



March 30, 2020

Dear Grade One Families,

We hope that this note finds you and your family all healthy and coping well with these unprecedented times. We never dreamed that this is how the third term of Grade One would begin! Both Mrs. Thomson and Mrs. Bouvier are healthy and doing well. We have enjoyed being with our families and we're finding joy in the little things, like reading, baking, playing games and going for bike rides and walks. Please know that we are thinking of you, praying for you and we miss "our kids" very much!

In the recent historic days, much has been posted on social media about virtual learning. We've seen it and have been thinking about it too. We know many parents are concerned about young children being tied to devices and that many of you feel stressed about learning new platforms and creating a home-based school environment. We are teachers undertaking a new mandate- we get it- really and truly! Moving forward, we must all accept that the "virtual environment" cannot possibly replicate the classroom experience, so our expectations will have to change. Remote learning is not meant to induce stress. We have enough of that these days!

While we are taking this week to thoughtfully explore and plan our virtual classrooms as well as preparing packages for pick up later this week, including all your child's desk items, workbooks, worksheets and booklets that we had already photocopied before the break. We would also like to remind you that you already have been doing online learning, through RazKids Reading ([www.raz-kids.com](http://www.raz-kids.com))! If you are concerned about having a tablet to access our intended learning platform (SeeSaw) please complete the form, found at this link or on the school website:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf0o5Vqr2wAd5uYegus3DJfEc5x5E1lc5swknoSVe0rFIFf5w/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf0o5Vqr2wAd5uYegus3DJfEc5x5E1lc5swknoSVe0rFIFf5w/viewform?usp=sf_link)

Starting April 6th, we are planning to email all our students the same "Weekly Learning Plan," which will provide an opportunity for your children to continue learning with their familiar materials, with some fun activities and some on-line learning sprinkled in. This is meant to provide some normalcy in an abnormal time. Current theory recommends about 60 minutes per day for early learners working at home, but please know that you are welcome to complete as much (or as little) as you like from the suggested learning activities, the decision is yours as parents.

More details are coming! Please don't let your "eager beaver" start any of the work pages until they are on our weekly plan! Until then, enjoy being safe at home together, playing games, going for walks, reading lots and making historic memories!



With much Love & Prayers,

Mrs. Bouvier & Mrs.Thomson