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Dear St. Joseph the Worker School Community,

What a wonderful school year we have had so far. It's hard to believe that there are only four months left of school and here we are once again, experiencing the season of Lent as a community. I remember when I was younger how this was a time I dreaded. Having to give up something I loved was so difficult. I find it interesting that I am now enjoying the season of Lent, and those things that I have given up don't quite seem so important.

As the winter snow and slush melt away and are replaced with green grass, flowers and bees buzzing we too are similarly renewed through Lent and we are provided with an opportunity to shed old habits and embrace positive change.

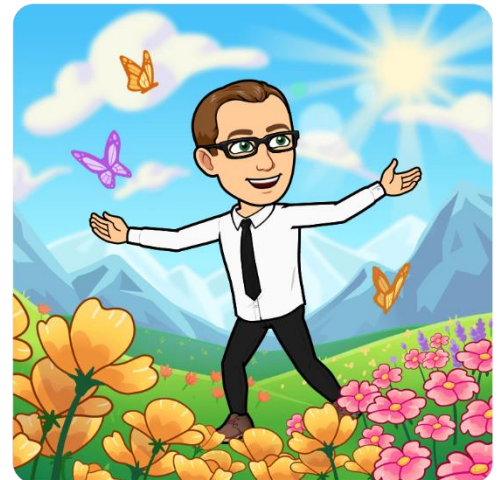
As we embrace Lent and welcome the rejuvenating spirit of spring, let us remember the importance of compassion, understanding, and unity within our St. Joseph the Worker School family. May this season be a time of deepening our connection with one another and with our faith.

Wishing you all a blessed and transformative Lenten season.

God Bless,

Nathan Polakoff

Nathan Polakoff
Principal
St. Joseph the Worker School
Principal.stjoe@mymts.net



Pre-K Corner



In December, the children learned about advent. We made numerous Christmas crafts in getting ready for our Christmas season. The Pre-K's performed in their first Christmas concert. We also had a special visit from Santa.



In January, we started Show and Tell where the children had an opportunity to bring their favorite toys to school to share with their friends.





February was a very busy month. It was also "I Love to Read Month". We were fortunate to have many guest readers read to our students. The children learned about Ground hog day, celebrated Valentine's Day with their friends and had a very busy Catholic School's week.



WINTER IN KINDER!



PJ Day! We loved wearing our cozy clothes to school before Christmas break!

Leo learning what Groundhog Day is and why we celebrate it! Goodbye winter!



Zuriel working hard on uppercase letter recognition!

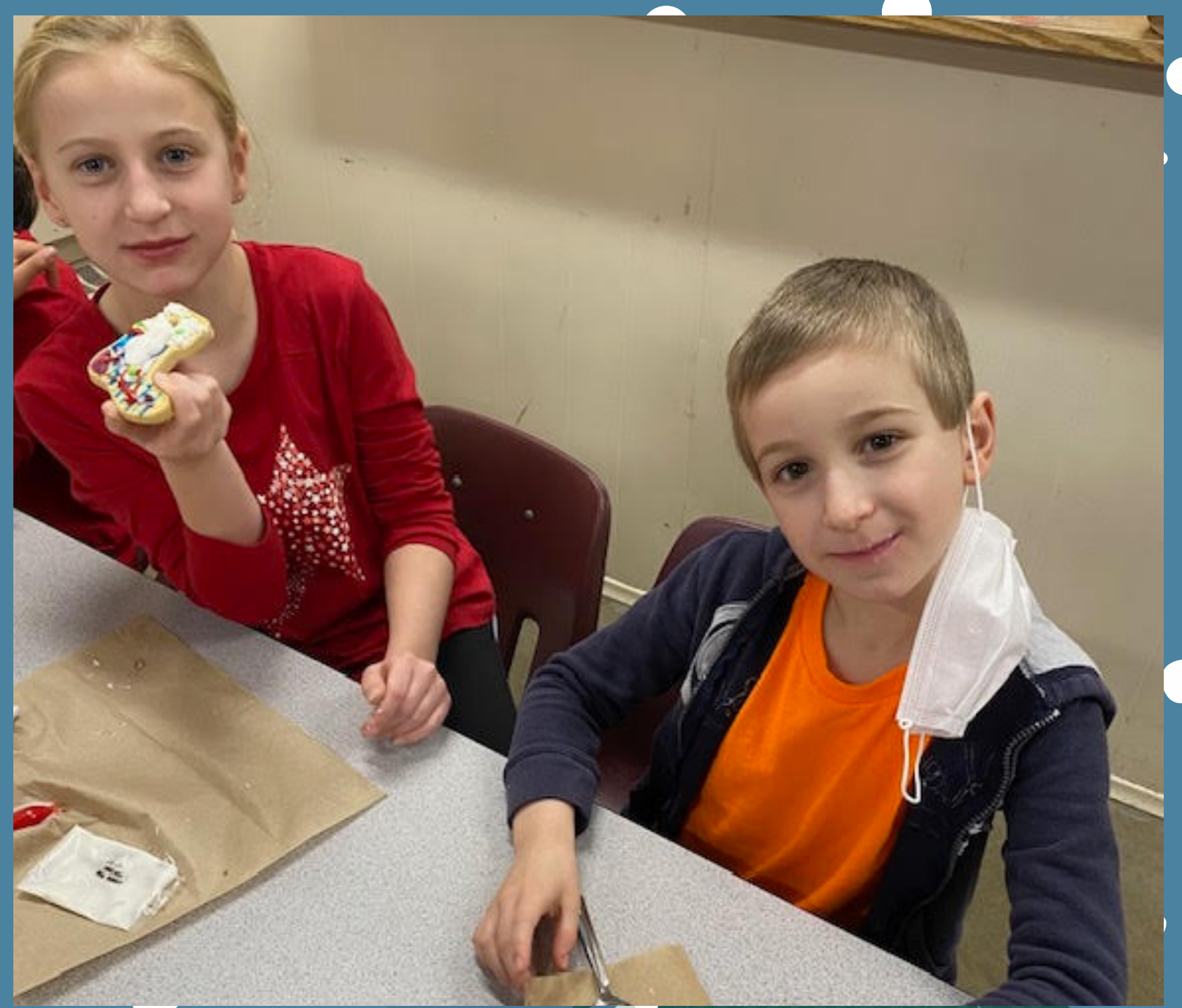


Project 11 came to visit us and did a lesson on our emotions and how we can regulate them!



Winter in Grade 1

The grade 1 class had a blast this winter! Some of our favourite memories include participating in Catholic Schools Week, decorating cookies with our reading buddies, and leading mass!



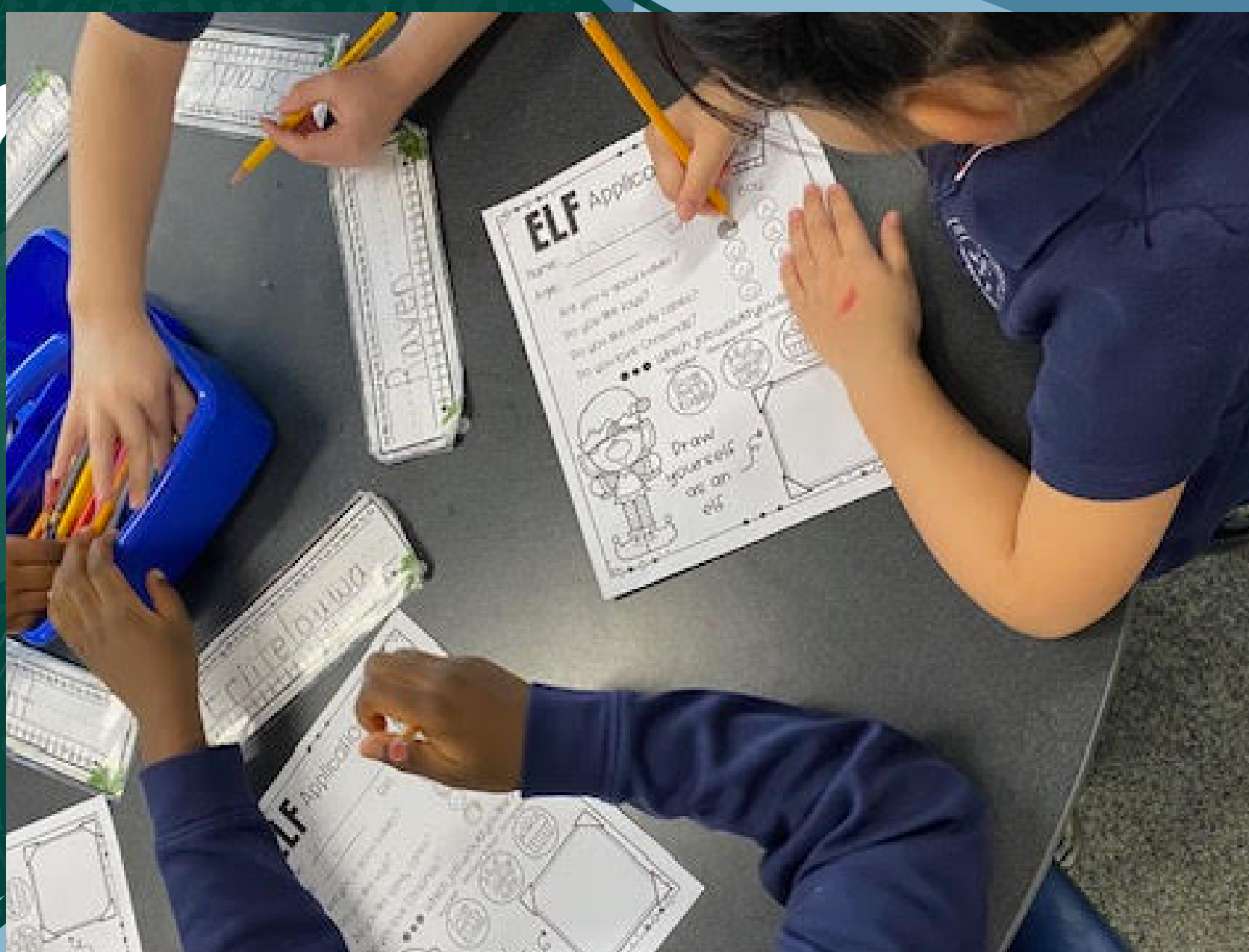
We went to the Manitoba Children's Museum where we learned about the land, constructed a teepee, and explored the museum!



your class this holiday season. Santa has to keep an eye on you, to watch and list that you do. Each day I will appear in a then the day before. Just one more rule for you can not touch me or else my magic will i brought a book to read and some pieces can name me.



In December we had a new addition to our class. A Christmas elf decided to stay in our room, and helped us improve our reading and writing skills.



Grade 2



Math manipulatives makes learning math interesting and enjoyable! They provide a hands on way in which to explore and learn.



Students learned all about Penguins and their habitats and how they take care of their young.



Students show their creativity by making their very own penguins!



Field trip to the Children's Museum



We celebrated Catholic schools week and I love to read month! We had a magician and a special guests reader.



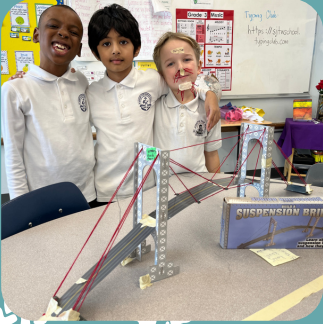
Enjoying crafts with our reading buddies!



Studying about Inuit communities and culture. We are making our own clay Inukshuks!

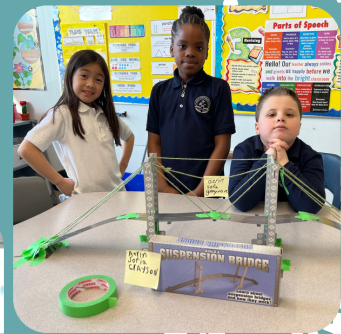
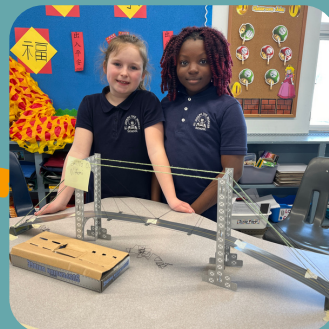
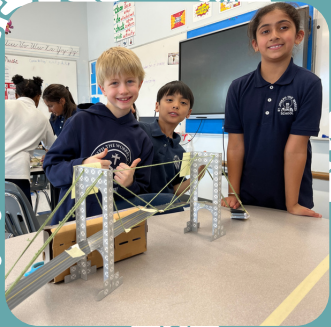
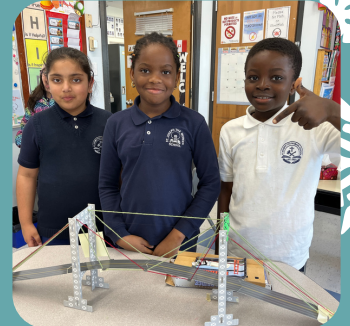
Grade 3

Winter 2024



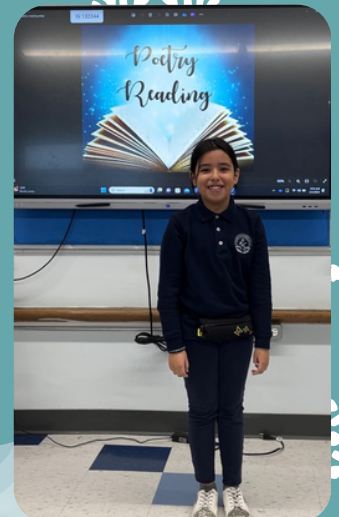
Forces on a Structure

The students explored on the 2 types of forces, tension and compression, as they construct a model of a suspension bridge.



Poem Recitation

February is I Love to Read month. The students displayed their love of literature by reciting some comedic poems by Kend Nesbitt.





Recycling is Caring

For Social Studies, the class talked about different ways to help the community. They looked into proper sorting of recyclables based on its material.

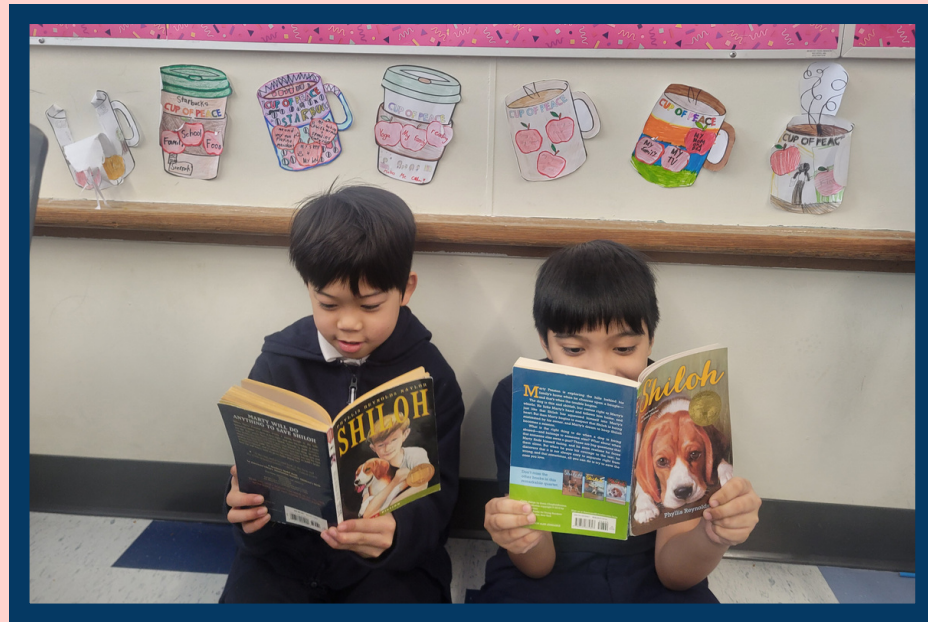


Royal Canadian Mint

The class had a blast learning about how coins are made. They saw the production process and looked at a variety of amazing coin designs.



WINTER IN GRADE FOUR



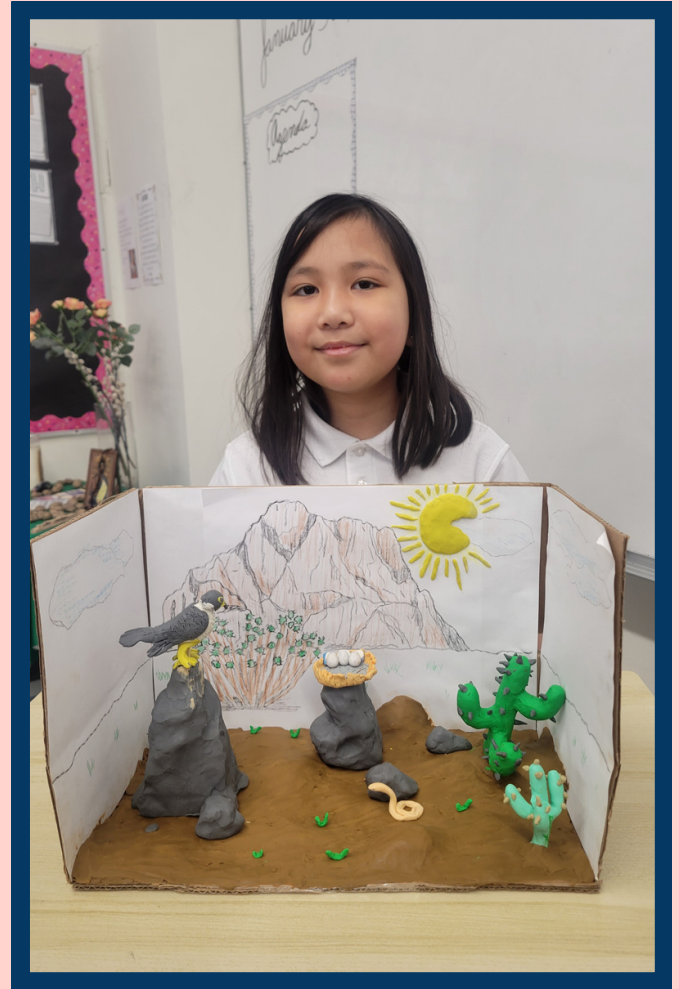
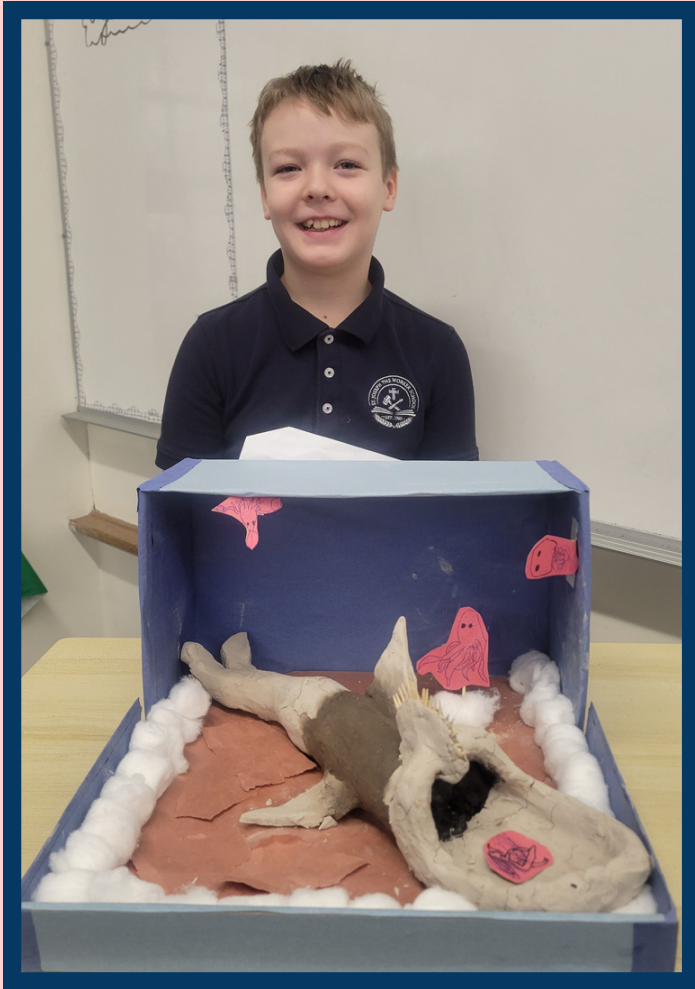
Enjoying our novel study for "Shiloh".

Grade 4 had a jam-packed winter at St. Joe's. Check out our highlights!



Celebrating St. Valentine's Day!

WORK TO BE PROUD OF!



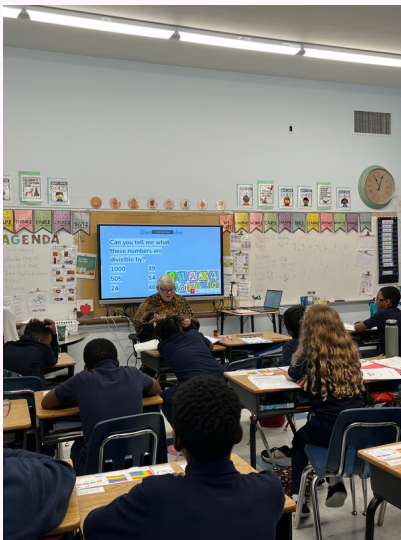
Each grade 4 student worked hard to conduct research and create a diorama of their favourite animal in their habitat.



Lenten watercolour art.

I love to Read Month

GRADE 5 NEWSLETTER



During the month of February, we celebrated I love to Read. We had several guest readers that came to our class and shared their love for books. We met Mrs. D's sister, Gladice and Grandma Polakoff. We also met Justin Currie and he shared with the whole school the process of how books are made.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

SOCK HOP DANCE AFTERNOON WITH THE GRADE 6'S

During our crazy sock day, the Grade 5's enjoyed spending an afternoon of dancing and fellowship with their friends. It was one of the many fun activities they enjoyed during Catholic Schools Week.



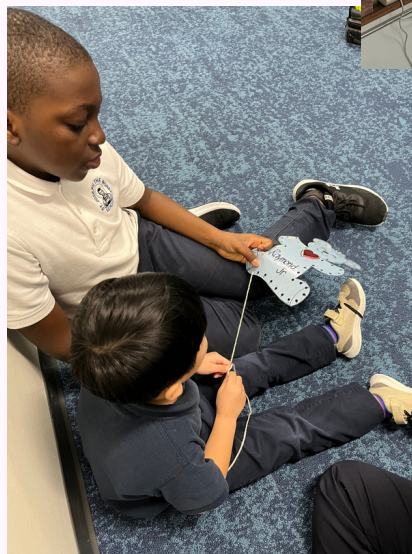
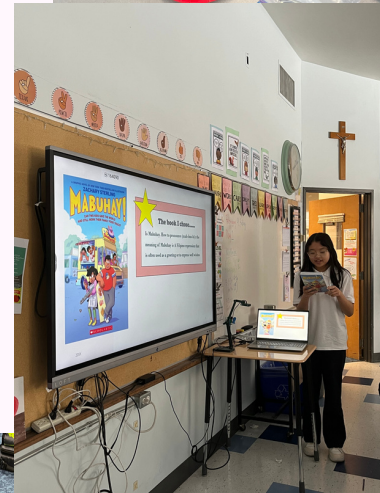
TUSC HIGHLIGHTS

SCIENCE EXPERIMENT / BOOK REVIEW

In English, the Grade 5's has been developing their research, speaking, listening and presentation skills. They have an opportunity to become a news reporter, a comedian, an interviewer, a book specialist, a scientist, etc. Here I have highlighted a book review of "Mabuhay!" by Zachary Sterling and an experiment involving pepsi + mentos.



*The best learning comes
from doing.*

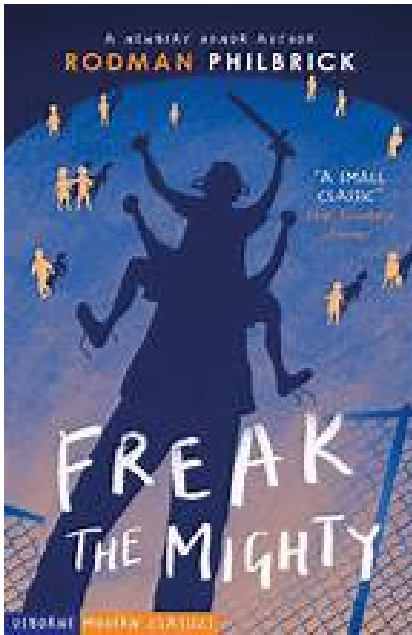


The Grade 5's got to experience being teachers to our buddy readers. They helped them learn how to sew using the over under method.

GRADE 6

Winter Newsletter

St. Joseph the Worker School



ELA

In ELA we have studied the different purposes of writing: to inform, to entertain, and to persuade.

Students have been working through the writing process to create creative stories to entertain their readers.

We also recently finished our novel study, *Freak the Mighty* and celebrated our learning by watching the movie based on the book!

MATH

We have been working through the Number strand in math and have started using *Thinking Classrooms* to practice different types of thinking and seeing how others solve problems. This process uses random groupings to allow students to solve open-ended problems. Through these *Thinking Classrooms*, I have been able to observe students solving problems in ways I never expected and developing their reasoning skills by listening to the ways their classmates solve problems.



$$\begin{array}{l} \underline{78} - \underline{53} = \underline{19} + \underline{06} \\ \underline{85} - \underline{32} = \underline{46} + \underline{07} \\ \underline{84} - \underline{62} = \underline{19} + \underline{03} \\ \underline{89} - \underline{16} = \underline{20} + \underline{53} \end{array}$$



ART

In Art, we have been learning about perspective and creating one and two point perspective drawings. We practiced using our art notebooks to create one-point perspective, and then used chalk pastels to create cake art inspired by Wayne Thiebaud. Every student created a cake for a different occasion and they all turned out deliciously!

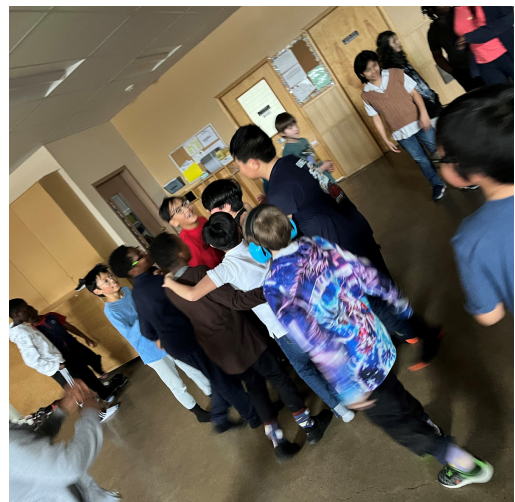


SCIENCE

In November, we had the opportunity to visit the Royal Aviation Museum! Students had a great time learning about the different kinds of aircraft, and connected their learning to our unit on flight by designing their own aircraft prototypes!

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Our school recently celebrated Catholic Schools Week! This was a great opportunity for us to build community with different grades in our school and celebrate being part of the Catholic Faith! Our grade most enjoyed the Activity Day! Pictured here is the Sock Hop.





Music News

Mrs Jackson, PK-6
Winter 2024



Hello families, these past winter months have been very busy for us in music class. Thank you for coming out and supporting the students for their Christmas Concerts in December. We had a blast preparing for them, the students again developed stamina for rehearsing, and working in confined spaces while dancing. We spent time paying attention to the mood of each piece, and practiced not breaking the mood by talking or fidgeting after a song had finished. I am proud of all the students, for the work we put into making this concert so fantastic.

Since January, the grade 3-5 students have begun playing ukulele, the grade 6 students continue learning to play guitar, and the grade 1 & 2 students are using the xylophones, learning to play rhythms as a team, sing songs and improvise. The PK and K students created some short rhythm patterns and are dancing and singing their way through winter.

Things you'll only hear in music!



"Shoulder Holders!"



Upcoming Events

- April 3 - Gr 4, 5, 6 - WSO Adventures in Music Field Trip
- May 6 - Gr 2, 3 - WSO Musical Discoveries Field Trip
- May 6 - Music Monday (National Celebration)



The Updated Manitoba Music Curriculum

New to the report cards this year is how music is reported. In grades 1-6, there are four strands we pay attention to as musicians. In the curriculum these are the four wings of the butterfly, and we refer to them as Making, creating, connecting and responding to music. Rarely do we work on one strand at a time. Please see below for some examples in making music and creating music.

- summarized - Music Framework Components and Organization

Making Music

We focus on developing language and practices for making music.

- singing, playing, improvising, moving
- make music through aural, written and visual systems
- develop the ability to use musical elements
- develop listening abilities for making music

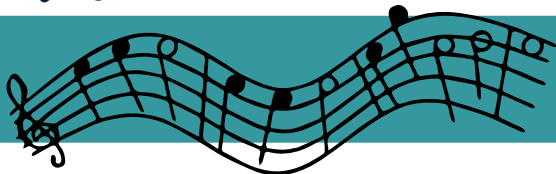


Actual Class Activities

- singing and moving to a chant, while taking turns improvising a new rhyme.
- playing guitar and reading music
- playing many parts at the same time

Actual Class Activities

- singing and playing songs, while reading grade-level rhythms & notes



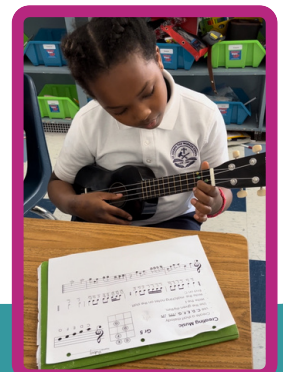
Creating Music

The learner generates, develops, and communicates ideas for creating music.

- generates ideas for creating using a variety of sources
- experiments with, develops, and uses ideas for creating music.
- learner revises, refines and shares music ideas and creative work.

Actual Class Activities

- playing ukelele, creating a song to a grade level rhythm, then writing it on the staff, and playing it for the class.



WINTER NEWSLETTER

Physical Education and Health
St. Joseph the Worker School

Sports and Competition

Students continue to play different sports and learning rules and procedures of the games which they also learn how to facilitate.

Our younger kids from Pre-K to Grade 2 focused on various lead-up games for basketball. We focused on throwing while looking at the target, bouncing, and basic knowledge of defense and offense.

The Grade 3 and Grade 4 played lead-up games and learned how to officiate a floor hockey game. They started creating teams, understanding the different placement of players in the field and the different shots they could use to score.

Our Grade 5 and Grade 6 learned how to play badminton. Students learned different types of grip to hit a shuttle and proper placing and positioning to have a good offense and score. They transitioned to Broomball after this and learned different shots, passing skills and proper ball control.



Fitness and Social Management Corner

As part of students continuing work on being fit and healthy, our Pre-K to Grade 6 started a unit in Gymnastics from a beginner to intermediate level. Kids accepted different balance challenges that enhances muscular strength and endurance and at the same time, flexibility. Kids learned the fundamentals of gymnastics like rotations, support, balance and stationary stunts which are critical to do a successful stunts.

In addition to this, kids also did yoga and aerobics to keep them fit and moving especially during this winter weather.

“
You are only one
workout away from
a good mood
”



As part of keeping the kids moving and active, we also started a dance unit from Pre-K to Grade 6. This encourages the students to work as a class learning the value of teamwork and selecting responsible behavior.

On February 28, 2024, our students from Pre-K to Grade 6 presented during our special monthly assembly to showcase the outcome of what they learned. They showed different steps that follow the basic routines required such as levels, pathways, directions and planes which differ in difficulty.

Healthy and Active Lifestyle

As part of keeping the kids healthy. We started a unit focusing on the latest Canada's Food Guide. Kids learned different food groups according to what color they belong, and the functions of the food. They also created their own meal plan is now on the part where they learning to monitor healthy practices which will start on March.

We also focuses on the importance of doing physical activity and start promoting it. Students know that by participating in different activities especially during winter is not just fun but also healthy and helpful to them in terms of bone and muscle development and keeping their heart and lungs healthy



“

It's going to be a journey. It's not a sprint to get in shape
-Kerri Walsh Jennings

Looking forward...

In the coming months, kids will start with new sports like curling, spikeball, volleyball and more.

As part of fitness management, our Grade 4 to Grade 6 also started creating their own workout routines targeting both skills and health related fitness components which they will facilitate and will also use to encourage younger kids to exercise.