Grade one is a year filled with transition to a full day program, a greater amount of work and many new and exciting challenges. Students will be learning many important routines and expectations that will carry them through their elementary years.

**School Supplies**

In grade one, students will be expected to provide some of their own supplies for the classroom including:
- pencils  
- erasers  
- a glue stick  
- Mr. Sketch chisel-tip markers  
- binder with dividers— Please label the dividers in the following order: **Reading, Writing, Math, Science, The Arts.**  
- a small sharpener  
- a shoebox-sized basket to hold indoor shoes  
- appropriate shorts, t-shirt and running shoes for gym

**Reading Recovery Program**

Reading Recovery is an early, short term intervention program for at-risk students in grade one, regardless of their ethnic, linguistic or socioeconomic background, intelligence, language achievement, physical handicaps, or learning disabilities. Its goal is to enable these initially at-risk students to make accelerated progress and to become increasingly competent, independent readers during approximately 12-20 weeks of daily, individual 30 minute lessons. Lessons are conducted on a one-to-one basis, and are tailored to the needs of each child.

**Agenda Expectations**

It is expected that all students will purchase and use our school agendas. The agenda has proven to be a valuable organizational aid for students. The agenda is to travel daily between home and school. It serves as a convenient location for notes and communication between student, parent, and teacher. The teacher checks and initials the agenda each morning. The parent checks and initials the agenda each night. The child is responsible for recording important information as needed and bringing the agenda back and forth each day. This will only serve as a useful tool if we all do our part.

**Borrow-a-Book**

Borrow-a-Books continue to be a very important part of the grade one reading program. We plan to have the students choose a different book each day. They will store these books in their reading boxes and use them during the literacy block. At the end of the day, the book will go home to be read and recorded in their reading log. Please return the book and the log daily. We hope to strengthen the early literacy skills of our young students.

**Spelling Program**

The spelling program consists of looking at (a) specific word(s) each day. Spelling words will be recorded in the Student Agenda. Weekly spelling tests will be done in class. Students are expected to be practicing the words at home.
Proper Dress Attire
Indoor running shoes are necessary for your child to wear at school. They should be kept at school and stored in the student’s shoe basket if possible. Children are asked to make changing into their indoor shoes part of their regular routine when coming into school. This will ensure that both your child's feet and our classrooms are warm, clean and dry in all types of weather.

Hats are to be taken off when entering the school building, as a matter of respect.

Parents are asked to ensure that children are dressed in a manner conducive to active learning when at school. Students spend time engaged in learning activities on the floor, at their desks, at activity centres and outdoors. Clothing with offensive slogans or graphics is not permitted at school.

Physical Education periods will take place in the gym and will occur twice a cycle. Outdoor Education is also scheduled once a cycle. In grade one, children are expected to have appropriate clothing including a T-shirt, shorts and running shoes. As the weather gets colder please make sure that clothing is kept in their knapsacks.

Scholastic Book Order
Scholastic Book Services provides good children’s books at a reasonable price. Our grade one classes have the opportunity to participate in their program on a monthly basis.

Library
Once per cycle each of our classes will have a scheduled library class with Mrs. Alanko. The students will be looking forward to hearing her stories and poems again, and seeing her many collections. Library books will be taken home and may be returned to the bin in our classrooms at anytime. They must be returned by the next Library day.

Homework Routines/Expectations
It is expected that the students read their Borrow-a-Book each night and study their spelling words on a daily basis. If adequate time is given in class to complete work, then any unfinished work will be assigned for homework. Although there is no formal homework in grade one, at times there will be a work assignment for homework, with which parents may be asked to assist or take part.

Calendars
The children will be bringing home monthly classroom calendars and newsletters to keep you apprised of upcoming events and to tell you when special days such as Library, Gym and Reading Buddies may take place.

Star of the Week/V.I.P.
In order to learn more about each other, we will spotlight one student each week. The student who is the Star of the Week or the V.I.P. is invited to bring in photographs of themselves and their families to give us a pictorial story of themselves, their hobbies and interests.
Recess

Recess is new for grade one students. Certain days are assigned for each grade level to use the playground if they choose. Grade one students may use the playground on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. This allows a smaller number of students to enjoy the equipment and use it safely. The students may want to bring in equipment to use when not on the playground, such as skipping ropes and balls, and they may also choose to play tag or other games on the field.

Helpful Games

There are a variety of games that will help stimulate your child’s learning while they are having fun, such as:
- Junior Scrabble
- Junior Boggle
- Junior Yahtze,
- Monopoly Junior
- Card Games such as Memory, Fish, UNO, etc.
- Strategy games such as Taxi Jam or Chess
ACADEMIC GRADING SCALE
This is the scale that will be used to grade your child's work. According to the Ministry Guidelines B (Level 3) is the provincial standard to help children achieve.

A Level 4
I did all of my work neatly and carefully. I did more than I was asked to do. I understand the work really well.

B Level 3
I finished my work. I did everything I was asked to do. I understand the work.

C Level 2
I did some of my work. I understand some of the work.

D Level 1
I need a lot of help. I do not understand the work.