

## English Language Arts ~ First Term

English Language Arts (Literacy) includes: Speaking & Listening, Reading & Viewing, and Writing & Representing. In grade 2 we continue to build on the skills learned in previous grades. Our outcomes for the first term are:

### Speaking & Listening:

- express opinions and give simple explanations for some of their opinions
- listen to ideas and opinions of others
- demonstrate an awareness of social conventions such as turn taking, politeness, and co-operative play
- recognize volume of voice

### Reading & Viewing:

- use a combination of cues to figure out unknown words
- make personal connections to text and share responses in a variety of ways

### Writing & Representing:

- use some conventions of written language
- demonstrate engagement with the creation of pieces of writing

We will meet these outcomes through a variety of activities including:

- reading – read alouds, guided reading, silent reading, reading comprehension
- writing – modeled writing, guided writing, mini-lessons, writer’s workshop
- word work – sight words, rhyming, syllables, word families, letter sounds

As part of literacy, I will be using a program called “The Daily 5”. This system consists of short daily mini-lessons on reading, writing, and word work. It also allows students some choice in their literacy practice. I also use a program called “CAFÉ” to teach reading strategies. CAFÉ stands for Comprehension, Accuracy, Fluency, and Expanding Vocabulary. This program helps children become better readers by teaching specific strategies. In this program, the students are encouraged to set their own goals and work with the teacher to make progress toward their goal.

In writing, I will be using a workshop model. The students will have a mini-lesson daily and then have time to write on a topic of their choice. We will be following “The First Hand” writing program and incorporating “Write Traits”.

For word work this year we are going to be using “Words Their Way”. This is an individualized program where students work with a set of words to learn spelling patterns. There are a variety of hands on activities that students will practice daily. We will also be reviewing the ‘no excuse’ words and learning to read and spell these words.

Speaking and listening outcomes are met throughout the day when children are interacting with others in our classroom and through informal class presentations.