



# The Converse Connection

November 2019



Dear Parents,

We had a wonderful Halloween celebration! Thank you to all of our parent volunteers who ran the bingo game and craft station. The snack table looked delicious with many very yummy treats! During the month, please be sure to periodically check my teacher web page located on the Parkdale webpage. It is a work in progress, with me adding features to it on a regular basis. If you need review my monthly newsletter or classroom calendar during the day, both are posted on my webpage for you to view at home or while at work! I appreciate all of your prayers for my family in regards to the passing of my mother. She was so fortunate to have all four of her children living in the area, in addition to watching her twelve grandchildren growing up. I truly believe it was family that helped her live to be 96 years old!

**Listening and Learning** - This month we will enjoy three themes introduced in folktales in our Different Lands, Similar Stories unit. These folktales have been told to children for generations, using variations from different lands or countries. By listening to these stories, students will increase their vocabulary and reading comprehension skills. They also will be exposed to different places and cultures from around the world. The daily lessons are exactly what they are called, listening and learning. Lessons involve visual pictures that go along with a story I orally read to the children. There is little written work for the children to complete. I have posted additional information about this unit, such as vocabulary words that have been introduced, on my teacher webpage.

**Reading** - We continue to read decodable stories from Snap Shots, our Unit 1 Reader. The children will periodically bring home the story we read in class. Please have them read the story to you or another family member that evening. Also, continue to have your child read the tricky words and sight words located in their Take Home folders. When we finish our Unit 1 Reader, I will send it home for the children to read many stories to the family! Remember, practice, practice and practice!

**Math** - In the first module of Grade 1, students make significant progress towards fluency with addition and subtraction of numbers to 10 as they are presented with opportunities intended to advance them from counting all to counting on, which leads many students then to decomposing and composing addends and total amounts.

Recently, I introduced the children to a website called Freckle. Freckle is a kid friendly website, which offers adaptive lessons to build foundational skills. Freckle will allow each child to practice math skills at their level. The website will also give me insight as to how much their skills have grown and where they can use extra help. The Freckle web address is: [student.freckle.com/#/login](http://student.freckle.com/#/login). To log in, your child will need to enter our class code which is **convez**. Their log-in information is taped inside their Take Home folder. Please allow them time to explore the math portion of the website at least once a week. Although I will rely on Freckle in the area of Math, there is also ELA, Social Studies and Science activities the children can explore!

**Absences/Tardiness** - When your child is not feeling well and will not attend school, please call the office to report their absence (687-2353). When they return to school, I will spend time during our Intervention (12:50-1:30 PM) to get them caught up on any important missed assignments. The Intervention time block also serves as an opportunity to review any homework assignments with me that were difficult to complete the night before. Please keep in mind when your child is tardy to school, they miss the daily morning announcements, their chance to order a school lunch, sharpen pencils and complete their morning work assignment. If you are dropping off your child to school, please keep in mind that they should arrive no later than 8:55 AM. Thanks!

**Recreation** - Once the snow arrives, we will continue to go outside for recreation. In order for your child to be able to participate, he/she must have a coat, snow pants, hat, mittens/gloves and boots. If you wish to leave a pair of boots and snow pants at school, your child may keep them stored in their cubby.

