



March 2024 Newsletter

Spring is in the air? Maybe? I think we have enjoyed a few false springs - hopefully some of the nice weather is here to stay! (although it's been a tough year for the outdoor rink!)

Thanks to all the parents who have given feedback on the new school vision. It is much appreciated! During the month of March, I will be connecting with each class in the school to have them brainstorm what they think it means to be a Sunnysider and connect their ideas to our school vision. I think that many of the ideas that staff and parents have brainstormed will also be generated by the students, but I'm also really curious to see what the students come up with!

For the month of March, our word of the month is inclusion. Inclusion means that everyone belongs at Sunnyside! We talk often about the importance of belonging and being part of a community. Every student who walks through our doors deserves to be treated with kindness and respect, have the chance to learn and grow (every day), and (hopefully) feels that Sunnyside is a place where they can belong. This is a vital part of being a vibrant community where every student has the chance to achieve and pursue their goals. Thank you, parents, for your amazing contributions to ensuring that all students have the opportunity to succeed. The Sunnyside Community Association has done an amazing job ensuring that all students have equal opportunities - things like school-wide skating, the purchase of amazing outdoor equipment, paying for buses etc. - they make a huge difference!

Speaking of the Sunnyside Community Association, the building of the greenhouse is finally planned! We have put a down payment on the greenhouse, which should be arriving sometime in April. We are also planning on building the foundation at the end of March! This is going to be such an exciting opportunity for our school - I can't wait to see it built. If we are allowed to have volunteers help with the build, I will probably be reaching out sometime in April to ask for some help assembling the greenhouse.

Also, a reminder that the second report card will be going home on March 19th and our student-led conferences are planned for March 21st. These are both really important events that help communicate how your child is doing. As you know, we are working on switching our report cards, so this year they look a little different than the previous years. If you have any questions or concerns about the new report card, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or your child's classroom teacher.

Lastly, and I know that some of you are probably getting tired of hearing this, but I want to say thank you. I am so grateful for the privilege of being the principal of this school. We have an absolutely amazing staff, fantastic students, and a wonderfully supportive parent community. I get the chance to live my dream job every day - so thank you so much for entrusting your children to us. Have a great month of March!

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out!
Mitchell Van Dyk



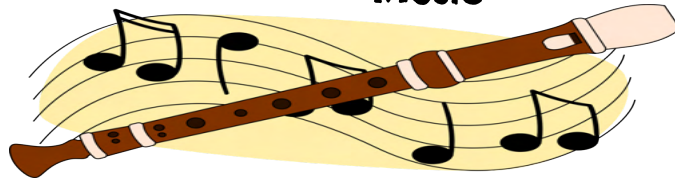
March 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5 Mini Basketball Assembly 8:45 Pink Shirt Day!	6 School Council Meeting	7 Grade 5/6 Ski trip	8	9
10	11	12 Mini Basketball Kindergarten going to Galt Museum Pavan Park Grades 1/2	13	14 Mini Basketball	15 PD day no school for Students	16
17	18	19 Mini Basketball Tournament Report cards going home	20	21 Student-led conferences	22	23
24	25 Spring Break No school for Staff or Students	26 Spring Break No school for Staff or Students	27 Spring Break No school for Staff or Students	28 Spring Break No school for Staff or Students	29 Spring Break No school for Staff or Students	30
31						

Music/Fine Arts

Music



Students continue to enjoy exploring the use of different instruments. We sing, we dance, we use our bodies as instruments, and we have a lot of fun! Students in Grades 3-6 have been busy learning to play the recorder and they are starting to create lovely music.



Early Learning Program

What a fun and busy month! We started our month with Transportation, sharing our favorite, and fun ways that we would get to school.

Camels, and other desert animals were our focus in our science center this month. Did you know that most desert animals have light sandy color, camels can go up to 2 months without water, they have long legs to keep them high above the hot sand, and they have wide feet to keep them from sinking into the sand? We had fun at our Friendship Party, making crafts, handing out Valentine's, and showing off our favorite stuffy or toy. To end our Friendship theme, we made Stone Stone Soup. Soup from a stone, Fancy That!



Kindergarten News

February In Kindergarten

This month we learned about the themes; bears, feelings, and weather. We celebrated Valentine's Day, went skating and had our teddy bear picnic! We learned about graphing, counting and problem solving. We took advantage of the warm weather and enjoyed watching how the weather changed. Between singing songs, laughing, exploring our 5 senses we had a busy month!

A few photos from the month of February.





This upcoming month our learning themes will be: learning about life cycles, spring, and St. Patrick's Day. We are incubating eggs in our classroom this month and will hopefully have a few chicks successfully hatch in time for student led conferences. As always, please see our classroom newsletter on ClassDojo for more Kindergarten information.

Grade 1/2 News - Mrs. Slusar

The Grade 1-2 classroom continues to be a busy place of learning. Students will be spending time this month writing nonfiction chapter books, reading more and more from their book bins, continuing to build their sight word lists and building more friendships. Our focus in math will be more patterning and continuing to build their fact fluency with a focus on combinations for 10's and doubles.

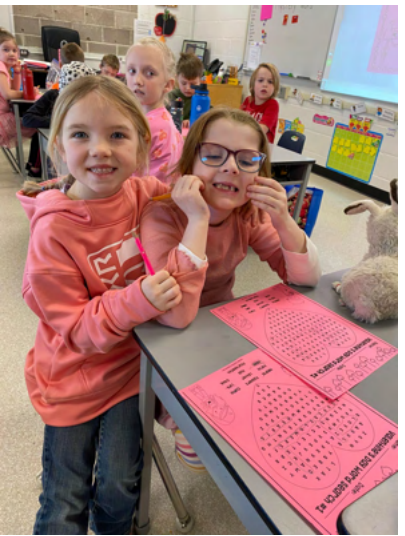
We look forward to another Pavan Park visit on March 12th. Please let me know if you are able to join us and help out from 9am - noon. Please check the school calendar for upcoming dates for Pink Shirt day, Student Led conferences and a PD Day.



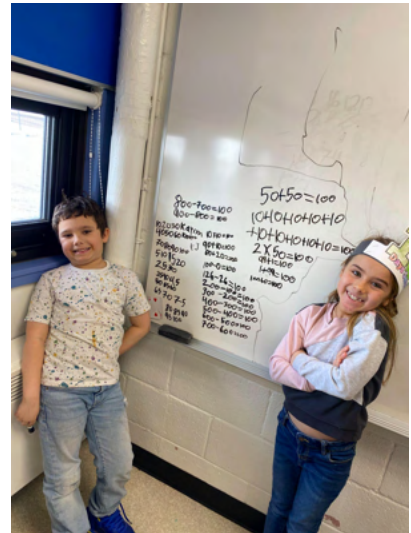
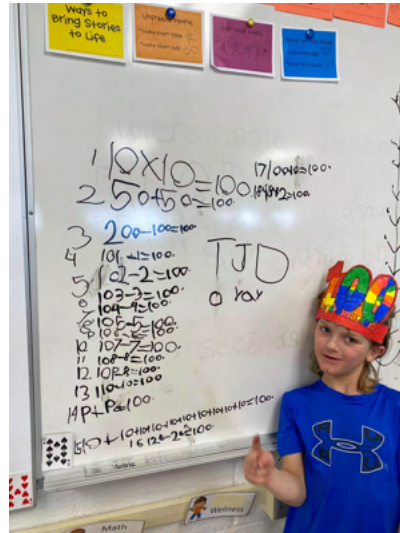
Outdoor Walk



SKATING



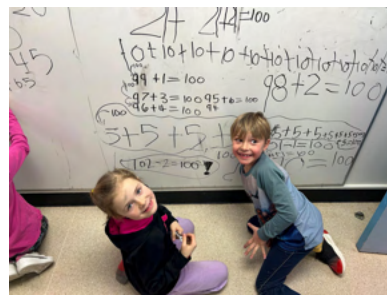
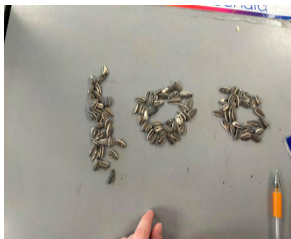
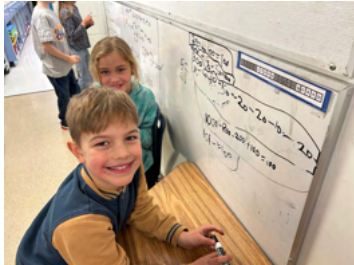
Valentine's Day!



100 Day!

Grade 1/2 News - Mrs. Klassen

The past month has provided so many opportunities for creativity, learning, and celebration- including our 100th day of school, Valentine Heart Walk in Pavan Park, and art projects inspired by the frost and animal adaptations in winter.



What's New in Grade 3/4J



How is it that another month has flown by and it's newsletter time again?!?! As I get older, I am definitely convinced there is a strong connection between age and how quickly time flies by!

Looking ahead here's a brief description of topics we'll be covering:

Math: Multiplication, multiplication, multiplication!!!! We will continue to practice this essential skill (Gr 3s up to 10x10, Gr 4s up to 12x12 and multi-digit multiplication too). Many students still rely on manipulatives, so our goal is for more independence as we practice. Please practice at home if possible. Measurement is also coming up (measuring length, perimeter, area, etc.)

x	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
3	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36
4	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40	44	48
5	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60
6	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72
7	7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70	77	84
8	8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80	88	96
9	9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90	99	108
10	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
11	11	22	33	44	55	66	77	88	99	110	121	132
12	12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108	120	132	144


LA: Reading: We continue to dig deeper into the elements of a story (character, setting, plot, theme, point of view, etc.) For our class read aloud, we are reading "Superfudge" by Judy Blume. Students LOVED Book 1 and are excited to see how Peter's tales will unfold in this book. We are continuing to read with the Preschool classes once a month! **Writing/WW:** We are continuing our work with descriptive writing focusing on winter. We even went outside for a winter walk to get inspiration! We are striving to choose more powerful words and to add details to our writing. This will lead nicely into Narrative writing. In Word Work, we are focusing on spelling, specifically adding suffixes to words.



Science: We are looking at how the earth changes. Topics we are discussing include sudden changes such as earthquakes, volcanoes, and landslides. Weathering, erosion and deposition are up next! We'll also have a Scientists in Schools Workshop entitled "Get the Dirt on Plants" in March.

Social: We continue to explore various aspects of Peru, Tunisia, India and Ukraine. We are currently looking at Goods and Services for these regions.

Art: In Art we are wrapping up our cartooning section and will be exploring the element of space by looking at foreground, midground and background next!

As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to seeing you at Student-led Conferences on Thursday, March 21. Have a wonderful and relaxing Easter Break! 

Mrs. J. Henderson

Happy Easter!

Reading with Preschool!



Our Inspirational Winter Walk! (with magnifying glasses in hand!!!)



Cartooning!





MARCH 2024

Mrs. Hudey – Grade 3/4

Happy Spring!



February might have been short, but it was certainly full of growth and learning! Here's a few of the things we've been up to!

Math - Fact fluency, multiplication, graphing and collaborative problem solving.

Language Arts- In reading, we continue to develop our reading stamina, fluency, accuracy and comprehension skills. Students are exploring new genres, reading for detail, character development, plot lines and themes.

We are grateful for the new books that were purchased this month for our classroom library! We love to write! We are working on brainstorming, sequencing ideas, and adding detail and description to our daily writing.

Science- We continue to learn about Earth Systems- Changing Earth.

Students have read and researched about Earth's moving plates, layers of the earth, the formation of mountains, river beds, glaciers, water routes to the oceans, earthquakes, volcanoes and weathering. Students are looking forward to a hands on

Scientists in Schools workshop on the 19th!

Social Studies- We are comparing and contrasting unique features of four global communities. (Peru, Tunisia, India and Ukraine)

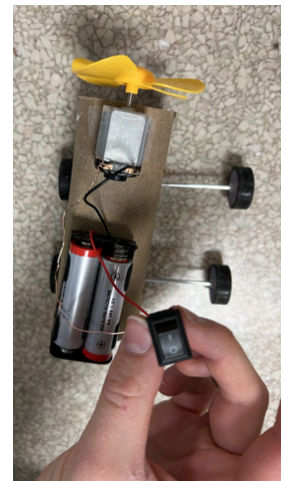




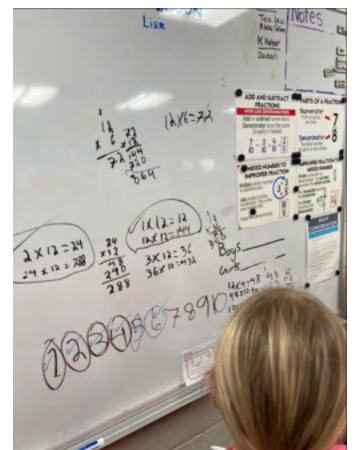
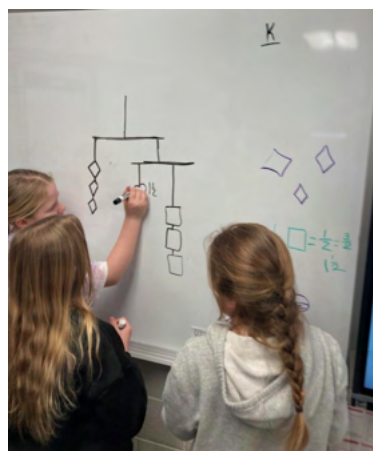
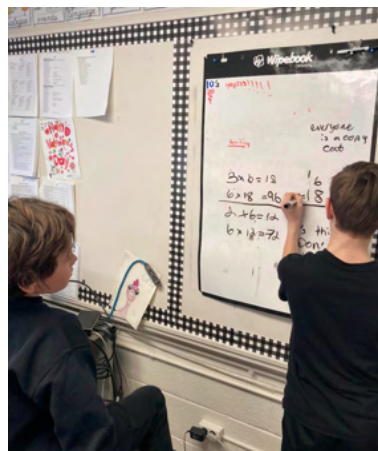
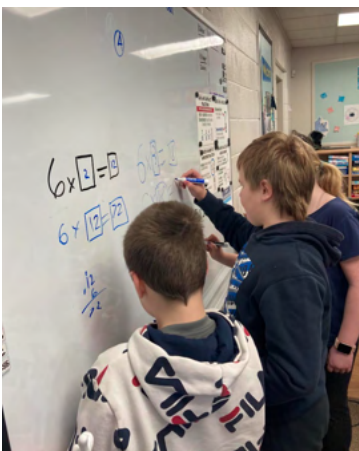
Grade 5 News – Mrs. Hass

How is it March already? Things are flowing nicely in grade five these days. We are maturing, using our time wisely, and growing more as learners every day! I hope everyone enjoyed their February break. It's nice to be back for several full weeks before Easter, and those weeks will be full of good learning.

In Science, we are wrapping up our Electricity unit. It has been fun building and testing so many circuits, including burglar alarms, cars that drive with motors and trivia games. Next, we will begin our unit on Chemistry, looking at different mixtures before the Easter break.



In Math, we are wrapping up our fractions unit, looking at part-whole relationships as ratios, fractions, decimals and percentages. Students are busy making connections to the real world and it is fantastic! We will be moving onto a unit of Algebra in the coming weeks, focussing on order of operations and unknown values in expressions.



In writing, students have worked hard to match the author's voice to the intended audience. Students have written formal letters using cursive writing, and looked at email etiquette while writing both formal and informal emails. We are moving into

persuasive writing, focussing on strong complex sentence structure within an essay framework, providing evidence and justification.



In reading, we are continuing to work on fluency, expanding our vocabulary, and making inferences within texts. We are diving deep into characterization within our short story unit, making connections between characters and investigating and analyzing motivation in actions and dialogue in relationships.



Grade 6 News – Mrs. Jesse

Wow! February sure flew by! Students were busy finishing up unit projects and assessments for all subjects before the week off and we are now starting all new units in all subject areas.



Math: This month in math students will be focusing on Patterns and Algebra. They will be challenged to recognize and use patterns to solve problems. They will also solve equations with unknown variables and use variables in equations to represent number relationships. We will continue our daily math questions focusing this month on multiplying and dividing decimals. Students would benefit from practicing these skills at home to help them increase their confidence at school.

LA: In language arts, students are focusing on reading and writing non-fiction texts. Students are practicing previewing and connecting with various non-fiction topics. They are paying close attention to text features and focusing on building new vocabulary. Mid-March they will choose a topic to research and write about. We will have an exhibit in April, so that everyone can have a chance to learn about each topic.

Science: We have started our third unit in science: Chemistry. Students will participate in many hands-on activities mixing solids and liquids. They will begin to recognize reversible and irreversible changes in matter, and investigate characteristics of various powders. We will use the scientific method to look at topics such as surface tension, and acidity levels. Some of these experiments will be available to view at Student Led conferences.

Social: We have started our Canadian history unit focusing on the exploration of the Atlantic region. Students will learn about key events and interactions between various cultures that have shaped our world today. In March we will be focusing primarily on what life was like for the French and British during early settlement.

Important Dates:

-March 7th Ski Trip

-March 15 PD Day

-March 21 Student Led Conferences



IMPACT PARENTING
PRESENTS...

ADHD

PARENT GROUP

About Impact Parenting:
Tracey Erickson-Driscoll and
Natalie McLean have over 50
years of combined
experience providing
support for families, utilizing
a practical, compassionate,
and judgement-free
approach.

Thursdays,
March 14-April 18

5:30 PM-7:00 PM
John Davidson School
Coaldale, AB
Meal and Childcare provided

Session Topics:
What is ADHD?
The Brain and ADHD
Strategies for Parenting
Your ADHD Child
Navigating the School
System
Parenting Strategies \
Sleep, Nutrition & Self
Care

For registration & further information Contact
Your School's Family School Liaison
Counsellour or Making Connections