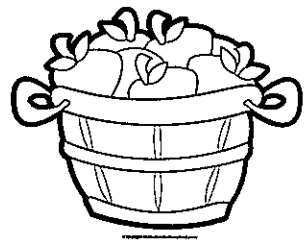


**September's News  
Room 152 – Mrs. Palace**



Well folks, it is hard to believe that we have already been in school two weeks. At this time, I just wanted to touch base with you and let you know what we are going to be doing now that we have settled into our classroom routine.

**Reading** – In order to have a strong reading program that will make your child a better reader, I have taken bits and pieces from a variety of programs and incorporated them into the CAFÉ Program. (Comprehension, Accuracy, Fluency and Expanded Vocabulary).

During the week, your child will pass through a variety of reading experiences. The main component of reading will be Balanced Literacy. During this time, I will be working with your child along with a small group of students all reading at the same level. At this time I will be focusing on a comprehension strategy but will continue to work with your child to improve his/her use of reading strategies to decode text. For the remainder of this month and going into October, the comprehension strategy we will be working on is **MAKING CONNECTIONS**.

When your child is not working with me in a Balanced Literacy group, he/she will be rotating through:

Writing a Response – during this time your child will be showing me that they can apply the comprehension strategy that we are using in our Balanced Reading group by filling out a response sheet to go with the book we have read.

Listening to Reading – your child will be using the Raz Kids Program on the computer to choose a book at his/her reading level and have that book read to them. After listening to the book, your child will then turn off the audio and read the book independently. This will be followed by a set of questions that your child will need to answer to show understanding of the text.

Reading to Self – we will be using the Accelerated Reading Program to help monitor your child's progress in this area. Your child will be coming home nightly with an AR book at their reading level. Once your child has read the book, they will be able to take an AR quiz which lets me know how well they comprehended the text. When your child is on this rotation he/she will be able to take an AR quiz or read a book independently in a quiet area.

Spelling – within the weekly rotation, your child will have time to practice their spelling words and play games that will help build the necessary skills to become good readers/spellers.

**Writing** – I will be reviewing how to write a good paragraph with the emphasis on learning how to use a great beginning sentence. I am also going to be stressing the use of capitals and periods and printing in a size of text that is expected for older students – for some this means no more “monster printing”.

**Spelling** – I have assessed the students using the Words Their Way assessment which is a program a few of our teacher's piloted last year. Although I do not use this program, I do use the information as a starting place to see which skills your child needs to develop. Spelling words will be sent home Monday and a spelling test will be given every second Monday. Please note that although I am testing on many of the words given, I will also be giving words that are not on the list but that they should be able to spell using the same sound.

**Math** – To begin the year we will be doing a review of numbers to add and subtract to 18.

**Science** – Our first unit will be on Boats and Buoyancy. We will be having an in-school field trip presented by Teacher's Pet on September 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9-11 Am. If you can help out on this date, please fill in the portion at the end of this newsletter and return it in your child's envelope on Monday.

**Social** – The students will be working with Mrs. Wilson to learn all about St. Albert's history and our community today.

**Dates to Mark on your Calendar for the remainder of this month:**

**Monday, September 14, Parent Council Meeting – open to all parents**

**Thursday, September 17 – Hot Lunch starts – every Thursday**

**Monday, September 21 – Picture Day**

**Wednesday, September 23 – Boats and Buoyancy – session  
by Teacher's Pet**

**Wednesday, September 30 – Terry Fox Run**

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**Yes, I can help out on September 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9 – 11am.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_