

# Meet the Teacher

Thursday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010



Dear Parents,

**Welcome to Grade 1!** My name is Ms. Christina and I will have the pleasure of teaching your child this upcoming school year. It is my belief that a child's success is based on a cooperative parent-teacher relationship and I look forward to working with you throughout the year.

## **The Mission Statement of the International Baccalaureate Organization**

The International Baccalaureate Organization aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

This year, we will be covering four units of inquiries including families and transportation.

## **Essential Agreements**

Our school code outlines 6 essential agreements based on the attitudes necessary to reach the outcomes of the IB/PYP Learner's Profile by developing attitudes of respect, commitment, cooperation, tolerance, empathy and integrity. These attitudes promote personal growth while encouraging children to become responsible citizens and to adopt acceptable life-long behaviours within a global world. When essential agreements are broken, students do community service by giving their time and effort back to help others.

## **Our Classroom Essential Agreements**

1. Respect each other and our class.
2. Always listen and follow directions.
3. Raise your hand to speak.
4. Come to class with all your materials.
5. Don't forget your smile!

## **LANGUAGE ARTS**

Home reading is a very important part of the Language Arts program. The more your child reads, the better reader and writer he/she will likely become. A home reading log has been given to your child and placed in a purple duo-tang. Please ensure that it is completed daily and returned to school. Although it is sometimes hard to find the 10 to 15 minutes a night for your child to read, reading habits need to be established early on in the year.

The Language Arts program will also include the following components:

- Reading children's literature
- Paired reading: reading together with a partner

- Reading aloud: By the teacher and children
- Shared reading: poems and short stories
- Reader's Theatre
- Home reading program
- Guided reading
- Daily 5
- Letter exchange: parents, friends, authors
- Journals/Logs: children write about what they read daily
- Writing on an assigned topic/unit including brainstorming sessions
- Spelling tests

### **SPELLING TESTS**

Every second Friday, we will have a spelling test. Unless it is a shorter week due to holiday or pedagogical day, the spelling test will be given on the following school day. The test should be signed by a parent or guardian. It is very important to know that students become better spellers by reading and writing frequently.

### **MATH**

In math, we are using the Grade 1 Nelson series. We have started with numeration and natural numbers. Your child needs to practice and review at home daily work given in class.

### **HOMEWORK**

Your child will have homework every night (with a few exceptions). Homework will consist of a review and practice of spelling words, reading, writing and math. On occasion, I may send other work such as projects and

orals, to be completed at home. Homework will be written in your child's agenda each day.

### **AGENDA**

Your child should have his/her agenda at all times. Each day, all homework and assignments will be written by your child in their agenda. **Please verify and sign your child's agenda and memo pocket every night**. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to write me a note. Your child will be responsible to show me their agenda first thing in the morning.

I am very happy and excited about working with your child. We are off to a great start and I expect that it will be a rewarding year.

Sincerely,

Ms. Christina Mallozzi

Grade 1 Teacher

Room 107



