Feb. 4th, 2013

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I can’t believe it is already February!! I hope everyone had a restful holiday break? The students have been working really hard this last month on their research project, learning about structures and on completing their addition and subtraction unit. They will be building a model of a bridge this week with their group, so we are very excited. I will put pictures of the bridges on the website for you all to see. You will be receiving their assessments in Math and some other assignments in their assessment folder later this week. Please sign that you have seen them and return it the next day.

On that note, I would like to thank all the parents who are continuing to sign the agenda every night and track their child’s reading miles. A third of the class has read across Canada and a few have read across our nation twice!! Well done class! Remember just to add the minutes read each month, multiply the minutes by 10 and track your KMs across the country.

I am concerned with the amount of late students each morning. I was not making a big deal about it on the very bad weather mornings but it has now become a habit. If your child is late more than a few times in a month, then I consider that a bad habit that needs to be changed. As it stands, students are coming late more than twice a week!! Now if there is a valid reason, then by all means let me know so I can expect your child will be late. They should be in line at the back of the building at 8:15 when the bell goes. We start right to work at 8:20 on our morning activity not to mention that some of the students have morning jobs.

Next Thursday is Valentine’s Day. I know the students look forward to this celebration and so do I. It is a nice day to take the time to appreciate each other. I thought this year, I would have each student write a special letter or make a special picture/poster for a secret friend in class. I will randomly pick names and assign your child with this secret friend. I will send special writing paper, stickers and construction paper for your child to use, if they wish, to create a special letter/poster AT HOME. Please let me know if this assignment cannot be completed so I can help your son/daughter do it at lunch here at school. I will show the students examples in class. As for candy and valentines, I will allow both but keep in mind we have a handful of students who cannot eat gelatin found in certain candies and all students must be included in the valentine give out. I will provide a class list for those families who want to honor this tradition but it is not necessary. The special craft/letter will be enough.

On a final note, I have included the calendar on the back of this letter with the new outcomes in focus this month and the events going on at school. Please contact me anytime if you have any questions or concerns. The next report card and parent teacher meetings will be coming up in April and May. March Break is March 11th to March 15th.

Thank you for being a partner in your child’s education!

Mrs. Ward