



November/December
2020

Chiganois Elementary Newsletter

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Literacy Tip of the Month

Talk to your child about what you are reading. When reading with your child, you can discuss what might happen next, using, 'I wonder' type questions, such as: "I wonder what this story might be about". Also, asking "Who, what, when, where and why" questions during reading is beneficial to developing student comprehension of the text.

Math Tip of the Month

One way to support the development of students understanding of Mathematics concepts is by using manipulatives. The following website is a link to virtual manipulatives that can be used at home with your child/children.

Math resources at home - National Library of Virtual Manipulatives

- <http://nlvm.usu.edu/en/nav/vlibrary.html>

Winter Weather is Coming

The days are getting colder and with each dip in the thermometer we move one step closer to winter weather: icy roads, snow and freezing rain. For CCRCE schools, winter weather means the potential closure of schools when conditions are considered unsafe for our students and staff. Decisions regarding school cancellations are made by CCRCE's Operational Services Department and generally happen in the early morning (before 6:30 am) or mid-day. We try our best not to have mid-day cancellations, but sometimes an unexpected change in the weather makes the decision for us. In those cases, it is important that our schools have the most up-to-date contact information for parents and guardians, and that parents and guardians have alternative arrangements in place for their children, before a cancellation takes place.

Mid-day cancellations can also be complicated by busing. Many buses in CCRCE transport students to and from multiple schools, in a set order. This same order of pick-up and drop-off will still apply in the case of a mid-day cancellation. So, though schools may close at 10:00 am, for example, students may not be dropped off until an hour or more later, depending on where their school is on the regular pick-up and drop-off order.

Whether first thing in the morning, or mid-day, cancellations due to weather conditions will be announced in several ways:

- The "All Schools Open" button on the CCRCE home page (www.ccrce.ca) changes to red. By clicking on the button, you can get closure information specific to our Family of Schools.
- A message regarding the cancellation is posted to the CCRCE home page under "News"; and to the CCRCE Facebook page (www.facebook.com/ChignectoCRCE); and to our Twitter feed (@ChignectoCRCE).
- Information is sent to all local radio and television stations within the CCRCE, including CBC radio in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

CCRCE thanks all parents, guardians and students for their patience and understanding as we move through the start of the winter season. Please know that all decisions regarding cancellations are made with great care for the safety of students and staff.



This year the staff at Chiganois Elementary School are working at deepening their learning of who the Mi'kmaq people are historically and today; and exploring what it means to be a treaty person, as part of their professional development throughout the year. The staff feel it is important to wear their orange shirts once a month to honor residential school survivors.

Virtue of the Month

November - PEACEFULNESS

An inner sense of calm. It comes especially in quiet moments of reflection or gratitude. It is getting very quiet and looking at things so you can understand them. **Peacefulness** is a way of approaching conflict with others so that no one is made to feel wrong.

December - THOUGHTFULNESS

Being considerate of other's needs. Being attentive to the happiness and well-being of others.

Autism Support

For parents who may be looking for extra support or ideas for children with autism; the Colchester Autism Support Group for Parents and Caregivers are not currently meeting due to Covid restrictions, but support and services are available online on their website at <http://www.autismtruro.ca/>



Water Bottles



Please make sure your child has some sort of water bottle **every day**. It is imperative that students come to school each day with a water bottle, clearly labeled with their name. Staying hydrated throughout the day is important for focus and optimum learning.



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Winter Clothing Reminder

Please remember to have your child/children dress appropriately for the weather when coming to school. The temperature is dropping and students will be expected to be outside for Phys Ed and play time unless the weather is too inclement. The play area is open and is not sheltered from the wind. Students should have a hat and gloves/mittens as well as a warm jacket and appropriate footwear for outside play. When the snow begins to fall, snow pants or splash pants keep students warm and dry after playtime for afternoon instruction. It is a good idea to slip an extra pair of gloves/mittens in your child/children's backpacks, especially the little ones. Please label items so they can be returned to their owner.

Updated Contact Information

It's imperative that we have parent/guardian's **most recent contact information** (phone & email). We ask that you please contact the office or your child's classroom teacher with any changes and we'll make those changes in our student information system. We ask that you also please verify with your emergency contacts to confirm their information is up to date as well. Emergency contacts will only be called in the event we are unable to get in touch with Parent 1 or Parent 2 as indicated on the registration form that was filled out in September

Paying It Forward

Chiganois kids will be paying it forward with the support of the PTG. Each class will be choosing a charity to make a donation to before Christmas break. The students will research local charities and decide as a class where they want to send their support. They will then work out a plan for deciding what is needed, how to gather items and what their support will look like. The PTG is giving each class \$150 to go toward their cause and get them started.

As a school community who has been on the receiving end of support over the past several months, we are looking forward to encouraging others by paying it forward.

Primary Registration

Primary Registration for students beginning school in September 2021 – To Be Announced

Upcoming Dates

November 17th

PTG Zoom meeting 7pm

November 24th

SAC Zoom meeting

November 25th

Report Cards go home

November 26th

Virtual Parent Teacher PM: 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM

November 27th

No School for students

Virtual Parent Teacher AM: 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM

In-Service PM –

December 17th

Free Turkey Dinner!

December 22nd

Last Day of Classes

January 4th

First Day Back to School

Parent Handbook Tidbit

LEGAL CUSTODY

Parents/Guardians who are in possession of a family court order regarding their child or children need to provide the school with a copy of the most recent & up to date custody order. The school can only implement the custody order that is on file.

RECESS AND LUNCHTIME OUTDOORS

Students go outside for fresh air and physical activity at recess and lunch hour. There is no indoor supervision at lunch hour. Discretion will be used by administration in consultation with lunchtime monitors and teachers on duty in relation to students remaining indoors during recess or lunch hour on extremely cold or wet days. We cannot accommodate parent requests for children to stay in, you are welcome to take your child home for lunch if you so choose.

Welcome!

We'd like to officially welcome Ms. Madison Putnam who is teaching for Mr. Gunn until January 4th, 2021.

Label Clothing Items

With winter weather coming there will be lots of clothing items coming in and out of the school. We ask that you please take a minute to label your child's items so in the event they are lost, we can return them. We currently have several items in our lost and found pile, so if you are missing something, let us know!

Housekeeping Things

- ✓ Our playground can get very chilly as it is an open area. Please dress in layers.

*From All of Us at Chiganois Elementary,
We Wish You & Your Family a Very Safe & Happy Holiday!*