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Subject: GROW Weekly Update Oct. 1 - 4
Date: October 1, 2024 9:50:34 AM
Attachments: [Outlook-nq3kfagy.png](#)
[Duolingo_classroom.pdf_\(1\).pdf](#)
[ClassroomReadyOct3-5.pdf](#)
[ClassroomReadyOct5-7.pdf](#)

Hello GROW Families,

Welcome back to another week of learning! Thanks so much to all of you for working so hard to get your math and literacy samples in to me last week. We need to keep samples on file for each of our students to declare them active, and they need to be in by the end of September.

Science World Presentation

Science World is doing a presentation at Lac La Hache Elementary this afternoon called 'Fantastic Forces.' GROW students are invited to attend. I'll have an art project set up for students beforehand in the school library, and we will have the use of the gym after to play games/use equipment if you'd like. If you haven't RSVPed yet and would like to join us, feel free to come! Also, there's no need to come for all the activities—I'll have the art set up just after 10:30, and it's an activity that will take about an hour for students. Feel free to drop in anytime before 1:00 to do that activity if you'd like. Please just be here on time for the Science World presentation if you want to watch that. Thank you!

Second Language/Duolingo

I've talked with all families who have students in grades 5-7 about their plans for second language learning this year. Duolingo is set up and ready to go. If you were enrolled in Duolingo last year, you are still in the GROW class and should be able to begin practicing. If you are new to Duolingo, I've attached instructions on how to join our class to this email. Basically, you need to make your own Duolingo account, and then attach your account to our class using the classroom code.

I had several students who had trouble with their Duolingo accounts last year. While I was removing students who were no longer enrolled in preparation for this year, I noticed that some students had two accounts attached to our class, and this may have been the problem. You need to enter an email address when making an account. My advice is to make an account using your school district email address (the one you use to log in to Brightspace/Office 365 with). That way, you won't run into the problem of more than one child trying to use the same parent's email to make an account. It keeps things a bit simpler if you have multiple children.

Please let me know if you are having any issues and I'll try my best to help. If you've decided to use a paper-based French program, I can provide you with some French units to complete.

GROW does not supply resources for other languages, and I've discussed this individually with families. This is a reminder that students in grades 5-7 should be learning a second language and if you've agreed to purchase your own resources for this, you need to make sure you've gotten started on that.

Classroom Ready

Last year Classroom Ready (a monthly current events magazine) was part of our social studies curriculum from grades 3-7. We have a subscription to classroom ready again this year and I will be providing it on a monthly basis. The October issues are attached to this email, and I hope to have them available in Brightspace this week. For now, this is an **optional** part of the curriculum, and besides contributing to social studies, students can do the exercises in the magazine **instead** of some of their reading comprehension work.

Student Photos

Just a reminder that GROW students can have school photos done on October 9th at Lac La Hache Elementary. Please be at the school at 9:15 to have your photo taken.\

November 1st Field Trip

Also, a reminder that November 1st will be our next GROW field trip. This event will take place at GROW in Lac La Hache. It will be a STEM-themed day with part of our time being used for the maker challenge 'Helping Hand' that is in the Substantive Package in Brightspace. We also have the SD#27 ADST helping teacher, Allison Bos, joining us for part of the day with a collection of robots that we'll learn how to program! More details and a specific schedule will be coming, but please mark the date on your calendar if you'd like to join us for this day!

Submitting Work Samples

There are two ways to submit work to GROW this year:

1. submitting hard copies, either to GROW or to the School Board Office in Williams Lake to be delivered to GROW
2. submitting online digital copies of work through the Brightspace platform. Many of you are diving into Brightspace and I'm thrilled about that. Please keep in mind that this is a new program we're rolling out this year, and there are bound to be hiccups. Thanks for the feedback you've given so far about your experiences with Brightspace, as it helps me to fine-tune things for the future.

While I will be available on Teams to help students and families with day-to-day questions and communication, it's not an ideal platform for submitting work. Email is not a great way to get your evidence of learning to me either, as I get so many emails a day and there's a good chance that your work will be lost amongst them. I know that change is hard and I'm very willing to support you as you ease into Brightspace.

I think that's all for now—I hope you all have a wonderful week! Please don't hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns.

Yours truly,



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