

# April 2024 Newsletter

By the time you read this, it will almost be Easter break. I can't believe that the month of April is almost here! It feels like the last few months have just flown by. Spring will (hopefully) be here to stay soon, and we will get to experience all the fun and joy that the last few months of school brings!

By now, you will have had access to your child's report card(s). Please take the time to check them in your Edsby account. The report card is an excellent way to check-in on your child's progress, find out what they have been working on, where their strengths lie, and what things they can continue to grow in. Our staff have put a tremendous amount of work into them and I think they are a really valuable part of reporting your child's progress!

On Thursday of this week, we will also have student-led conferences. It is one of my favorite nights of the year. Students have a chance to show off all the great things they have been working on - there is something beautiful about parents, students, and teachers coming together to celebrate a student, their hard work, and their growth. Thank you for the amazing parent support! In the past, we have had close to 95% attendance at these events.

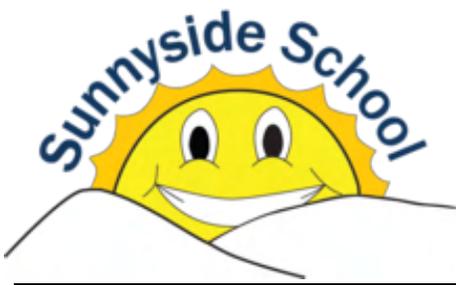
On Friday of last week, our staff had the opportunity to participate in some professional learning with other Palliser School staff in Vulcan. We were able to attend sessions on numeracy, land-based learning, literacy, helping students with unique learning needs, and a whole host of other sessions. While PD days can sometimes be inconvenient for parents, they are really important for us to continue to grow our practice to better meet your child's needs. There were some excellent learning opportunities for us!

Please stay tuned for some important opportunities in the next few months. The Sunnyside Community Association is planning a Penny Carnival/70th celebration, we hope to have the greenhouse up and running before the end of the year, we are planning a popcorn fundraiser for the school, and a whole host of other great events.

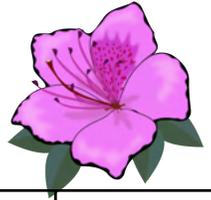
As always, thank you so much for all of your support. It really has been another great month of school here at Sunnyside!

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out!

Mitchell Van Dyk



# April 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> Spring Break No school for Staff or Students	<b>2</b> Spring Break No school for Staff or Students	<b>3</b> Spring Break No school for Staff or Students	<b>4</b> Spring Break No school for Staff or Students	<b>5</b> Spring Break No school for Staff or Students	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Classes Resume after spring break Hot Lunch Spaghetti & Meatballs	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> School Council Meeting	<b>11</b> Mrs. Klassens class going to the Galt Museum	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Hot Lunch Cheese Pizza	<b>16</b> Grades 1/2 going to Pavan park	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Hot Lunch Hamburgers	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> PD Day no school for students	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Hot Lunch Taco in a Bag	<b>30</b>			Looking Ahead May 1 Grade 3/4 Ukrainian Dance at the Yates	

**Returning Student registration is now open for the 2024-2025 school year!**

# Music/Fine Arts

## MUSIC IS LITERACY

- **Children who can keep the beat have improved fluency in language.**  
Scan the QR Code for more information. 
- **Reading a text more than once is a proven strategy to improve reading fluency - what better way than to learn a song?**  
Scan the QR Code for more information. 
- **In music, children practice discrimination between pitches, types of voices, inflections, high/low, loud/quiet**  
Discriminating between similar auditory elements is essential for effective communication. Scan the QR Code for more information. 
- **Decoding symbols, letters, words, and sentences, visual focus, and visual memory are part of music and literacy**  
(Hansen et al., 2004) Read the book: *The Music and Literacy Connection* By Dee Hansen, Elaine Bernstorff, Gayle M. Stuber
- **Choral reading, repeated reading, echo reading and song reading are strategies to develop prosody. Learning songs improves fluency in language!!!**  
Prosody is the third core element of fluency. It is defined as reading with expression. Scan the QR Code for more information. 
- **Fingerplays, chants and action songs are important tools to help children develop fluency and rhythm in language. Children learn new vocabulary, comprehension and fine motor skills as they show with their hands what the words mean.**
- **Songs teach many concepts: alphabet, counting, cultures, basic skills, and more!**

# Sunnyside Early Learning Program



We sure kept busy this month! Under the Sea, Nursery Rhymes and Easter all in a couple of weeks. 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 Humpty Dumpty egg was dropped off our wall. What fun! And I can't believe the wonderful ideas that everyone came up with! Such great ideas!!

### Science Center

Peacocks. Did you know that Peacocks do not like snakes. They will eat snakes, even poisonous ones. Males are called Peacocks, and females are called Peahens. Peachicks really love to play games. They will chase each other around a bush or in a pen. They love to play with discarded feathers and will chase the peachick which has the feather.

# Kindergarten News





# Grade 1/2 News – Mrs. Slusar

I am looking forward to seeing you at the Student Led conferences this week. The students are excited and proud to show you what they have learned over the last few months. Here are a few pictures to share.



**Measuring circumference at Pavan Park**



**Kaede and his balancing dragonfly**



Grades 1 & 2 will be going to Pavan Park on April 16 and we are looking for parent volunteers to go along. Please let us know if you are able to help out.

Happy Easter to everyone and I hope you enjoy your break together as a family.

# Grade 1/2 News – Mrs. Klassen

March has been short but busy! We are so proud of the growth and progress we have seen in grade 1/2 and we can't wait to share some of our work with you on Thursday. Hope to see you there! Our class will be heading to the Galt Museum on Thursday, April 11th for a guided tour and storytelling about the significance of the Buffalo in Blackfoot culture. We will be leaving the school around 10:30 by bus, and returning between 1:00 -1:30. We will need three parent volunteers to help out so please let me know if you'd like to join as soon as possible! Also, please let me know if you are able to attend our Pavan Park trip on Tuesday, April 16th.



Wishing you all a wonderful Easter break!

## What's New in Grade 3/4J

We are all eagerly awaiting our Easter/Spring Break! If only Mother Nature would cooperate!!! Here's hoping this will be our last blast of winter. 🙄

Just a reminder that Report Cards were emailed to you on Tuesday and that Student-led Conferences are on Thursday, March 21 from 4 - 8 pm. I hope you have an opportunity to join us so your child can show you a little bit of what we've been doing!

It seems like we just sent you a newsletter so here's a condensed version of things to come in April:

- **Math:** Our focus is now on division. We are learning a variety of strategies and are practicing every day. We also continue to look at "measurement" including length, mass, capacity, temperature, time, etc.
- **Writing:** Students are currently working on a narrative/descriptive writing activity entitled "A Room With a View". We are hoping to show it to you on Thursday!
- **Reading:** We continue to read storybooks and novels with the goal of strengthening our skills in identifying story elements.
- **Science:** We just had our second Scientist in Schools presentation on March 19. We continue to study how the Earth changes by looking at weathering, erosion and deposition.
- **Social:** We continue to look at goods and services available and how that impacts Ukraine, India, Peru and Tunisia.
- **Art:** We are looking at how artists use the element of "space" in their work.

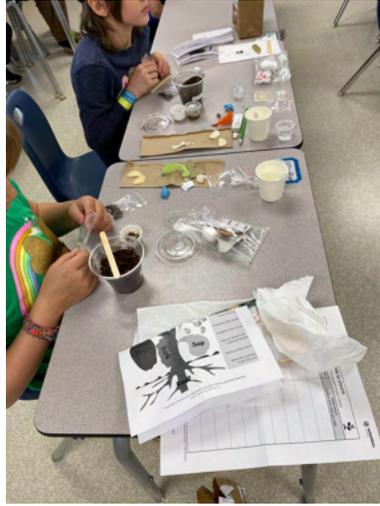
Have a fabulous Easter Break!  
Mrs. J. Henderson



Our milk-jug greenhouses! ↘



Just a few pictures from our Scientists in Schools Presentation - "Get the Dirt on Plants", Art - Using Foreground, Midground and Background and Decorating Easter Eggs with the Preschoolers!





# April Newsletter Mrs. Hudey - Grade 3/4

## Happy Spring!

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!

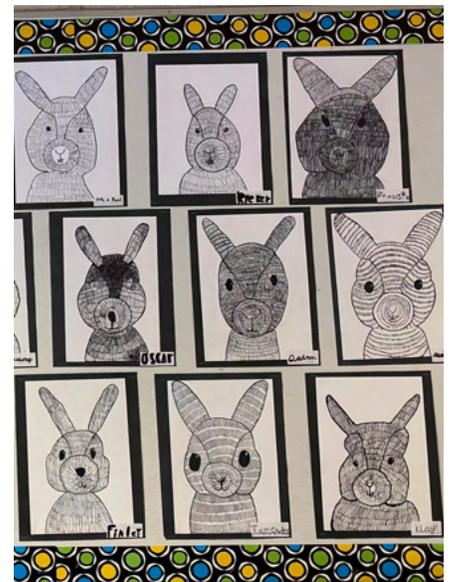
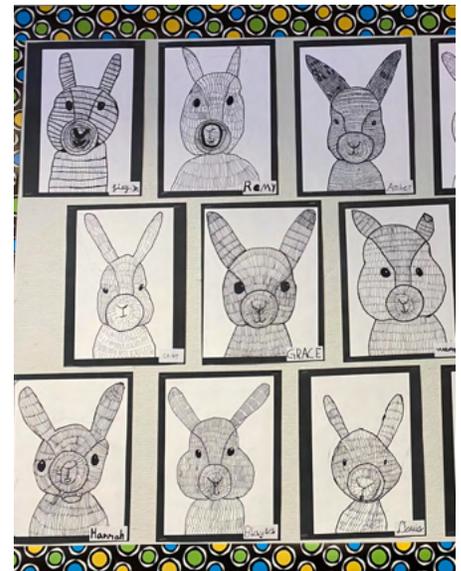
Here's what we've been up to:

Reading: Challenge to read 20 mins each night!

Writing: Fairy Tales - Story Writing - Adding details and edit:)

Math: Fact fluency - addition, subtraction, multiplication, starting division.

Check out some of our amazing days here at Sunnyside:



Peruvian guest speaker



I AM..... Art



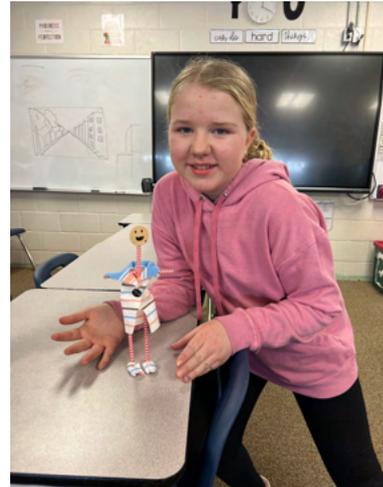
**Other events:**

- Scientist in Schools - Grade 3/4
- School yard clean up!!
- Family group - milk jug planting project
- Mini-Basketball tournament
- Student Led Conferences - March 21
- **Spring Break! March 23- April 7**



# Grade 5 News – Mrs. Hass

Students are excited about our new Chemistry unit in Science, where we get to do all kinds of experiments with states of matter, mixtures, solutions, acids and bases. We are debating all kinds of things to work on our persuasive skills in writing. Ask your child if wearing socks with sandals is a fashion disaster or if it is considered stylish. 😊



# Grade 6 News – Mrs. Jesse

March was a lot of fun. The ski trip was a great way to start the month, and then starting all new units always lends itself well to excitement and new learning opportunities. It is hard to believe that we are moving into April already.

**Math:** This month in math students will continue their investigations of Patterns and Algebra. We will continue working on multiplying and dividing decimals as well. Closer to the end of April, we will begin looking at shapes and geometry.

**LA:** In language arts, students will continue reading and writing non-fiction texts. Students have chosen a research topic and are busy learning about their topics. They will use various text structures and writing styles to communicate what they have learned. We will have an exhibit in April, so that everyone can have a chance to learn about each topic. Again, closer to the end of the month, students will revisit the newspaper article unit from last year in preparation for their PAT in May.

**Science:** So far in our chemistry unit, students have completed numerous experiments dealing with surface tension. They have also started looking at heterogeneous and homogenous mixtures and tools to separate them. We will continue looking at reversible physical changes before moving onto non-reversible chemical changes closer to the end of the month.

**Social:** We have been learning about the French exploration of Canada in the 1500's, and the impact that they have had on Canada today. We will move into learning about the British exploration of Canada and the key interactions between the French, British and Indigenous peoples of early Canadian settlement.

