

Grade One/Two Communication Plan 2021-2022



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Expectations:

Students are expected to:	Parents/Guardians are expected to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Arrive on time-Read (or be read to) every evening.-Participate in all classroom activities while giving their best effort.-Demonstrate respect for self, others, learning, and their environment.-Come to school dressed appropriately for the weather.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-check the agenda for notes each evening, remove items as needed, and respond as needed in a timely manner.-Support their child in achieving their learning goals-Keep an open mind and have a positive attitude-Ensure children have appropriate outdoor clothing.

Change of Clothing

Each student is asked to bring a change of clothing to be left in the C.N.A. bag on their coat hook in case of spills or inclement weather.

This year, students will be going outside daily regardless of weather. Your child must be dressed for the weather everyday!

Lunch

Students will eat lunch each day at 11:45. Students will play outside **regardless of the weather**, then come inside to eat their lunch after playing. Please send your child dressed for the weather.

This year we will be implementing a pack-in, pack-out system for lunches. This means that students will take home any wrappers, garbage, or uneaten food they have with their lunch. This will help support efficient cleaning in classrooms, and will also be helpful for you to know what your child did or did not eat at school. Sharing of food is not permitted at school for safety reasons.

Communication

Primary forms of communication include:

- A note in your child's agenda.

-Email me at mcmamanaja@ccrce.ca, or Mrs. Dickie at dickiec@ccrce.ca (all efforts will be made to respond to email as promptly as possible. **Email messages sent after work hours will be answered the following school day**).

-If there is anything you wish to discuss, a phone call is always welcome.

***Messages sent via Facebook will not be answered. Please use one of the above methods to contact me.**

*We will have several opportunities to meet this year. Parent/Teacher interviews are held in November and April. Additional meetings can always be arranged as desired.

Email

In the front of the agenda there is a space to provide a parent/guardian's email address. In an effort to save paper, I will be providing newsletters, important dates, reminders, and updates from the classroom in email format. I will be compiling a mailing list using the email addresses provided to distribute this information, and would appreciate it if you could **please write the best email address to contact you with in the space provided on the front page of the agenda**. If you are not comfortable receiving this information via email, please do not hesitate to let me know and I will ensure you receive paper copies.

Behaviour Management System

It is expected that students behave in a respectful manner with their peers and all staff members. With my support, students will be expected to practice a positive attitude and to always do their best.

Each day, students will be asked to make good choices and behave in a kind, cooperative manner. Our school uses "Gotchas" to reward students caught engaging in positive behaviours. If students receive a gotcha, they will be able to put half of their gotcha in the class gotcha bin, and take home the other half. I will occasionally choose a few Gotchas from the class bin and allow students to choose a prize, in addition to being submitted for the whole school gotcha draws.

Positive behaviours that will earn a gotcha include:

- Following instructions
- Demonstrating kindness
- Being a good team member
- Participating in lessons and staying on task
- Following classroom rules
- Showing respect for self, others, learning, and environment

When a student does not demonstrate the above behaviours, they will be given a verbal reminder. If a reminder needs to be given multiple times, students will receive a note in their agenda, indicating that they had a difficult day or made poor decisions. Your child will be expected to explain to you what went wrong. Please discuss with them why their choices/actions were inappropriate, and what they can do to make it right. If a situation warrants further explanation, contact will be made with the primary caregiver via a note in the agenda or a phone call. Consequences will vary as they relate to the behaviour and could include: verbal apology to those affected, written apology to those affected, writing a “think about it sheet”, or taking a “time out” from the activity, cleaning up a mess that was made, etc.

I believe outdoor play is critical in the development of a child and allows students to “blow off steam”, therefore, outdoor time will only be taken away in special circumstances. If inappropriate or dangerous behaviours are repeatedly exhibited on the playground, the natural consequence will be a loss of playground time.

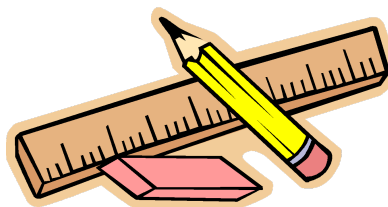
Money

All monies being sent in to school for any reason must be placed in an envelope or baggie which has been clearly labeled with your child's name, the amount of money enclosed, and the purpose it is to be used for. This can be placed in the pocket of your child's agenda.

Overview of Our Program

Integrated Curriculum

In the province of Nova Scotia, public schools use an integrated curriculum model to teach curriculum outcomes. This allows educators to teach both language arts and math, while incorporating science, health, social studies, and art concepts. Student interests can also become a vehicle for learning, leading to greater student engagement.



Learning through play - why is it important?

Fred Rogers describes play as “serious learning” for children, as play is critical for the social, emotional, and creative development of the child.

Play will be incorporated into the daily learning routines of the students in this class. While engaging in both structured and free play experiences, students are able to practice problem solving, communication, and creative thinking skills (just to name a few!).

Outdoor Education

To further support our play-based, hands-on learning experiences, whenever possible, we will incorporate outdoor learning and free play into our day! **Please send your child dressed for the weather!** It is IMPERATIVE that students be dressed appropriately in order to help facilitate our outdoor learning. *(In the event of heavy rain or frigid temperatures, learning will continue indoors).

If you are interested in learning more about the importance of time in nature for children, I highly recommend Richard Louv’s book, *Last Child in the Woods*.

Restorative Approaches, Mind Up, Character Traits, and Gratitude

-At CNA we use restorative approaches when things go wrong. This means that when problems arise, we engage in conversations to understand what happened, who has been harmed, and what can be done to make things right. This approach encourages students to understand that their choices and actions have an impact on others.

-Every month at CNA we focus on a character trait to help build strong students. Some examples include: responsibility, empathy, perseverance, etc. We engage in conversations to help students understand what the character trait is and discuss examples of how to use these traits. Check the CNA calendar to see what the character trait of the month is!

-In this class we will incorporate lessons from the Mind Up curriculum, a program which teaches children mindfulness practices to promote emotional regulation. Find more information about the MindUp program here: <https://mindup.org/>

-This year we will be practicing gratitude on a daily basis. At our daily check out circle students will be asked to name one thing they are thankful for, or happy about, each day. Practicing gratitude has been proven to promote mental well-being (Great for both kids AND adults ☺). Find more information here:

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/ca/blog/what-mentally-strong-people-dont-do/201504/7-scientific-proven-benefits-gratitude>

Overview of Grade One/Two Curriculum

Language Arts

Reading and Listening

-Shared reading, read aloud, word study, poetry, guided reading, and independent reading

Speaking and Listening

-participating in discussions, questioning, following directions, oral presentations, listening centres

Writing and Other Ways of Representing

-journals, poetry writing, writing letters and thank you notes, daily write, persuasive writing, stories

Mathematics

Number concepts

-Number sense, place value, counting, addition and subtraction, problem solving

Patterns and Relations

-Create, reproduce and extend number and shape patterns, sequencing, patterns for addition and subtraction

Shape and Space

-comparing and ordering for length, capacity, and mass, time, spatial sense, visual memory, 2-D and 3-D shapes

Data Management and Probability

-collect, organize, and interpret data, predict occurrences

While learning and practicing skills in language arts and math we will also explore:

Health

-Strategies for healthy and safe living

Art

Children will experience a wide variety of art experiences using a variety of materials. At this level, creativity and respect for all art forms is highly encouraged.

Science

Children will explore living things, their needs, and how they grow and change. We will learn about constructing objects and motion, as well as our environment, air and water, and seasonal changes.

Social Studies

Students will have opportunities to learn about and reflect on changes in their lives and the needs and wants of people. Students will develop an awareness of cultural groups and the need to understand and support diversity. We will also work to foster a love of our earth and strategies to care for our environment.

Assessment/Evaluation

- Observations
- Journals and other writing
- Projects
- Presentations
- Work samples
- Running records
- Conversations

Classes with specialists:

Physical Education with Mr. LeBlanc

Days: 2,3,4,6, and 7. **Sneakers are required, comfy clothes are recommended. Please send your child dressed for gym class on these days as they will not have time to change.*

Music with Mr. King

Days 1, 3, and 5