

Teaching & Learning Newsletter

McMahon Elementary School

Trimester 2 | 2017–2018



NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

McMahon School has the best students, staff and parents! Throughout the fall we have learned together as we've made the shift to full standards based teaching, learning and reporting for all grades K–6. Our students can tell you what they are learning about and why it is important. Our teachers can tell you what learning each of their students has mastered and what their next learning step is. Our parents have met with teachers during conferences and asked lots of questions about our new report card and how to support their children in building proficiency of learning standards.

Please mark your calendars for McMahon Family Learning Night on March 7th! More information to come but plan to bring your kids, learn some new ways to support learning, ask questions, get answers, and have fun!

IMPORTANT DATES

- 1/26** Mid-Trimester
- 2/2** Trimester 2 Progress Reports go home
- 2/14** Early Release Day– *Teacher PD around aligning student learning tasks to reporting standards*
- 3/7** Early Release Day – *Teachers will work on analyzing evidence of learning to determine end of trimester standard scores*
- 3/7** McMahon Family Learning Night 5:30–7
- 3/15** End of Trimester 2
- 3/21–3/22** Parent Conferences 3:30pm – 7:00pm

TEACHER TALK – WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

Topic Score: Teachers assign scores to standards. Each standard is assigned a category. Standard scores within a category are averaged to provide a topic score which appears on the report card. Each trimester new standards are added which will impact the topic scores.

Example: Subject: English Language Arts > Topic: Writing > Standards: Narrative, Informational, Opinion

TRIMESTER 2 KEY STANDARDS

Reading:

Standard-K.RF.2 Demonstrate understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds (phonemes).

Kid Friendly Language: I can recognize and produce rhyming words.

Standard-K.SL.4 Describe familiar people, places, things, and events and, with prompting and support, provide additional detail.

Kid Friendly Language: I can tell about people, places, things, and events that are familiar to me, using details.

Writing:

Standard-K.W.2 Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to compose informative/explanatory texts in which they name what they are writing about and supply some information about the topic.

Kid Friendly Language: I can write an informative piece. My piece will include a topic and information about the topic.

Math:

Standard-K.OA.A.5 Fluently add and subtract within 5.

Kid Friendly Language: I can add and subtract up to 5.

Standard-G.A.2 Correctly name shapes regardless of their orientations or overall size.

Kid Friendly Language: I can name shapes no matter how big they are or which way they are turned.

HOW TO SUPPORT AT HOME

- ~ Play rhyming games while driving in the car.
- ~ Have your child tell you a story about their day.
- ~ Choose an animal that you and your child like and write facts about that animal together.
- ~ Play addition and subtraction games with small toys or snacks.
- ~ Name shapes in the environment while shopping, driving, etc...

McMahon Kindergarten Teachers

Jess Blanchette Joyce Usher
Scott Emery Sue Chapman
Laura Grover Kim Harding
Diane Morin Jana Bilodeau
Melissa Trider

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