



September 9, 2011

Dear Grade Three Parents,

Welcome to another fantastic year at Elmwood School and a very special welcome to our two new students, Katherine Howarth and Catherine Chen and their families who are joining our wonderful Elmwood community. We are very excited about the 2011 – 2012 school year and are certain it will be a rewarding one!

About Ms. MacDougall

This is my third year at Elmwood School. Prior to that, I was living overseas with my family and teaching in Private International Schools for 14 years. I love being back in Ottawa and teaching at Elmwood. I am especially thrilled about teaching the IB PYP program. I look forward to sharing more about our program and myself on September 13th, during Curriculum Night.

Uniform

Please refer to the uniform requirements outlined in the school handbook. All clothing and personal items should be clearly labeled and gym uniform should be kept in a small cloth/vinyl gym bag to avoid lost items. PE classes will be on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Supplies

In addition to the supply list that was sent home, students should also bring in a paint smock that can be left at school for art activities.

Organization and Communication

The students will be using an agenda to facilitate daily communication between home and school. The agenda is an important organizational tool for success in learning. Please check your child's agenda each night for homework assignments and notes from school. The agendas are checked each day as part of our morning routine, allowing me to see if there are any messages from you and to provide you with a prompt response. You may also reach me by email at amacdougall@elmwood.ca. In addition, please do not hesitate to speak to me if there is anything you wish to discuss. Newsletters, weekly updates and email will also be used to communicate information between home and school.

Homework

The students will be asked to spend time each day reading. In addition students will have a homework routine, which will be outlined next week. Grade 3 students should be spending about 20- 30 minutes on homework. This week's homework will be preparing their "All About Me" boxes. See your child's agenda for further information.

Birthdays

We will acknowledge each birthday in our class as it occurs throughout the year. If you wish, you may send small treats to school on that day, but please remember **nut and sesame seed products are not permitted at school.**

Library

Students may borrow two library books each week. Books are returned to the book cubby in the classroom.

Finally....

In conclusion, several important events such as the Curriculum Night, Terry Fox Run, School Photos and National Sports Day are scheduled for the month of September. Please refer to the Junior School Scanner (sent electronically on Thursday) for more information. If you are interested in being a Parent Class Rep please let me know.

Please see the attached schedule for specialist days and times.

I look forward to a wonderful year filled with amazing learning experiences for your daughter.

Alli MacDougall

Grade Three Teacher

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