during his stay with you. Please remember to return him to school on Monday when your turn is over so that he may go and visit another family the Wednesday after.

To document his special visit you can write down in his travel journal (notebook). Each student will have a chance to bring him home and they will be able to share their experience at circle time. His travelling pocket contains a pyjama, a blanket and a notebook.

This activity promotes literacy and language development by reading the illustrations. It provides the opportunity for students to practice responsibility in taking care of something and remembering to bring him back the following week.

Many previously books are on the entrance desk for your convenience to look at.

Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Mme Claudette