

GRADE 4 SEPTEMBER CURRICULUM LETTER

Gathered in the Spirit; Sent to Love and Serve



Language Arts

This year we will be doing Readers' Workshop. In an authentic reading workshop, students live their lives as readers and thinkers. Reading workshop is a place for every kind of learner, and when we launch reading workshop, we initiate routines that support a variety of learners. Everyone has a place to grow in the readers' workshop and our goal is to support growth. In reader's workshop, students are exposed to a focused mini-lesson followed by independent reading with teacher conferencing to support each individual learning and is closed with a small group/partner share. This month we will begin Readers' Workshop by looking at how to pick a "Just Right" book and building our stamina as a reader.

In writing, we will be doing Writers' Workshop. It has a similar structure to Readers' Workshop with a mini-lesson, independent writing, conferences, teaching point, and partner sharing. Our focus this month will be to build up our writing stamina with the use of quick writes. We will also be focusing on the proper use of capitalization and punctuation and applying these to our own writing.

Religion

We are excited to continue with our new Religion program called: **Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ**

Unit 1: Called to Be One is based in Ordinary Time. In this unit, students will learn that we have been called to be one as members of the Body of Christ. They will explore how God's plan for our salvation is revealed through the Sacred Scriptures. They will learn that, as Catholics, we express our faith in a common Creed. Students will explore the Bible and how it can be used as a source of faith. They will begin to understand that our relationship with God is nurtured through the sacraments, liturgy, and prayer. They will learn that God has created a world for us and that, as His people, we are called to good stewardship of its many resources.

Math

This month we will be starting our unit on **Whole Numbers**. Students will be learning to add and subtract numbers to 10 000, learning subtraction facts, subtracting 4-digit numbers, adding 4- digit numbers, and solving addition and subtraction problems. In grade 4, we really encourage students to have a solid understanding of their basic facts of addition and subtraction. Please check your email and/or child's agenda for some different math games we are hoping you will try at home to build upon these skills.

Science

In Science this month, we will examine the topic of **"Waste and our World"**. Throughout this unit, students will learn that human activity can lead to the production of wastes, and be able to identify alternatives for the responsible use and disposal of materials. Students have a live composting bin actively working in the classroom. "Red-wiggler" worms are busy composting left over lunch scraps. Students will be identifying kinds of wastes that may be toxic to people and to the environment. We will look at ways we can use the 3-R's: REDUCE, REUSE, and RECYCLE. Students will be looking at product packaging and its impact on the environment. Finally, we will be looking at ways to develop a plan to reduce our waste through inventive, creative and fun ways.

Social Studies

Students will begin an introductory unit on "Mapping". They will explore a map of Canada, where they will develop their understanding of provinces and territories. Students will also learn to interpret various maps using a legend and directional indicator (north, south, east and west). Towards the end of September, students will develop the important vocabulary needed to learn about the regions of Alberta

IMPORTANT DATES

September 13th - Opening Mass, 10:30am

September 14th - Terry Fox Run 11:15 am (wear red and white)

September 21st Mass at St. Francis de Sales & visit to Medicine Tree Manor

September 28th Orange Shirt Day for FNMI Awareness

TEACHER CONTACT INFORMATION:

- **Catherine Mills (Homeroom 4M / Gr. 4 Social)**
cmills@redeemer.ab.ca
- **Erin Doyle (Homeroom 4D/ Gr. 4 French/ Health/ PE)**
edoyle@redeemer.ab.ca
- **Azure McNeil (Homeroom 4Mc / Gr. 4 Science)**
AMcNeil@redeemer.ab.ca