

March 2023 Newsletter

Principal's Message



Some days it sure feels like Spring is in the air, doesn't it? I can't wait for us to get our little greenhouse going, start planting, and enjoy all that Spring and the beautiful weather has to offer.

Speaking of greenhouses, in case you haven't heard, we are looking into building a greenhouse for Sunnyside School! The Sunnyside Community Association has set aside a substantial amount of money from the Barn Dance fundraiser from last year and we have some members of the Association looking into applying for grants. This is incredibly exciting for our little country school. What an amazing way to learn about plants, growth, nature, the land, and agriculture! We already have 4 staff and 7 parents signed up for our greenhouse committee - if you are interested in volunteering for it, please let me know!

I also wanted to remind you about important surveys that have been mailed out to all the parents of students in grades 4,5, and 6. These are called Assurance surveys and they come to you via (snail) mail from the Alberta government. We want as much feedback as possible from parents - what are the areas we are excelling in? How do you feel about Sunnyside School? Are there some things we can do better? This survey takes about 15 minutes to complete and provides us with a lot of valuable information about how we are doing. Please take the time to fill it out - it really is valuable to us!

As a school, we continue to talk about embracing the principles of inclusion and kindness. We are committed to ensuring that all students feel safe and welcome at the school. As parents, it would be awesome if you would continue to support this at home. Please engage your child(ren) in conversations about how they can show kindness and care towards others, how they can demonstrate respect, even to those that they don't get along with, and how they can help contribute to make sure that Sunnyside is an amazing place for everyone! We have also been talking with the students about how to resolve conflict effectively before we get frustrated or upset. Your support in these efforts would be much appreciated.

Lastly, I want to say a huge thank you. I believe that gratitude is incredibly important to helping our children grow into caring, valuable members of our community. I am so grateful for all of the parents of this school. We are one of the most supported schools I know - with amazing volunteers and parents. The enthusiasm for helping with hot lunch, attending School Council, volunteering for trips to Pavan or Castle Mountain, or helping out with the Barn Dance is second to none! I am also incredibly grateful for our wonderful staff. I get a first hand view of the amazing work that our teachers and support staff do every day. Your children are in wonderful hands with this amazing staff!

I hope you all have a wonderful month of March. If you have any questions, concerns, or just feel the need to chat, please reach out to me via email or call me at the school.

Thanks!

Mitchell Van Dyk



March 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Mini Basketball	2	3	4
5	6 Mini Basketball Hot lunch Hamburgers	7 KEVA PLANKS/Lego TECHNIC STEAM If Registered	8 Mini Basketball	9	10	11
12	13 Mini Basketball Hot lunch Cheese Pizza	14	15 Mini Basketball Tournament Pavan Park Grades 1/2	16	17 PD Day No School for Students	18
19	20 Hot lunch Spaghetti & Meat Sauce	21	22	23	24 Report cards coming home	25
26	27 Hot lunch Hot Dogs Book Fair Starts	28	29	30 Student led Conferences Family evening at the book fair	31 Book Fair Ends	

Learning Commons

A few things from the Learning Commons...

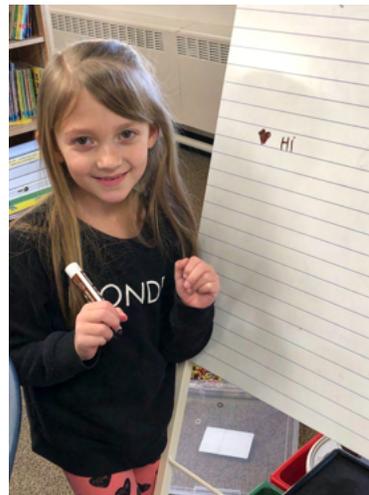
Due to the huge success of our first Scholastic book fair, we have decided to have a second one! It will run from Monday March 27-Friday March 31st. The family evening will be held Thursday March 30th.

Another success is the maker space that the students love to create in. They go through the items very quickly, so if you have any recycling items that you want to find a home for, we would love to have them. We will accept almost everything, but the hot commodities are the following:

- duct tape
- corks
- googly eyes
- pom poms
- plastic lids (milk jug and pop bottle lids especially)
- jingle bells

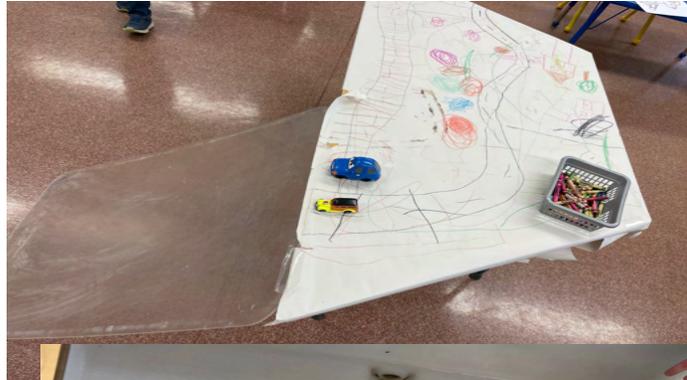


Thank you,
Mrs. Hancock



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. This transformed our mornings, experimenting with sink or float- and let's make a boat. To end the month, we had our Friendship Party. Making crafts, handing out valentines, and showing off everyone's favorite stuffy or toy.



Kindergarten News

February in Kindergarten

February was a short month for us, but we packed it full of exciting activities. A few of the highlights were: when we played in our mud kitchen, built snow sculptures, had a teddy bear picnic and took a tour of space. The students explored using their five senses, built with different materials and practiced measuring/ estimating skills.





Grade 1/2 News- Mrs. Klassen



February might have been short, but it was certainly full of growth and learning! We continue to build a sense of belonging in our classroom. Each and every day we strive to demonstrate kindness, empathy and care to those around us. We are learning to listen to each other's ideas, share our own feelings, and find new ways to build community together. From "friendship walks" to our "chandelier of hearts" we are finding ways to connect and build important friendships too!



Spreading kind thoughts and wishes under our chandelier!



Enjoying some tea, toast, and great conversation during school-wide wellness time...



Our 100th day of school was a lot of fun! So many fantastic collections!



Exploring hot and cold temperatures!



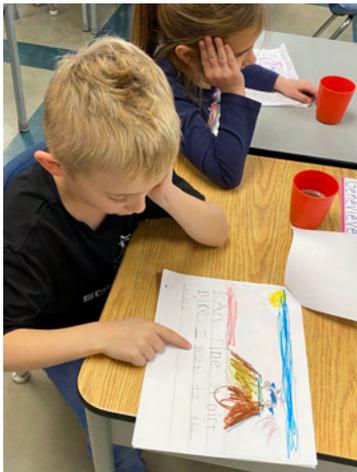
We enjoyed exploring the floodplain of Pavan Park and finding some amazing forts and places to climb along the way. Our last trip to the coulees was another incredible day filled with new discoveries, sunshine, lots of great conversations, and play! Once again, we couldn't do it without all the parents that show up to help...thank you all so much!



Heart Art by Camden

Grade 1/2 News- Mrs. Slusar

Here is a glimpse at some of the cool activities that the Grade 1-2 class has participated in this past month. See if your child can explain them to you!



Writing Workshop Celebration



Math Games



Exploring the Flood Plain at Pavan Park

Valentines!!



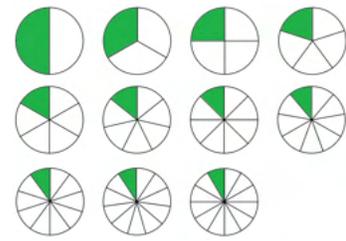
Playing and Building in the snow



Practicing good partner reading skills

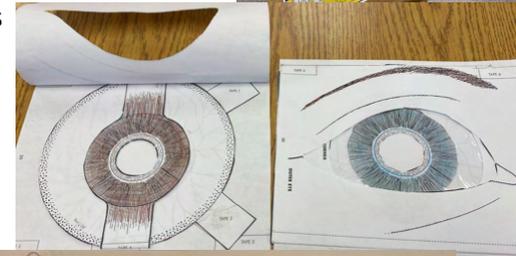
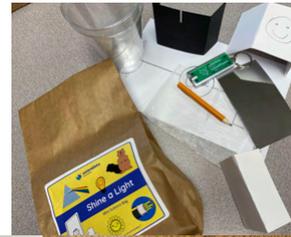
Grade 3/4 News-

Mrs. Henderson



February was a short, yet very productive month. There's been a lot of things going on in our classroom! Here's just a few of the things we've been up to!

- ★ **Math:** In Math, we wrapped up our unit on multiplication and division. We continue to work on strategies to help us solve a variety of problems, tasks and puzzles. We just started a fractions unit as well.
- ★ **LA:** In reading, we continue to develop our reading stamina, fluency, accuracy and comprehension skills. In writing, we are working on personal narratives. In word work, we continue to strengthen our phonics, vocabulary, and spelling skills.
- ★ **Science:** We had a fabulous time exploring reflection, refraction, opaque vs translucent vs transparent materials and more in our Scientist in Schools virtual workshop. We even made a model of the human eye! We are in the process of wrapping up our "Light and Shadow" unit.
- ★ **3/4J Art:** We continue to work on one-point perspective drawings by writing our names in "3-D".
- ★ If you have any questions, feel free to contact me. Have a great day!



★ Mrs. Henderson



March News! Mrs. Hudey Grade 3/4



Winter
Wellness!

Pink shirt day!

Here's what we are working on:

Math- multiplication and division skills,
Graphing and problem solving.
We are learning new strategies to practice
our fact fluency -dice and card games
collaborative group work and independent practice.

Reading- We are enjoying new chapter books and
graphic novels! We continue to work on improving our
accuracy, fluency and
comprehension.

Writing- We love to write! We are working on
brainstorming, sequencing ideas, adding detail and description and editing.

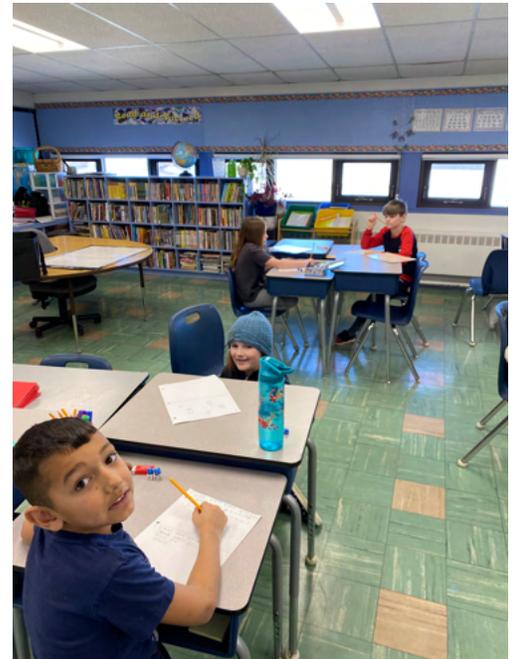
Social Studies - Topic: Regions of Alberta

Science - Topic: Light and Shadow



Health

- Friendship skills
- Conflict strategies
- Personal wellness





Grade 5/6 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 continuing their work reading and writing non-fiction texts. Students are finishing up their rough copies of their own non-fiction text and they will be using an online platform to publish their stories. They will include text features such as pictures, captions, diagrams and maps to help their readers understand their topic. Students will also focus on techniques to keep their readers engaged in what they are reading.

Science: We have started our third unit in science: Air and Aerodynamics. Students will participate in many experiments to recognize the properties of air. They will focus on using the scientific method to ensure their tests are valid. Be prepared to have these experiments come home. Encourage your child to share their understanding of what is taking place during each experiment and how their test allows them to demonstrate it.

Social: We are continuing to look at the history of democracy by exploring the Iroquois Confederacy. Students will look at both the social and political systems within the 6 Nations and compare these systems with those in ancient Athens and in Canada today.

Check out our Color Day pictures ;) And our collaborative activity too!



