Hello Grade 2/3 families, 

I can't believe we are already almost into November with the beautiful weather we have been blessed with.  I wanted to let you know about a few things coming up.  Next Tuesday we are going on a field trip to the Chilliwack Fish Hatchery, where we will be learning about the salmon run, spawning, and the fish life cycle.  There will be a permission form coming home within the next day or two, so please keep a watch for it.

Next Wednesday is Halloween! Students are allowed to wear costumes to school as long as they don't have masks, any scary or gory things that could scare younger students, and they must be able to sit in their desks as usual, and play outside.  If you do not want them to play outside in their costume then please don't send them in it.  They can always choose to wear orange and black that day as well.  I would like to have a class party on Halloween.  I set this up like a potluck, where I have a sign up list for people to sign up what they will be sending.  I am pretty particular about this, so that we have a wide range of healthy foods along with some treats.  If I have too many people sign up for a particular treat, I may ask you to choose something else. Basically this day students won't need to bring a lunch.  Here are some suggestions: mini sandwiches, cheese and meat platter, vegetable platter, fruit platter, crackers, cheese, and pickles, little appetizers, popcorn, chips, cookies, cupcakes, a Halloween treat, etc.  If you are bringing something warm you can bring it right before lunch at noon, otherwise you can bring items in the morning and I will try to wrangle some fridge space. It will be first come to me to sign up for an item that their name will go there. For some of the healthier items we will need a few people bringing them, so there is plenty for the whole class. I usually have had great success with these types of parties, so hopefully this year will be no different. I do not know of any allergies to declare in our class. You can email me, or write in their planner and ask them to show me, what you are wanting to bring. Thank you for your support with this, the kids love it!

We have been having lots of funs learning about landforms in Science. Everyone enjoyed the field trip to Othello Tunnels, it was such a beautiful day. They are now making marble mazes, including landforms in their creations, and today they made landforms out of Lego, to be displayed in the library on the Leg wall.

In Social Studies, we have been learning about diversity and accepting different people for their differences, such as cultural background, skin colour, likes and dislikes, etc. We have learned a lot about the Aboriginal culture in class and I want students to learn about their own culture as well. In the coming month students will have some homework on finding out more about their families heritage and cultural backgrounds. In December I would like to celebrate diversity and learn to appreciate different cultures. I want to have different days where students get to present to us important parts of their family, heritage, cultural practices/traditions and they can bring in an item to share, such as a traditional clothing, or a favorite food to share from their culture. There will be more information coming home, but I thought I would give you some information well in advance. This will be a fun way for students to share special traditions and learn more about their family.

In Math, we are continuing to work on place value, patterning, comparing numbers with greater than, less than, equal, or not equal; ordering numbers on a number line, as well as addition and subtraction. Practicing basic adding and subtracting at home for quick recall, will be helpful.

In Language Arts, we have been learning what good readers do. First we have been focusing on making connections when they read and making predictions about what will happen. I run Guided Reading Groups with leveled groups and together we work on books and skills at their levels. I am just finishing signing up the students on Raz Kids. I will send home information and students will be able to access “Just Right Books” at their level online. Practicing reading books at their level is important to continue to grow as a reader. We are also working on writing complete sentences and story elements. I look forward to sharing their Halloween writing with you.

The class brought home a song sheet, with the words for the song they are performing at the Remembrance Day Assembly. They are practicing this in Music, but extra practice at home would be helpful as well. We have also started practicing Christmas songs if you can believe it!! I am looking forward to being a part of Sardis Christmas Concert this year.

I think that is all for now. I just wanted to touch base and let you all know what we have been up to in class. Everyone is settled in nicely and know routines. I am lucky to have such a wonderful group of kids! If you have any questions or concerns please know you are always welcome to pop in after school, or send me an email and I will get back to you as soon as I can.

Have a wonderful evening,

Janet Price