

# **Principal's Message**

Dear DDS Families,

As December unfolds and the winter holidays draw near, this season brings a perfect opportunity to nurture the values of kindness, gratitude, generosity, and helpfulness in our children. This month, our students will engage in meaningful activities such as creating food hampers and delivering handmade ornaments to community residents, showcasing their compassion and leadership. These efforts help foster joy and connection throughout our community.

## **Upcoming Events and Activities**

### **Winter Wonderland Midnight Madness**

Join us on **Friday, November 29th** for an evening of festive fun during Winter Wonderland Midnight Madness! Enjoy family-friendly activities, local shopping, and community spirit, with highlights including a Christmas tree lighting at 9:30 PM at the Gathering Place. DDS staff will be handing out hot chocolate and candy canes at the PBHS fire pit from 6:00 - 9:00 PM. Come by and say hi!

### **Parent Engagement Craft Nights**

If you signed up for our upcoming Parent Engagement Craft Night we look forward to seeing you! It will be a wonderful opportunity to connect with teachers and fellow families while enjoying creative activities!

- **Monday, December 2nd** (6:00 - 7:30 PM): Hosted by Alison Lux
- **Thursday, December 5th** (6:00 - 7:30 PM): Hosted by Tara Veltman

We look forward to seeing you there!

### **Food Drive - December 2-16**

Our annual Food Drive kicks off on December 2nd and runs until December 16th. Students are encouraged to bring in non-perishable food items to help brighten the holidays for those in need. Let's work together to make a meaningful impact—thank you for your generosity!

### **Spirit Days & Turkey Lunch**

The holiday fun continues with DDS Spirit Days during the last 12 days of school before Winter Break, **December 5-20**. From themed dress-up days to special activities, there's something for everyone! A highlight will be the turkey lunch provided by our Home and School Council on **December 19**. We can't wait to celebrate together as a school community.

### **Little Caesars Pizza Kit Fundraiser**

A big thank-you to everyone who supported our Little Caesars Pizza Kit Fundraiser, raising an impressive \$1,500! Please note that pizza kits will be available for pick-up on **Wednesday, December 4**, from 1:00 - 5:00 PM. Your support makes a difference—thank you!

### **Winter Concert - December 12th**

Join us for a delightful evening on Thursday, December 12th, as our students and staff present "Snow Biz!"

- Doors open at 6:15 PM; performance begins at 6:30 PM.
- Dress rehearsal at 1:00 PM (extended family and community members are warmly invited to attend).

We are so proud of our students' hard work and creativity and look forward to celebrating their talents with you!

On behalf of all the staff at Dorothy Dalglish School, I wish to extend a heartfelt thank-you to our students, families, and community partners for their continued support and contributions. From hosting events like the turkey lunch to participating in fundraisers and community initiatives, your efforts bring our DDS community to life.

May you and your family have a warm, joyful holiday season and a restful winter break. We look forward to continuing this journey with you in the New Year!

Sincerely,

Mrs. McGregor  
Principal



# 12 Days of Christmas

## DECEMBER

**DRESS UP TO SHOW YOUR SPIRIT!**

Monday

2

It's Time...

Tuesday

3

To Get...

Wednesday

4

EXCITED!

Thursday

5 Winter  
Wonderland

Blue and  
White and  
Snowflakes!

Friday

6



Socks and  
Scarves Day

9 Christmas  
Tree Day

Decorate  
yourself like a  
tree!

10



Elf Day!

11



Winter Hat  
Wednesday

12



Red and  
Green Day

13

Grinch Day!



16



Dress like a  
present day

17



Reindeer  
Day!

18



Snowman  
Day

19 Holiday  
Sweater Day



20



Pyjama  
Day!

## DDS Christmas Concert

It's going to be "snow"  
much fun!

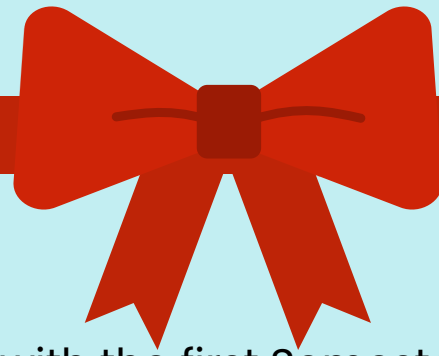
**The Dorothy Dalglish School Christmas  
Concert is coming to town!**

**When: December 12th, at 6:30pm  
(Doors open at 6:15)**

**Where: The DDS Gymnasium**



# Kindergarten Corner



It is so crazy that we are almost done with the first Semester of Kindergarten! As we come to the end of November, we are excited to share the wonderful progress your kids have made in the classroom! This month has been filled with learning, exploration, and fun activities that have supported our growth in various areas. Here's a quick look at what we have been working on:

## **Language Arts:**

We continued building strong foundations in literacy by focusing on the sounds and recognition of the letters **F, V, A,** and **K**. Kindergarten Kiddos have been practicing identifying these letters, their sounds, and how they appear in words, both in writing and in listening activities. We also have been working on our Writing Journals this month! With short entries that have helped introduce the kiddos to writing down experiences and feelings.

## **Mathematics Concepts:**

This month, we introduced the concept of "**less**" and "**more**", helping students understand quantity and comparison. We also practiced counting along number routes, building fluency and confidence with numbers. We spent more time learning about shapes, not only recognizing them but also using them creatively. The kids had fun cutting snowflakes and building snowmen using different shapes like circles, triangles, and squares.

## **Science Exploration:**

In science, we explored the inside of our giant pumpkin and snowflakes! Kinders got to use their five senses to investigate the difference between a small pumpkin and our giant one! The kiddos also used magnifying glasses to observe the unique and beautiful features of snowflakes, sparking curiosity and conversations about where snowflakes come from and how they form in nature.

## **Health and Safety:**

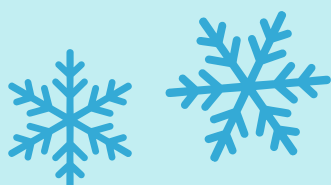
We talked about important topics like safety and healthy eating. The students learned basic safety rules for school and home, specifically situations such as Fire Drills. We also have been practicing expressing how they feel, using words and emotions to communicate with each other. Another Worry Woo came to teach up about the feelings of frustration. We learned new strategies of what we should do when we are starting to feel frustrated, with school, friends and ourselves.

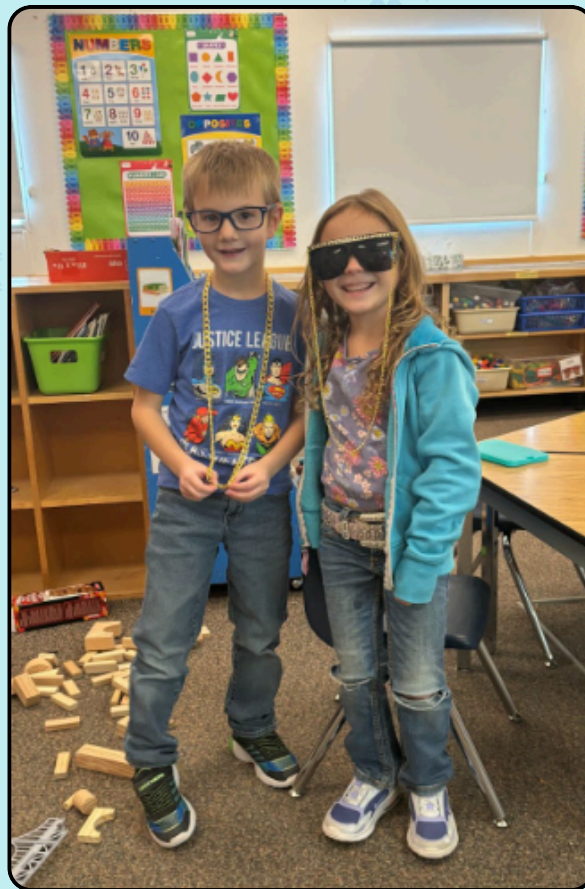
## **Social and Physical Development:**

In the area of social development, we introduced new teamwork games that helped your kiddos understand cooperation, sharing, and working together with classmates. The games also focused on improving skills such as catching and tossing, all while having fun and building friendships. A huge hit with this group has been games such as Monster ball, Let it go tag and the Rainbow parachute!

November has been a wonderful month of growth, and we look forward to the continued development of your child's skills as we move into December. Please remember to look in the agenda bags for the extra practice in letter names and printing! Thank you for your continued support and involvement in your child's learning journey!

Warm regards,  
Miss Babe







# Grade One Wisdom

In November, students in Grade 1 have been busy learning more Secret Stories, which help us understand the sounds of letters and words better. We practiced counting forwards and backwards by 1s and 10s, which is a fun way to improve our math skills.

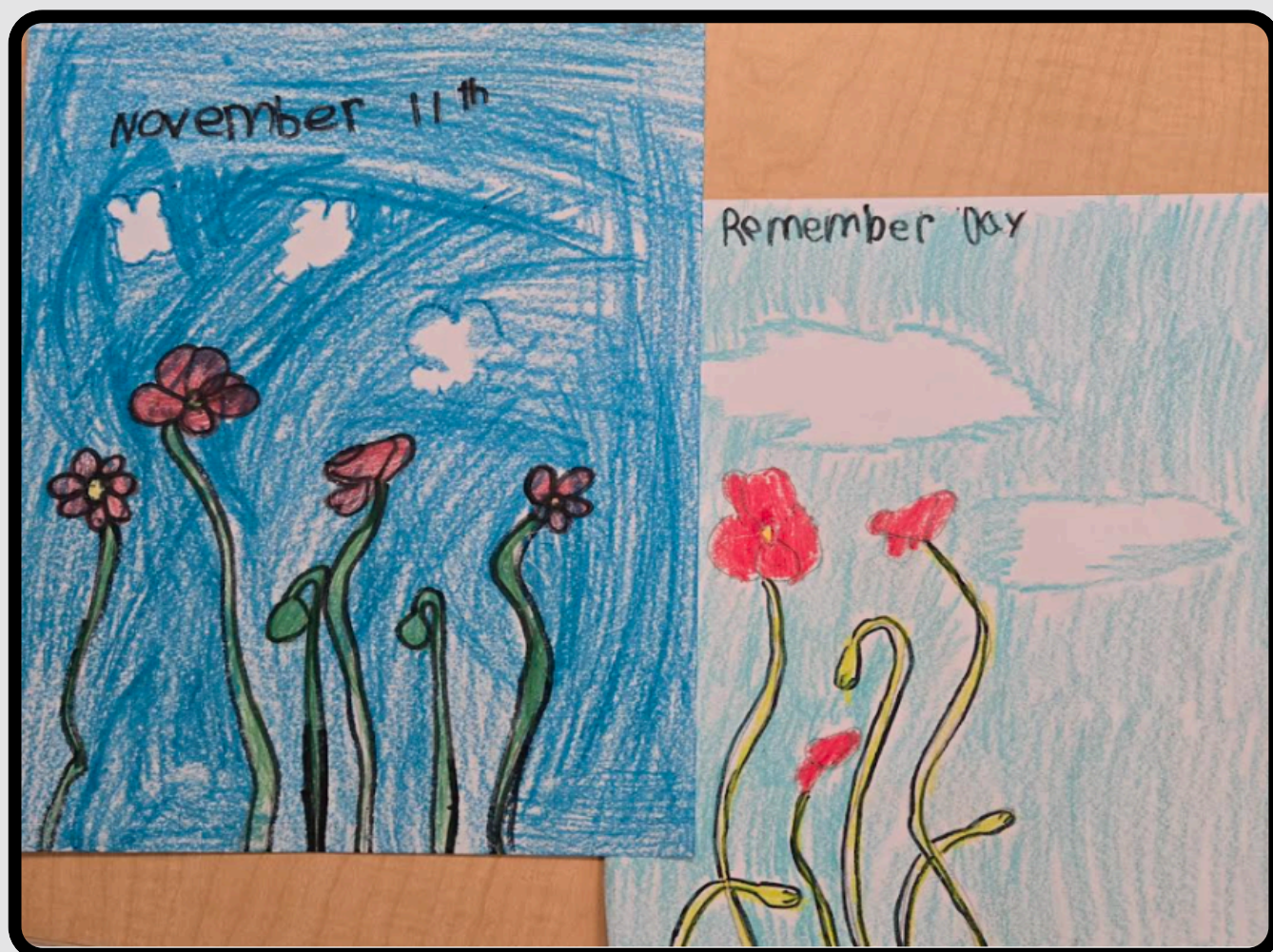
In Science we finally finished our first unit on The Scientific Method. We are a stellar group of young scientists now!

In Social Studies, we completed our Geography Unit and have moved on to our "My Community" unit. A special highlight was the Remembrance Day Ceremony at PBHS, where we honored those who served our country. We want to thank Mrs. Neufeld and our choir for representing DDS so well during the ceremony.

Additionally, we celebrated "Jersey Day," where the Grade 1s wore their favorite team jerseys, and "Claid in Plaid" Day, where everyone dressed in plaid to show a little DDS solidarity.

A big thank you goes to Mrs. Pittman for organizing another outstanding Book Fair, filling our school with exciting books to read. We also appreciate all of our wonderful Hot Lunch Moms for providing us with delicious lunches, and a special shout-out to Miss Elaschuk for the scrumptious hot dogs!

As we look forward to December, we can't wait for all the Christmas festivities to come! We have been busy practicing to dazzle the audience at our DDS Christmas Concert. We have been so fortunate to have Miss Tracey Vossebelt join us as a Professional Semester One student teacher, and our class absolutely ADORES her! We will be sad to see her leave us on December 12th, but at least we have her for a few more weeks!





# GRADE 2/3 HAPPENINGS

Can you believe we're heading into December???

In Language Learning students continue to work in their guided reading groups, to practice reading strategies and become better readers each day! Some of our groups finished their books and will be doing various activities, such as projects related to their texts or researching on the Chromebooks to find more information to share with the class through Google Slides.

We are also currently working on writing paragraphs, complete with a topic sentence, supporting details and a concluding sentence. As always, we continue to focus on including capital letters and end punctuation where they are needed. In December we will be keeping a daily journal of the adventures of Ruby Reader, our mischievous Elf on a Shelf who visits DDS each year. (Hopefully she shows up in our library as we are all looking forward to her arrival!) Students will be writing in first person, adding details, trying some different sentence starters and including proper punctuation.

In Math we are working on adding and subtracting equations, both with and without regrouping. Students have been sharing their strategies for finding "friendly numbers" to make the process easier and more efficient, and it has been so interesting to hear how students think in math! We will also be estimating numbers as well as working on some problem solving in this unit. In the afternoons we have completed our geometry units and will be learning about measurement.

We completed our science unit on states of matter and are beginning a new unit called earth systems where students will learn about how changes have happened to our earth over long periods of time, what we can learn from studying the earth's layers and how we can be responsible stewards to help sustain our environment.

In Social Studies we are learning about Peru and we have been discussing the geography as well as the climate. Students are working on their own or in small groups to create a weather forecast for their chosen geographical region in Peru. We will video all of the forecasts and will have them available to watch when we meet for student-led conferences later in the school year.

Welcome to Miss Griffiths who is a University of Lethbridge student who is doing her PSI practicum in the grade 2/3 B class! We really enjoy having her in our room!

-Thank you to all parents who came out and took part in our parent - teacher interviews! We truly appreciate your support!

-Thanks to all parents who sent Halloween treats! We were definitely spoiled.

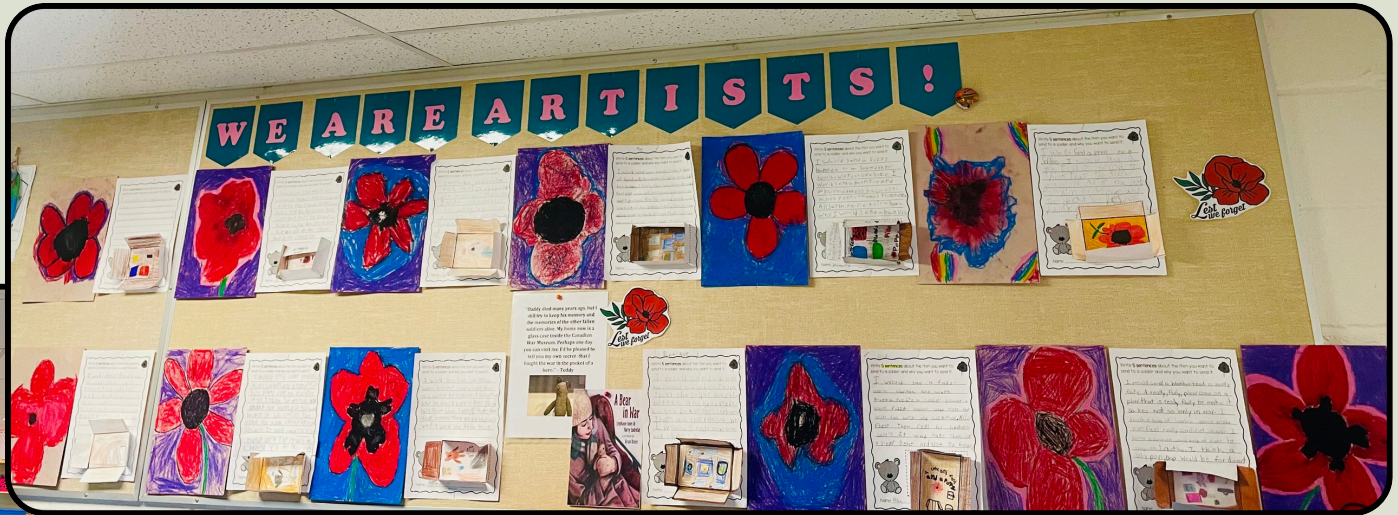
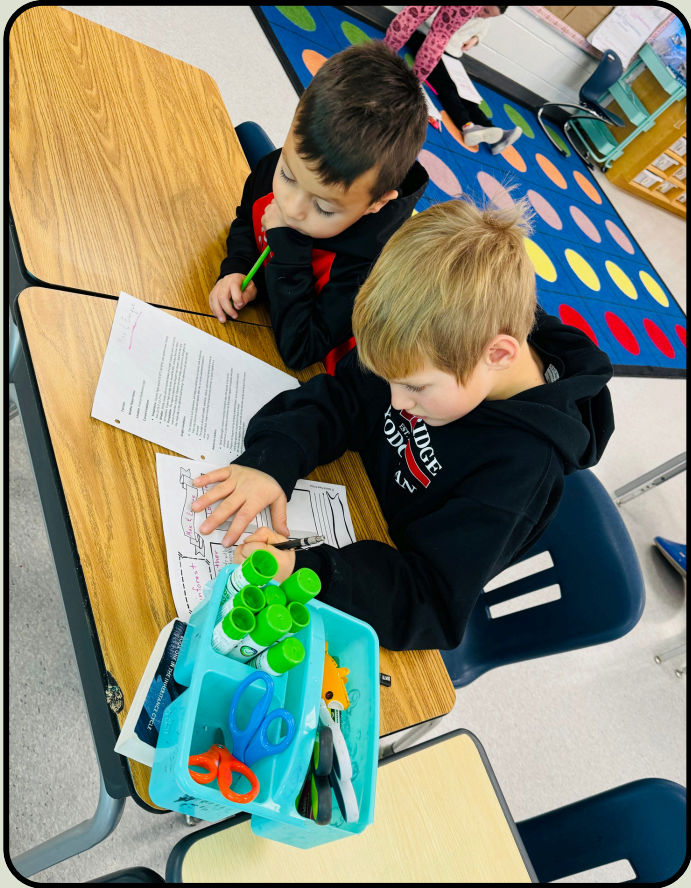
-A huge thanks to all families who practice the weekly spelling words with their children. It really benefits the students to start developing those study skills.

Mrs. Vandenberg and Mrs. Gurr



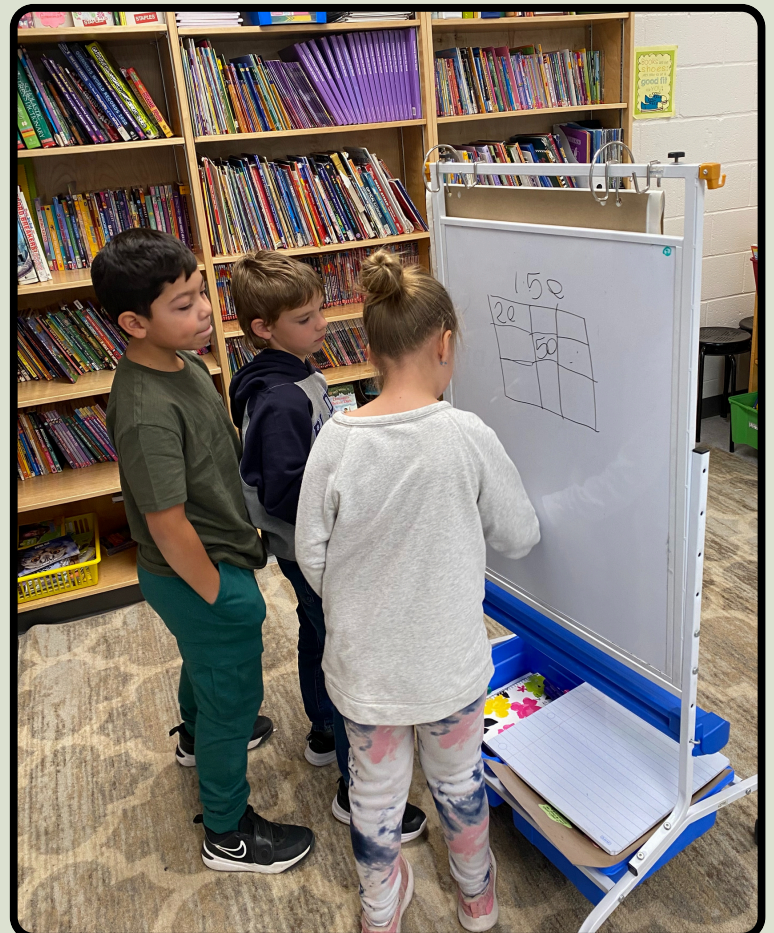
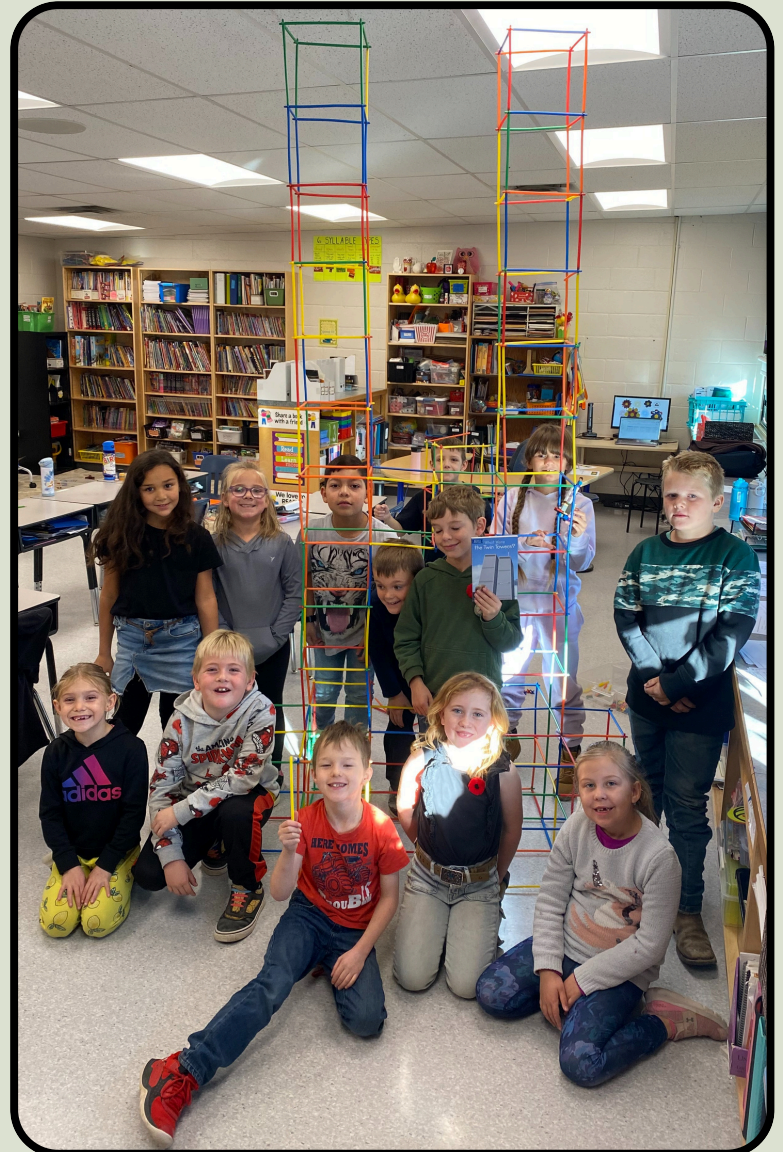


# GRADE 2/3





# GRADE 2/3





# Grade 4 Findings

## Grade 4 News!

Our year is flying by! Our class has been showing up every day ready to learn and work hard. In Literacy, we have been learning about parts of speech, morphemes, and adding proper punctuation to our writing. We have also been focusing on paragraph structure and are starting to write fantastic paragraphs!

In Numeracy, we completed our adding and subtracting unit and have been introduced to factors and multiples. As a class, we are struggling with our multiplication so we have been working hard at mastering our times tables. We have been playing a fun game called 'Knock Out'. All the kids really enjoy playing this game! It would be very helpful if you also practiced with your child at home so that they know their multiplication facts!

During our Social Studies class, we have been learning about provincial and national parks in Alberta as well as natural resources, renewable and non-renewable energy. We will be moving onto Alberta's History of the Land. We will be wrapping up our Social Studies unit in two weeks.

Our Matter Unit Test will be Thursday, Dec. 5. Throughout our unit, we have explored methods of waste management, recyclable waste, the three R's, the recycling journey, waste management issues, and WHMIS symbols. We will be wrapping up our unit by creating a plan to reduce our waste consumption.

I'd like to thank all the parents for coming out to Parent/Teacher interviews and look forward to seeing everyone once again at the Christmas Concert!

Ashley McLeod



# GRADE 5 FLASH

## It's Great to be in Grade 5!

Well, despite how mild November started it certainly ended by reminding us that it is still most definitely a winter month. Despite winter's arrival it was great walking to the high school to enjoy a collective Remembrance Day ceremony there and at the Cenotaph.

We will remember them!

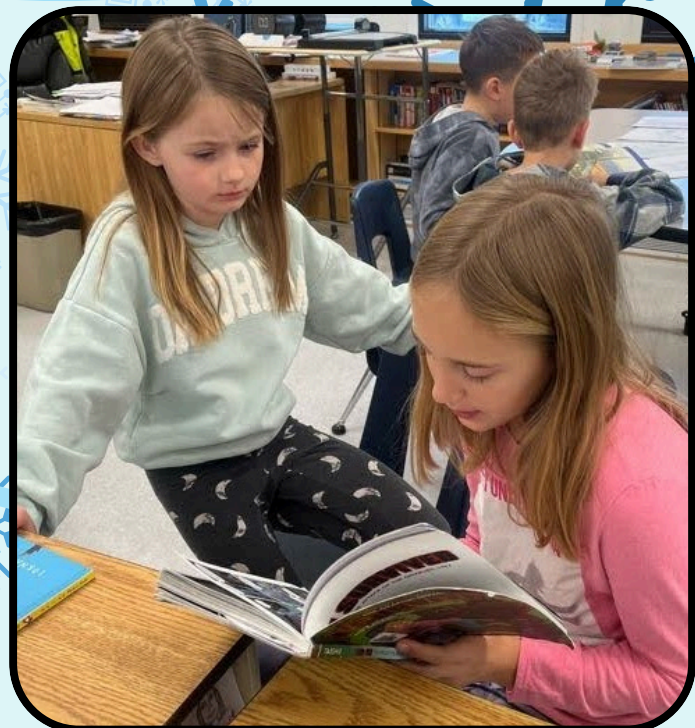
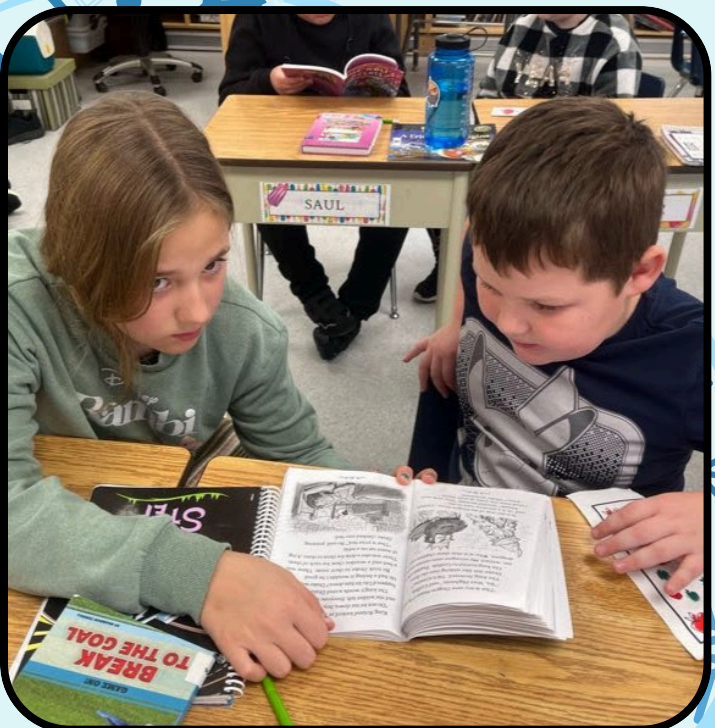
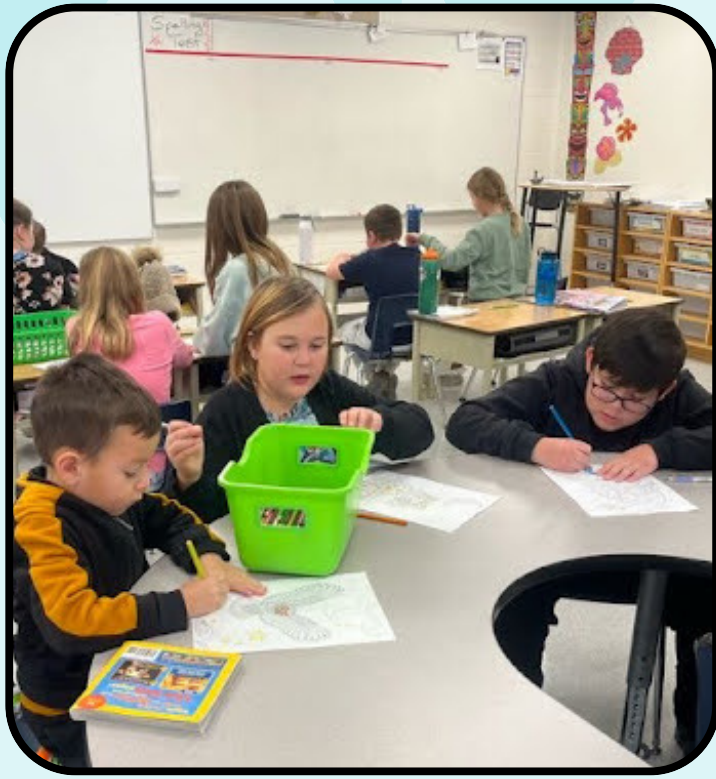
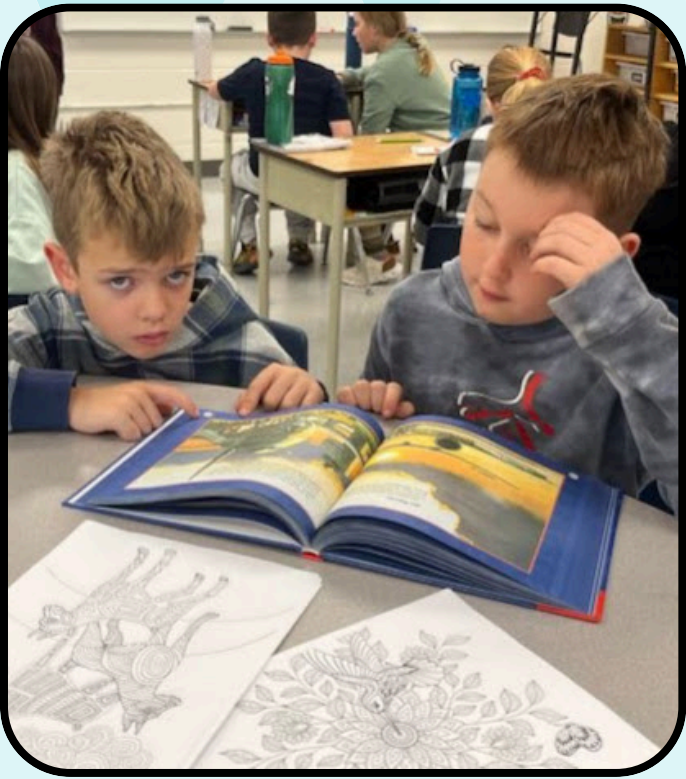
In **Language Arts**, we are nearing the end of our Teacher Read Novel "Resistance" by Jennifer A. Nielsen, and it is certainly a wonderful example of the rising action that takes place in such a novel. Our weekly focused "Word Work" time is an ongoing spiral of spelling, punctuation, morphology, and word types that progress throughout the school year. Most recently we have as a class focussed on synonyms. Each student is continuing to show solid improvement in not only reading comprehension but also in the choices made through creative writing.

In **Math**, the class has demonstrated an aptitude for fractions with a common denominator in addition and subtraction problems. In addition, when mixed numbers were introduced they barely lost any momentum when it came time to add mixed numbers together or with a fraction. Our weekly Math Games period on Fridays continues to reinforce the current teacher-led lessons and basic skills.

In **Social Studies**, we started exploring the social sciences by looking at the roles and activities of both Archeologists and Anthropologists. This has provided students with an opportunity to gain a greater understanding of not only civilizations, or groups of people but also the culture and their way of life.

In **Science**, we have completed our study of simple organisms including plants, and their unique cellular structure and system of sustaining life. Our new focus in the curriculum has shifted to learning about the particle model of matter in relation to the physical properties of solids, liquids, and gases.



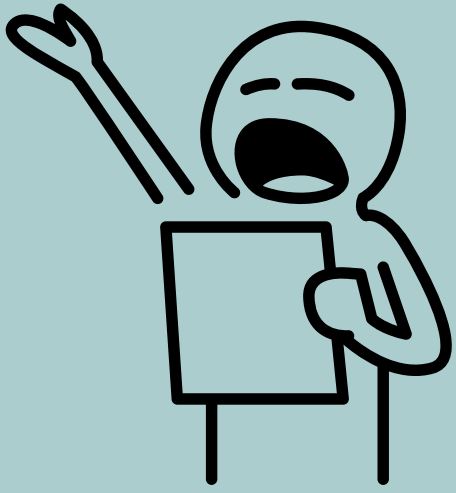


**Reading Buddies!**



# grade 6 stories

Winter is here, and our Christmas concert is coming up fast! Grade 6 students are working on their dramatic roles for the concert with Mrs. Neufeld, so memorizing lines, sorting out costumes and painting a backdrop are the tasks at hand. We are also focusing on Wellness and have taken up drinking herbal tea in class this month to combat the cold.



In **Language Arts**, we are fully immersed in our Drama Writing unit. The new ELAL (English Language Arts and Literature) curriculum emphasizes the study of comedic drama. Students are practicing Reader's Theatre: taking on roles, using their voices creatively, and creating gestures and movements to convey meaning. Students are also learning about elements and types of comedy such as absurdity, dry humour, slapstick humour, and the 'rule of three.' All students will write their own Reader's Theatre comedy skits, and then they will also write a skit collaboratively with classmates. In word work, we are focused on the study of prefixes and word etymology.

In **Mathematics**, we are wrapping up our decimal unit and students have been very successful at applying strategies to decimal operations:

- adding and subtracting decimals numbers by lining up in accordance with the decimal,
- multiplying by removing the decimals, noting the number of decimal places, and then applying the decimal places to the product,
- dividing decimals by converting the divisor to a whole number by moving the decimal to the right, and moving the dividend decimal to the right proportionally, then dividing as usual.

We have also taken up subitizing 100 frames and daily multiplication fact practice with the slogan - "If you can't memorize it - find a strategy!"

In **Science**, students have been awed by discussions about the vastness of the universe. Our galaxy alone has approximately 4 billion stars! We are looking at celestial bodies including asteroids, meteoroids, comets and dwarf planets, and discussing why Pluto was demoted to a dwarf planet.



We continue the year-long study of democracy in **Social Studies**. We are looking at the history of voting rights and suffrage movements in Canada, and we were shocked to learn that so many groups of people have been historically denied voting rights.

## A few reminders...

- It's cold out there. Please send your kiddo to school with proper winter clothing. Many students are coming to school without boots, toques or mitts.
- It's also cool in the classroom, so a hoodie or sweater is a really good idea for indoor use.

Stay warm!!

Ms. Milne





# Notes From Music Class

November always brings time to pause, reflect and celebrate all the people who have sacrificed so much so that we can enjoy the freedoms that we have in Canada. Each grade began the month singing, listening to, or playing along with songs about peace. I was so impressed once again with the DDS choir who performed the heartwarming song “Make a Difference” by Denise Gagne at the Remembrance Day Ceremony at Picture Butte High School and I so appreciate the students dedication to give up a lunch recess to come and practice for choir, it truly is the highlight of my week!

November also meant that preparations for our annual Christmas Concert have begun in earnest. With the end of our mild weather and our first taste of winter these last couple of weeks, the excitement is building and we are busy rehearsing songs and making preparations.

A few things to note for parents:

- Concert date is Thursday, December 12th
- Snow date for the concert (if needed) is Tuesday, December 17th
- Dress Rehearsal is Thursday, December 12th at 1:00 PM
- Extended family are encouraged to attend the dress rehearsal as the gym fills up quickly for the evening performance
- Evening performance starts at 6:30 PM (Doors open at 6:15 PM)
- Students will go directly to their classroom when they arrive to get ready
- There are no specific costume requirements for students.

\*\*\*Please feel free to dress in festive or fancy clothing if desired\*\*\*

As the year progresses, it is always a pleasure to see how the children’s musical abilities continue to improve. With the holiday season almost upon us, I encourage you to keep your eyes open for live musical performances that you can enjoy as a family to experience music together! As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at the school.

Keep singing!  
Mrs. Neufeld



# DDS REMEMBERS



# Student of the Week

## November 7th




K: Ryley K: Nora 2/3A: Colby 2/3B: Marcus  
4: Kain 4: Esme 5: Eduardo 6: Bryson

## November 22nd



K: Rhett K: Jane 1: Emmett 2/3A: Ellie 2/3B: Jill  
4: Jordan 4: Sebastian 5: Tavish 6: Rhys



Every year parent council organizes a **Turkey Lunch** for all staff and students. Bert's will be catering the turkey, gravy, potatoes and buns this year! We are asking families to donate the following items:

- frozen corn
- frozen peas
- 2 bite brownies (with an expiration date after December 23rd)
- cranberry juice (1.77L)
- ginger ale (2L)
- can of cranberries
- pickles

**Please bring items to the Christmas concert on December 12.**

★ any extra food/drinks will be donated to families in need in our community!



**North County Interfaith Outreach Society**

P.O Box 326  
Picture Butte, AB  
T0K 1V0

It's almost that time of year again.... **Christmas Hamper Time!** We recognize that the Christmas season can be an extra stressful time of year for many families in our surrounding communities. With colder weather comes increased utility bills, additional needed clothing to survive the colder weather and trying to squeeze out a little bit extra for Christmas celebrations is sometimes not possible. The North County Interfaith Outreach Society would like to ensure that families in our area are aware that we provide food hampers to help with this.

We ask that families requesting a hamper please stop in at the North County Office at 326 Highway Avenue in Picture Butte (beside ATB Financial) **Tuesday or Thursday morning between 10:00 AM and 12:00 PM noon** to register for this program or call the office at 587-787-4022. Deadline for Christmas Hamper Registration is Thursday December 12, 2024. Hamper pickup will be on Saturday, December 14, 2024.

Sincerely,  
North County Interfaith Outreach Society