

November News

Another month gone! Where does the time go?! We had a fabulous and very busy October. Congratulations to **McKinley** and **Griffen** on their Mustang Rodeo Awards for their *proactive behaviour*. We also had a fun time at the Children's Safety Village where the students were able to use their knowledge from our social studies unit on Rules, Relationships and Responsibilities to answer questions and take part in dramatizations. They had a great time driving the jeeps and being locked in a jail cell! Don't forget to check out our pictures on the new "pictures" page. Also remember to check the website on a regular basis for updates and/or follow our page to be alerted of updates and changes.

In science we are continuing to investigate the needs of living things and even growing a pumpkin!

If you are interested in volunteering, please send me a message in your child's agenda. We would love your help. If you are unable to help *in* the class but would like to volunteer in some context, let me know and we can arrange something!

Literacy

Reading: We are working on our comprehension skills through retelling the stories we read or listen to. We will also be focusing on the author's main idea.

Writing: We will be thinking "big" now! Towards the end of October we started creating mind maps to help us think of ideas to write about. We will be incorporating this system into our writing program to create richer, more detailed masterpieces. (students are encouraged to expand their thinking and tell me more than just the one sen-

tence their idea originated from—what else? Why? How? With who? Etc.) We will also be integrating our writing with our other subjects (math, science, social studies). Students are encouraged to practice their printing at home to help create neat writing that is easy to read. Also, keep practicing the weekly words (old and new ones) to assist students with proper spelling in their work.

Oral Language: Through class discussions, students will be extending their understanding of the texts we read in

class. However, oral language is also about listening. We practice "attentive listening" in class, but it is also a good idea to encourage your child to practice their listening skills at home.

Vocabulary:

Retell— who were the *characters*? What was the *setting/ problem/ solution*? What happened at the *beginning, middle and end*?

Writing— write in *sentences*. Use *capital letters* at the beginning, put a *period* at the end.

Math

As we wind down counting we will still be focusing on Number Sense and Numeracy. Students will show an understanding of the relationship between number facts as well as composing and decomposing numbers, recognition

of number words and relating numbers to the anchors of 5 and 10.

Although I do not send home homework, you can help your child be successful with this material by doing the math calen-

dar together every night and/or by playing online math games that are interactive and engaging for your child, but also great practice for the skills they are learning. See the "sites" sidebar for my suggestions.

20 minutes of daily practice in reading or fundamental math skills will support your child's success in the core subjects of literacy and math.

Inside Story Headline



Caption describing picture or graphic.

This story can fit 150-200 words.

One benefit of using your newsletter as a promotional tool is that you can reuse content from other marketing materials, such as press releases, market studies, and reports.

While your main goal of distributing a newsletter might be to sell your product or service, the key to a successful newsletter is making it useful to your readers.

A great way to add useful content to your newsletter is to develop and write your own articles, or include a calendar of upcoming events or a special offer that promotes a new product.

You can also research articles or find "filler" articles by accessing the World Wide Web. You can write about a variety of topics but try to keep your articles short.

Much of the content you put in your newsletter can also be used for your Web site. Microsoft Publisher offers a simple way to convert your newsletter to a Web publication. So, when you're finished writing your newsletter, convert it to a Web site and post it.

"To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here."

Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 100-150 words.

The subject matter that appears in newsletters is virtually endless. You can include stories that focus on current technologies or innovations in your field.

You may also want to note business or economic trends, or make predictions for your customers or clients.

If the newsletter is distributed internally, you might comment upon new procedures or improvements to the business. Sales figures or earnings will show how your business is growing.

Some newsletters include a column that is

updated every issue, for instance, an advice column, a book review, a letter from the president, or an editorial. You can also profile new employees or top customers or vendors.

Inside Story Headline



Caption describing picture or graphic.

This story can fit 75-125 words.

Selecting pictures or graphics is an important part of adding content to your newsletter.

Think about your article and ask yourself if the picture supports or enhances the message you're trying to convey. Avoid selecting images that appear to be out of context.

Microsoft Publisher includes thousands of clip art images from which you can choose and import into your newsletter. There are

also several tools you can use to draw shapes and symbols.

Once you have chosen an image, place it close to the article. Be sure to place the caption of the image near the image.

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Caption describing picture or graphic.

Mr. Nice Grass

27 Lambert Cres.
Brantford, On

(519) 865-0581

We're on the Web!

example.com

This would be a good place to insert a short paragraph about your organization. It might include the purpose of the organization, its mission, founding date, and a brief history. You could also include a brief list of the types of products, services, or programs your organization offers, the geographic area covered (for example, western U.S. or European markets), and a profile of the types of customers or members served.

It would also be useful to include a contact name for readers who want more information about the organization.

Inside Story Headline



Caption describing picture or graphic.

This story can fit 175-225 words.

If your newsletter is folded and mailed, this story will appear on the back. So, it's a good idea to make it easy to read at a glance.

A question and answer session is a good way to quickly capture the attention of readers. You can either compile questions that you've received since the last edition or you can summarize some generic questions that are frequently asked about your organization.

A listing of names and titles of managers in your organization is a good way to give your newsletter a personal touch. If your organization is small, you may want to list the names of all employees.

If you have any prices of standard products or services, you can include a listing of those here. You may want to refer your readers to any other forms of communication that you've created for your organization.

You can also use this space to remind read-

ers to mark their calendars for a regular event, such as a breakfast meeting for vendors every third Tuesday of the month, or a biannual charity auction.

If space is available, this is a good place to insert a clip art image or some other graphic.