



December 2024 Newsletter

Principal's Message

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas! The snow is here and the weather has been fantastic! The students have been really enjoying their time in the snow and of course, preparations for our Christmas concert are in full swing!

By now you will have received your child's first report card for the year and parent-teacher interviews are the night of November 28th. As the new way of doing parent teacher interviews is going to be a pilot project this year, I am curious to get your feedback. I will send out a survey after the 2nd report card to get as much information as possible, but feel free to email or call and let me know your thoughts on having the additional parent-teacher interview nights.

Our teachers continue to provide amazing educational experiences for your children. I am always impressed at how they are constantly learning, changing, and growing their practice to help your children succeed. In particular, the way they have managed the new curriculum, new report cards, and changing government funding structures has been exemplary. Your children are in such good hands!

I wanted to remind you of our next School Council meeting. We had a request to try a different time for our next School Council meeting, as the 4 o'clock time didn't work for some parents. Our next meeting is on January 21st at 6:30 PM. We would love for you to join us! This is a great way to hear about things that are happening at the school and to provide feedback on school direction/policies. Speaking of the School Council, I want to say a huge thank you to the parents who regularly work to make our school a better place. We have a number of parents who regularly donate their time to help organize events, plan/provide hot lunch, solicit donations, and step in when things are needed. Thank you!

One of the things I love about the Sunnyside community at Christmas is your generosity. Grade 3/4 Hudey put on their "Silver Linings" campaign this year, and they collected mountains of popcorn twists, cheesies, aero bars, and body wash. Thank you all for donating to seniors in need. We also do an amazing job supporting Angel Tree, which provides Christmas gifts to children in need. We will be a drop off location again this year, so if you want, feel free to drop off a gift or two here at the school. The "angels" that have the ages/gift descriptions will be available as well.

Lastly, I want to say thank you for your support of our additional outdoor time here at Sunnyside. It is one of the many things I am proud of and we couldn't do it without your help! Having students dressed for the weather and having a positive mindset towards going outside in all weather makes a huge difference. Thank you for your support!

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, feel free to reach out!

Mitchell Van Dyk



December 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Hot Lunch Sloppy Joes	3 Mini Volleyball Tournament 2-5 pm Assembly 845	4	5	6	7
8	9 Hot Lunch Chicken Noodle Soup & bun	10 Christmas Concert 1 pm and 6 pm	11	12	13	14
15	16 Hot Lunch Hot Dogs	17 Grades 1-6 going to Prairie Winds Secondary	18	19	20 Winter Break No school for Staff or students	21
22	23 Winter Break No school for Staff or students	24 Winter Break No school for Staff or students	25 Winter Break No school for Staff or students 	26 Winter Break No school for Staff or students	27 Winter Break No school for Staff or students	28
29	30 Winter Break No school for Staff or students	31 Winter Break No school for Staff or students				

Making Connections

The word of the month for November has been peace. Classrooms have been participating in discussion and activities on peace in multiple ways. Peace for ourselves: with positive self-talk and self compassion. Peace with others: working on communication and being a predictable friend. We had some classrooms participate in challenges of communication, where they needed to complete a group task but had differing levels of communication available to them! We also used a classic game of 'Telephone' to show how a message can get changed along the way and we need good communication to share our thoughts/ feelings/ needs.

Our students practice peace each and everyday here at Sunnyside, and we encourage all students to continue practicing peace throughout the school year, by speaking kindly to not only others but to themselves as well.

Stay Tuned: December's words of the month are generosity and gratitude.



Community Resources:

Angel Tree Christmas is in full swing!

Angel Tree's goal has been to ensure that every child has the opportunity to experience the joy of Christmas. They collect new, unwrapped toys during November and December each year, and distribute those toys in Christmas gift bundles to children and youth in the Lethbridge area whose families need help during the holidays.

Whether families want to donate or access Angel Tree we are all here to support our community. Registration deadline is December 3rd to receive items. Or 'Pick an Angel' to help a child this Christmas (digital Angel option on website). <https://www.lfsfamily.ca/angeltree>

If there are any questions on Angel Tree our school Making Connections Worker is available to connect (allyssa.ockerman@pallisersd.ab.ca). If families would like an Angel to donate, students can see Ms. Ockerman to pick one up.

Music/Fine Arts

Concert rehearsals are well underway for our production of Survival Santa and students are very excited to show off their singing and acting skills for you on Dec 10. Below is a list of costume requirements for each class. Please send these to school with your child as soon as possible, and they will stay at the school until the concert.

Kindergarten-nothing special required

Grade ½ Slusar-Pajamas

Grade ½ Klassen-snow pants (or baggy pants) and a toque

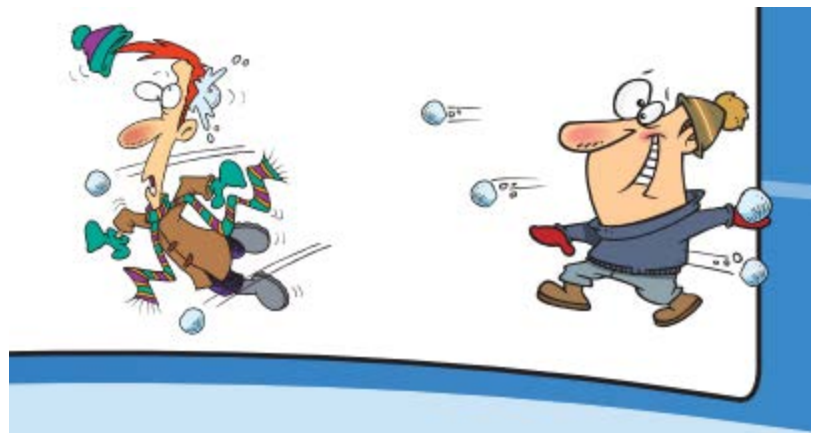
Grade ¾ Johnston- white shirt

Grade ¾ Hudey-hat, sunglasses, (black pants and shirt are nice, but not required)

Grade 5 Hass- scarf, mitts/gloves, toque

Grade 6 Jesse- Elves-as much red/green as possible

Reindeer-brown pants



Sunnyside Early Learning Program

Early Learning November Newsletter

What great weather for November!! We are so lucky to be able to spend so much time outside. In our science center this month we are learning about owls. We were busy this month learning about our 5 senses. Some of the things we tried were: taste testing foods, smell testing, and painting with bells. Dinosaurs are always a big hit in our classroom, finding fossils, making baking soda volcanos, fossils, and learning what paleontologists do. We ended our month with our Gingerbread theme.



Kindergarten

This month we have been busy learning! Our class has settled into routines and expectations and we are growing so much everyday. During our literacy time, we started our fairytale exploration. The students have been working hard on our letters and their corresponding sounds and are making great progress. We have explored patterns, and are working hard to become number masters. Remember to check out our class newsletter on Dojo for upcoming events in our classroom.





Grade 1/2 News - Mrs. Slusar



Grade 1/2 News – Mrs. Klassen

There has been so much energy and enthusiasm for learning this past month! Here are a few snapshots of the fun!







What's Happening in 3/4J

It's beginning to look a lot like CHRISTMAS! We are coming up to a busy month in our school schedule. But, the month we just had was full of amazing learning and we are continuing to raise the expectations of our students, which they are achieving with such a positive attitude! Here is a snippet of what we did in November.

Math: We spent some time finishing up our Place Value understanding, as well as applying it to Money. We have learned how to count money for both grades, but now we are focusing on Addition strategies for our Grade 4's.

Reading: We are continuing to read "The Wild Robot" and working on our comprehension skills. This month, we wanted students to make connections with character choices, understanding Cause & Effect along with Comparing & Contrasting different characters. We are also taking some time now to practice Inferencing, one of the more difficult skills in reading.

Writing: We have finished up our Personal Narrative unit and are moving into Poetry! Our theme will be Christmas Poetry and students will explore the different types to write in, along with using more figurative language.

Social Studies: We have spent some time learning about the different Provincial Parks, as well as how fossils can tell us about our History in Alberta. We had a "virtual" field trip to Royal Tyrrell Museum to recognize this important part of our History.

Science: This month, we focused on the different environments that animals can live in, whether they be wetlands, grasslands, or deserts. We are now learning about the different adaptations of animals and are doing some research on an animal of our choice.

PE: In Soccer, we are learning the fundamentals of passing and performing passes with the proper technique.



Mrs. Hudey - Grade 3/4 December 2024

EVENTS: Giving Back to the Community with Silver Linings

The Grade 3/4 class has proudly partnered with Silver Linings for the 3rd Annual Christmas collection for local seniors! The students made posters, wrote commercials, advertised on the morning announcements and gathered donations daily!

It has been a huge success THANKS to our generous community!!

We are happy to report that the donations from Sunnyside School students will bring Christmas joy to many people this holiday season! **THANK YOU for your support!!**



Here's what we are working on:

Reading: This month we introduced predicting and sequencing reading strategies. We are enjoying "The Wild Robot" as our class read aloud this month! We have had some fantastic class

discussions about the story events and the

changing character dynamics. Students are choosing good fit chapter books to practice their reading skills- focusing on accuracy, fluency and comprehension and stamina. **In Writing**, students are building sentences and paragraphs focusing on adding interesting detail and new vocabulary. Students wrote amazing Remembrance Day poems, check them out in the gym or on our door!

Math: Students have been working on Place Value, collaborative problem solving, and addition and subtraction strategies.

Science: Students have been learning about "Living Systems."

Social Studies: Students are learning about Alberta geography and land formations.

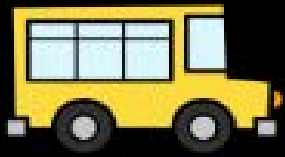
If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at Sunnyside School - 403-327-9214 or Email: lynnell.hudey@pallisersd.ab.ca



Remembrance Day poems!



Grade 5 News – Mrs. Hass



GRADE 5 NEWS

December Newsletter

PLAYING GAMES TO LEARN VERB TENSE:



Grade 5 has been filled with lots of learning this month, including addition and subtraction with decimals, and learning to compose and send emails.

READING BUDDIES:



SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS



December Newsletter - Grade 6

We've made it to my favorite month of the year and I am so excited for all the fun activities we have planned in our classroom and in our school. Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions about all the activities that will be happening, as there will be many!

Math: For the past few weeks, students have been challenged with many tasks using factors and multiples. They used factorization and prime factorization to solve many problems at the whiteboards. They worked with many strategies to discover common multiples and common factors of a variety of numbers. Factor rainbows, value tables, reverse multiplication and specific divisibility rules were all practiced and evaluated. We have moved onto fractions, which will continue into December! We will also move into division of multi-digit numbers, which can sometimes still be a bit tricky for grade sixers.

LA: We have moved into a new unit in Reading that focuses on specific reading strategies to get students to think deeply. We are practicing using each of these strategies together using short films, picture books and excerpts from novels. Students are practicing these skills during independent reading time and during small guided reading groups. They will finish this unit in January with a final book club project. In writing, students have celebrated their published narratives with a Sunnyside Cafe. They are moving onto personal essays, which will take them through December. If time permits, we will hopefully get a little creative writing in this month too.

Science: Students finished up their Living Systems unit mid-November and have started their Matter unit. So far, we have covered Particle Theory and have completed a few experiments/simulations to demonstrate this concept. They will finish this unit in December with the creation of a thermometer and hopefully some coding.

Social: Students have moved onto learning about Ancient Athens (the birthplace of democracy). They have learned about all the social roles and are now learning about the political side. They will demonstrate their understanding of their government by participating in a few role plays and finally completing a project of their choice to finish off our unit. Projects will be shared with their classmates in January.










A few important dates coming up:

December 3rd: Mini-Volleyball Tournament
December 10th: Christmas Concert
December 17: Prairie Winds
December 19: Possibly Secret Santa (email to come)
December 20-January 6: Holidays



DECEMBER

Welcome to Sunnyside School's 12 (ish) days of Christmas! Please join us in dressing festive and having some fun! We have planned some fun days to help get us in the Christmas spirit. Feel free to participate in one of them, some of them, or all of them - have some fun and be creative!

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>2- Welcome CHRISTMAS! It's Red and Green Day!</p>  <p>-Dress in Red/Green</p>	<p>3 Is your tree up yet.....? Dress like a Christmas Tree!</p> 	<p>4 - Rudolph the red nosed... wear reindeer antlers!</p> 	<p>5 - Wear your crazy Christmas (or any) socks - over your pant legs! We wanna see 'em!</p>  <p>-Bring a non-perishable item to school to donate to the food bank</p>	<p>6 - JINGLE BELL, JINGLE BELL, JINGLE BELL ROCK! Wear your jingle bells!</p> 
<p>9 - Baby, it's cold outside! Wear your winter-ey scarves!</p> 	<p>10 - Random Acts of Kindness!</p>  <p>-find a way to do something kind for someone or another class</p>	<p>11 - SANTA! <i>I know him!</i> Dress like an elf!</p> 	<p>12 - Ugly Christmas Sweaters!</p> 	<p>13 - You're a mean one, Mr. Grinch! Dress like the Grinch or in toxic green!</p>  <p>-Waffle breakfast!</p>

16 - HO HO HO!
Wear your Santa hats (or any hat!)



17 - CANDY CANE DAY!
Dress in red and white - you can even wear stripes if you have 'em!



-Christmas Carols in the gym

18 - Jersey Day
(I know it's not Christmas themed) - but wear your favourite team's jersey or colours!



19 - Pajama Day!



-Wear slippers and bring a stuffy too!
-Turkey Dinner

20 -
Start of Christmas Holidays!

