

January 2025 Newsletter Principal's Message

Merry Christmas! I hope that you all have a chance to enjoy your holidays, however you celebrate them. I'm hoping for some cold weather and some snow!

December was a ton of fun. A huge thank you to you, the parents, for your tremendous support of our school. We supported a number of excellent causes, including Silver Linings, Angel Tree, the Food Bank, and Operation Christmas Child. We also had a fantastic bake sale and the Community Association raised over \$2000 for our school. If you donated, volunteered, or purchased, thank you! What an awesome example you have set for our students - to find ways to generously impact others' lives.

As I've mentioned before, I often like to pause and reflect in December. It's a great time to assess how things are going, where we are, where we've been, and where we are headed. I have been so impressed with how students have responded in the first few months. We hit the ground running in September and there has been so much growth (academically, socially, and emotionally). We also continue to push forward with some of our exciting initiatives - getting the greenhouse ready for use in the Spring, continuing with our pilot project with new report cards, setting up new Sunnyside clothing items for order, and of course, always trying to find the best ways to help your kids learn and grow.

I would like to thank Mrs. Hass again for her excellent work with the Christmas concert. From the outside, it seems like a quick, 40 minute little play. But I get to see behind the scenes - the shopping for colored light bulbs, hours spent after school getting costumes and building a backdrop, and giving up recesses to help students practice their lines. We really appreciate all of her hard work - and it turned out to be excellent. I love the rural, community feel of our Christmas concert.

For January, our word of the month is going to be responsibility. I think helping students understand how to take responsibility for their actions and to set things right if they go awry is very important. Also, it is so important that students take ownership of their own learning and work hard to make sure that they come to school ready and willing to keep growing.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you for the wonderful opportunity to help your children learn and grow. It really is an incredible privilege to journey alongside you as you raise your children. Thank you for your kindness and support!

Feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns. Have a wonderful Christmas break, and we will see you on January 6th!

Mitchell Van Dyk



January 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			l Winter Break No school for Staff or students	2 Winter Break no school for Staff or students	3 Winter Break no school for Staff or students	4
5	6 Hot lunch Cheese pizza First day back to school after winter break	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 Hot lunch spaghetti & meat sauce	14 Grades 1/2 going to Pavan Park	15	16	17	18
19	20 Hot lunch chicken & rice	School Council meeting 6:30 pm Skating at the Labor Club (Tentative)	22	23	24	25
26	27 Hot Lunch sausage & perogies	28 Skating at the Labor Club (Tentative)	29	30 Grades 5/6 Energy Expo at Sunnyside	31 PD Day no school for Students	