

April 2023 Newsletter

Principal's Message

By the time you read this, we will probably be starting our Easter/Spring break! I hope that you and your children enjoy the time off and that you are able to spend some time doing the things that bring you joy and wellness.

I wanted to share with you some of the things we are pursuing as a school to continue to enhance our ability to teach your children. At the beginning of the year, we embarked on a journey to enhance our math instruction. We have worked to add a lot of math talks and games to help students build their foundational math skills and understanding of number sense. Also, we have worked extensively to develop thinking tasks for our students to do. So, instead of students doing worksheets each day to practice their math skills, they work on complex tasks or word problems in small groups (while still practicing their skills with additional individual tasks). It has been pretty awesome to see the quality of problem solving increase throughout the year! I have been teaching grade 5/6 math with Mrs. Jesse and it has been amazing to see the growth of all students. Please ask your child what they have been doing in math class, or if you came to student-led conferences you probably saw some of it. This hybrid approach (combination of direct instruction, games, image talks, group work, and worksheets) seems to be really helping our students!

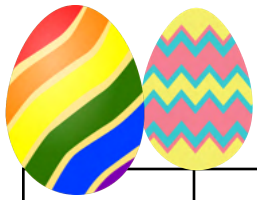
When we get back from the break, it will be the middle of April. It's hard to believe that we will only have 2 and a half months left of school! It really has been an awesome year and we have so much more to look forward to! Pavan Park trips, family activities, swimming, track and field, outdoor time, Ukrainian Dance, Scientists in Schools, baby chicks, fun field trips, and so much more! I love the fact that our students get to experience so many awesome opportunities to learn outside the 4 walls of our classrooms - whether it is at the school or somewhere else. A huge thank-you to our wonderful teachers for planning such awesome learning opportunities!

I want to remind parents about the importance of our School Council. We would love it if we had more parents attending, hearing what is going on at our school, and providing input as to how we can make it an even better place for students. The meetings are typically a little over an hour, once a month. If you are able to spare a few minutes, it would be great to have even more parents sharing their ideas! Our next meeting is on April 20th from 4:00-5:15. If you are able, please join us! If you can't make it in person, we also offer a chance to listen online via Google Meet. I will share the link with all the parents before the next meeting.

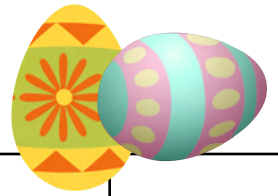
A huge thank you to everyone who attended our student-led conferences! It is always a great way to celebrate all the hard work your child has put into their learning. We sure appreciate all of the support from you, the parents!

As always, if you ever have any questions or concerns, please reach out and contact me via email or you can call the school. Here's to an awesome last few months of school!

Mitchell Van Dyk



April 2023

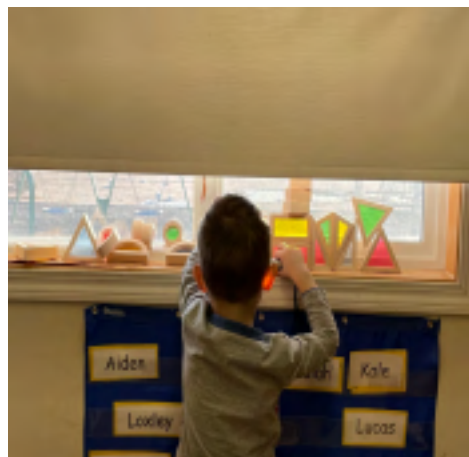


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Spring Break-No school for staff or students	4 Spring Break-No school for staff or students	5 Spring Break-No school for staff or students	6 Spring Break-No school for staff or students	7 Spring Break-No school for staff or students	8
9	10 Spring Break-No school for staff or students	11 Spring Break-No school for staff or students	12 Spring Break-No school for staff or students	13 Spring Break-No school for staff or students	14 Spring Break-No school for staff or students	15
16	17 Hot Lunch Pulled Pork	18	19 Additional Kindergarten day Pavan Park grade 1/2	20 School Council meeting @ 4:00 PM	21	22
23	24 Hot Lunch Grilled Ham and Cheese Wraps	25	26 Additional kindergarten day	27 April Assembly	28 Developmental Checkups for ELP	29
30						

Learning Commons



Early learning in March



We started off March with one of our favorite early learning literacy centers -Stone Soup... Soup from a stone...fancy that. Under the sea was next, painting with sand, and exploring sea shells were just some of the fun we had. Another early literacy book was There was an old lady who swallowed the sea. What doesn't that old lady swallow??? To end the month, we decorated easter eggs with the grade 3/4 classes, and held our Humpty Dumpty egg drop experiment. After discussing gravity, children had to come up with their own idea on how to keep their egg from breaking, when their egg was dropped off our wall. What fun! And I can't believe the wonderful ideas that everyone came up with! Such great thinking!!

Science center

In march we learned about Rainbows.

Do you know the colors of a rainbow?

Violet, indigo, blue, green, yellow, orange, and red.

And you can never get to the end of a rainbow, because it is a circle



March in Kindergarten



Grade 1/2 News- Mrs. Slusar





We had another great adventure in Pavan Park this month. We built our own compasses, witnessed many bald eagles and had a visit from Kylie Fineday who spoke about the directions on the medicine wheel.



April Newsletter Grade 1/2 Mrs Klassen

March went by in a flash, and we can hardly believe it is April already. The past few weeks have been full of so much learning and growth! Check out some of our amazing days here at Sunnyside:



Can we jump as far as a Jack Rabbit? We found some Jack Rabbit tracks and measured them to see if we could do it. We tried our best, but the Jack Rabbit won! Cody almost did it, but 3 meters is a long way to jump!



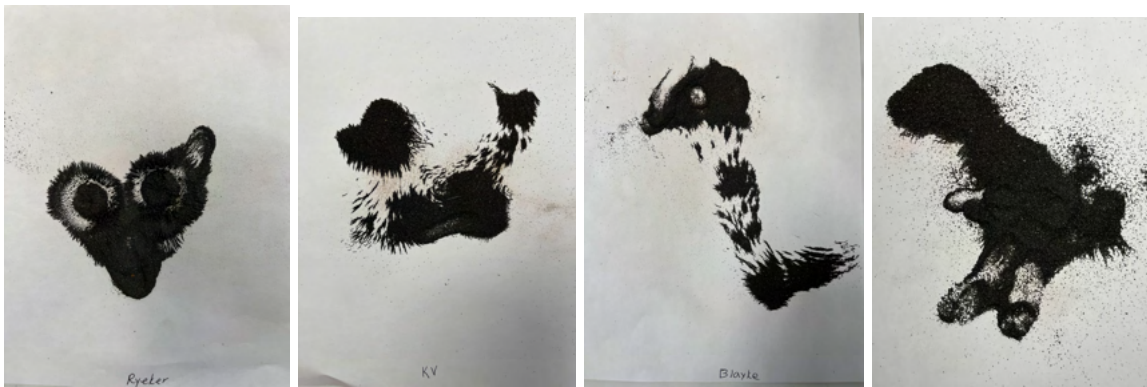
Exploring curved and straight sticks, making shapes, and measuring our creations! We can find so much to do with sticks!



Finding North in Pavan Park by making our own compass!



Like true Sunnyside Weather Warriors, we navigated some very icy terrain and had a great time doing it! A big thank you to Kylie Fineday for teaching us about the Medicine Wheel and how we can learn from it.



What can you see in our iron filing pictures? Exploring magnets has never been so fun!



We have been keeping the beat with our drumming! Thanks for teaching us so much about drumming, Mrs.Slusar!



We all loved celebrating our beloved Mrs. Roth this week! What an impact she has had on these kids!

Gratitude

I am grateful that it's always sunny at Sunnyside - Blayke

I am grateful for snow cones - Walker

I am grateful for our visit with Mrs. Roth - Isabella

I am grateful for Sunnyside - Kolten

I am grateful for Sunny Corner - Aubree

I am grateful for our principal, Mr. VanDyk - Camden

I am grateful for the mud kitchen - Harlow

I am grateful for Ms. Julia and all the teachers - Ryeker

Highlights from the 3/4J Classroom

Another busy month has flown by! Can you believe we only have 3 left?!? 😨

Here's a few of the highlights from the past month!

- ★ Decorating Easter eggs with the Preschoolers!!
- ★ Farewell to Mrs. Roth! Oh, how you'll be missed, Mrs. Roth!!!
- ★ Reading "Charlotte's Web"!
- ★ Science experiments with our shadows (including making animal shadow puppets)
- ★ Our second Scientists in Schools virtual workshop "Get it in Gear"!
- ★ Starting to explore "simple machines" in Science.
- ★ Report Cards! Book Fair! Family Groups! Student-Led Conferences!
- ★ Writing "personal narratives"! Poetry is up next!
- ★ Check out our amazing art projects → Winter Tree Scenes and 3-D Easter eggs!

Our Easter/Spring Break starts next week. Everyone is looking forward to a well deserved rest! I hope you all have a fabulous time! See you April 17!

Mrs. Henderson





April Newsletter

Mrs. Hudey—Grade 3/4



Happy Spring!

We have had a busy month!

Here's what we've been up to:

- Student Led Conferences
- Book Fair!
- Helped the ELP decorate Easter eggs
- Scientists In School - "Get Into Gear!"
- School yard clean up!

Reading: Challenge to read 20 mins each night with a challenging book!

Math: Multiplication and Division

Social Studies: Alberta regions

Science: Simple Machines

Health: Wellness! Social Emotional Learning

HAVE A FANTASTIC SPRING BREAK!







April Newsletter 5/6

And just like that we have reached spring. Mini-basketball and the busyness preparing for report cards and Student Led conferences made March fly. We had a busy month and are all ready for an extended Easter break! I hope all families get some time to relax and enjoy time with family and friends.

Math

In math, we finished off our Patterns and Algebra unit with many challenges and class discussions. Students worked on strategies for multiplying decimals and evaluated which strategies worked best for them. In April, we will be working on shapes and transformations in motion geometry. Students will revisit how to plot lines on a coordinate plane, and review various shapes and types of triangles. We will continue using group work challenges, check your understanding questions and lots of math talks to help students learn. We will also work on dividing decimals, which tends to be the most difficult of the basic operations for students. Reviewing division at home would help students increase their speed and confidence at school.

Language Arts

Students are just about finished their non-fiction reading unit. They have read a multitude of nonfiction books on their research topics and are just finalizing their own books. In April we will move into newspaper articles in writing and the fantasy genre in reading. Students will work in a book club to read and discuss a fantasy novel and will end their unit by creating a newspaper on their book.

Science

Students have been busy experimenting with air. They have learned all of the properties of air, and can explain how to prove them. They are learning about Bernoulli's principle, and will use this knowledge to help them explain how things fly. We will be researching various items that fly in April and students will move into learning about how both biotic and abiotic combat the forces of flight.

Social

Students are almost finished learning about the Iroquois Confederacy. We have small projects to go and then we will be moving back into learning about the Canadian Government with a focus on local governments in April.





The 5km Coaldale Fun Walk/Run is happening on April 22nd. If you are interested in signing up your family for some springtime exercise and fun. Sunnyside School is participating in the School Challenge. Make sure to select 'Sunnyside Elementary' from the drop down menu when registering your child(ren).

This is the school challenge info for you.

<https://www.racepro.ca/coaldale/School%20Challenge.pdf>

This is the link to the Race information and registration.

<https://www.racepro.ca/coaldale/>