



Onslow Elementary | What a first week with Me, Mrs. Nugent – 2021

LANGUAGE ARTS | GRADE 1 | SEPTEMBER 20TH

Dear Parents,

The school year as seen some changes in your child's classroom. I am teaching Language Arts to your child.

I thought I would give you a quick overview as there have been so many changes in the classroom. I am with your child from 8:00 A.M until recess and then again after recess from 9:50 to 10:20.

The time seems to go by so quickly in our room. I am excited to be teaching with Grade 1 again.



Your child will be participating in reading, writing and talk activities throughout the morning.

To promote literacy skills I will be sending a reading book home every night. We will accumulate books in our book bags so that your child always has something that they have read to practice again to promote reading fluency and increase knowledge of words.

Last week students practiced reading a poem that Mrs. Ferriera introduced them to last year. They are now able to read most of it independently. Perhaps they will show off their reading tonight. If you can have them track the words as they read along that will be great.



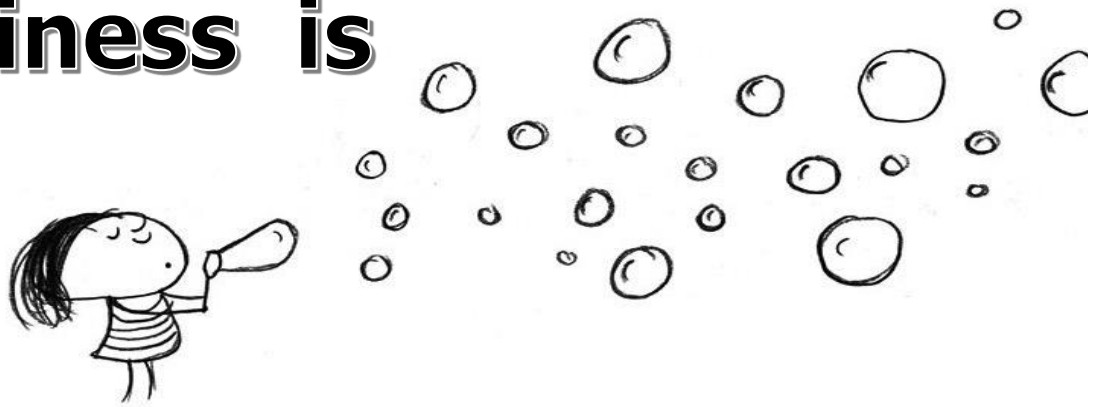
Tracking helps students match the word they say aloud with the word on the page.

Along with the poem I will send home the science text called Pop A Book about Bubbles.

I have left a large rectangle on the left side of the page for students to be able to draw an image to go along with the text on the right. Which can be done throughout the week in preparation for our writing on Friday.

In class students are practicing echo reading, where the teacher reads the text and the students try to follow along by tracking with their finger under the text.

Happiness is



...blowing bubbles.

Today we had some fun blowing bubbles ask your child what they noticed as they examined bubbles like a scientist!

Have them tell you what they noticed as they were blowing bubbles.

You can ask them how they are building their stamina while practicing Read to Self, and Reading to Someone.

During Literacy

Students are building their independence with reading. They have learned that they can read a book 3 ways;

- Look at the pictures and tell a story
- Read the words or some of them
- Retelling the story in their own words. They are building their independence so eventually the teacher will be able to take small groups and do some guided instruction in reading and writing.

Each practice is followed by a check-in.

Read to Someone

A chance to read with a friend and practice fluency.

We are practicing asking a partner and finding a spot quickly so we can start reading.

This week we hope to be able to do these activities for at least 3 minutes. I am going around conferencing with students to give them a reading strategy to help them along.

Friday we will be writing about Bubbles.



This week we will be launching Writing as an independent literacy activity. We started with words that readers and writers use often, beginning with the a sound as in apple. We are working on making these automatic and their own for life. The words are a, an, and and at. This week students will add am, fat, mad, man, ran, sad and sat. We will also be looking at the book 'I Promise' by Lebron James.



This is a glimpse as to some of the things will be doing in Grade 1. I will try to post a picture or two.

Each night your child will have a book to read, except on Friday. On Friday they will be taking home a library book which can be returned before the following Thursday.

Some of my expectations and plans:

In order for students to become better readers they need to practice reading. A guide for students in Grade one is about 10 minutes spent reading each night. Learning their power words will help them to grow as a reader and writer. They will be expected to know two new ones each week. The students have been in school for a few weeks and have already learned a few words. Therefore, this week they will have more power words.

In the weeks to follow students will have two power words added to their bank of cards if they are ready for them.

The plan each week is for students to have a new science text about the theme we have been studying. For the next few weeks our theme is Bubbles.

As the year progresses we will be reading a variety of books on different topics and learning new reading and writing strategies.

In writing we will be creating small moment stories, followed by non-fiction writing.

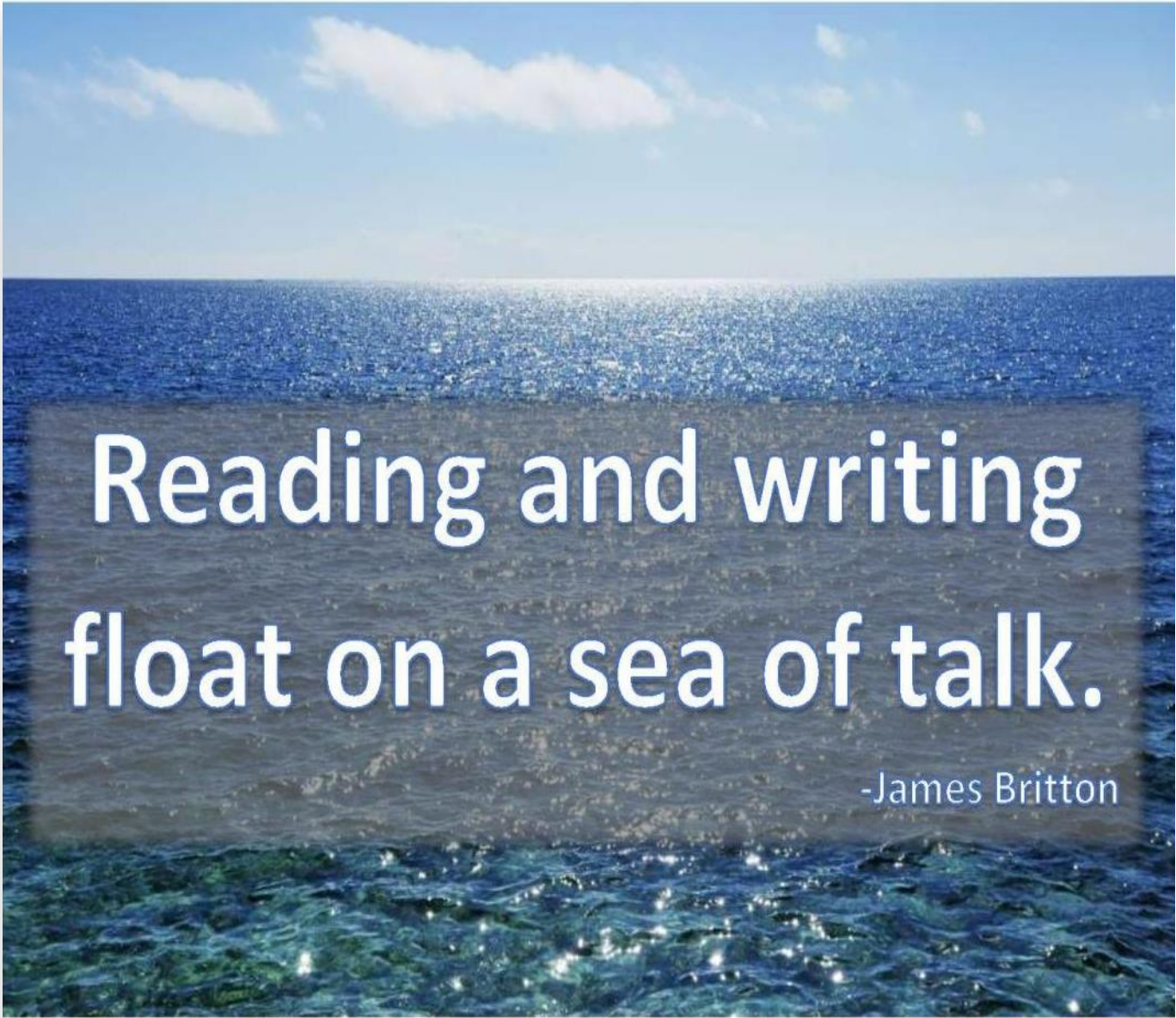
Here are some of the professional texts that I will be working from: The Fountas and Pinnell Literacy Continuum, Lucy Calkins Units of Study, Jennifer Serravallo Reading and Writing Strategies book, Spelling Continuum, Writing Rubrics created for Cycle 1 from the Western Quebec School Board, Writing Continuum developed by Lynn Senecal, and Jeff Anderson's Patterns of Power to name a few.

I have included a photo of some of the Read Alouds that your child will be introduced to and complete some activities that will go with the text.

As the year progresses I will be introducing your child to some digital resources they can use to support their work with power words (sight words) and menu words (pattern words).

Sincerely,

Mrs. C. Nugent



Reading and writing
float on a sea of talk.

-James Britton

