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March. 6, 2023

Dear Parents/guardians,



It's hard to believe that March is here already! What a wonderful school year it has been and as we start to leave the cold weather behind, I am looking forward to a warm spring and the renewal that comes with the Easter Season.

Now that we are a few weeks into Lent I have been reflecting on why we are called to give something up that we enjoy. I never found this practice easy when I was younger; giving up something I loved for a period that seemed to stretch on forever. However, the older I get the more I understand that this time is meant to remind us of the importance of putting our faith and our relationship with God above our own desires and comfort.

Our own students reminded me of another important part of Lent. That giving something up is not the only thing that we are called to do; we are called to look within and strive to become the best version of ourselves. Students shared that during Lent they should try harder at home to show parents they care, by helping more around the house, cleaning their rooms, doing their homework and giving moms and dads extra hugs every day. It was a wonderful heartfelt reminder that our students have as much to teach us as we do them.

Thank you for your continued support of our school, and may this season of Lent be a time of renewal and growth for us all.

*Nathan Polakoff*

Nathan Polakoff

Principal

St. Joseph the Worker School



# PRE KINDERGARTEN Corner



*February has been a very busy and fun month for our Pre-K students. We celebrated Catholic School's Week, Valentine's Day and 100th Day. During Catholic School's Week, we went on a school bus, went bowling, and had our first sock hop, as well as an activity day with all the students in our school.*



# WHAT'S FUN IN KINDERGARTEN THIS WINTER?

ISSUE NO. 2

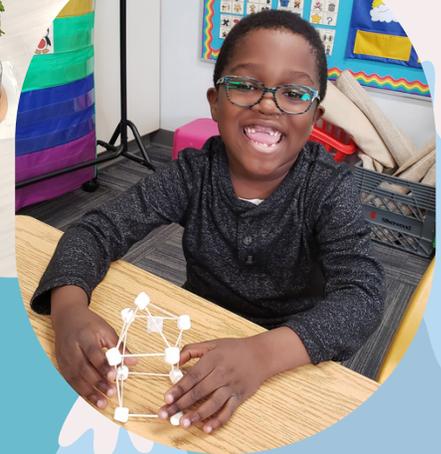
## The Season of Advent

This season proves to be the most wonderful time of the year because of God's precious gift to the world—Jesus Christ. The Ks performed with all their hearts during the Christmas Concert. There were a lot of activities where they gathered together and had fun conversations and games with their friends.



## Learning About Trees

The Ks discovered how trees 'drink' water and how some of them look like in winter time. They built marshmallow houses as they learned about the importance of trees.



# First Field Trip

The Ks entered the Children's Museum with big smiles. They were happy to play and learn with their classmates.



# Transcona Library Visit

The class was warmly welcomed by Ms. Teresa. They listened to interesting stories and learned new songs. They also explored the kids section of the library.



# Valentine's Day

Pre-K and Kindergarten celebrated this day of love and kindness together. They had snacks and made a cute flower craft.

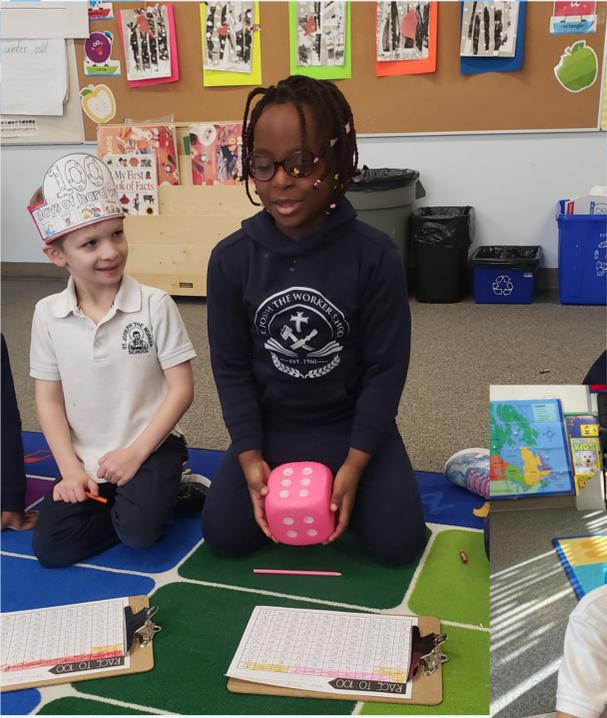


# Catholic Schools Week

This week was all about enjoying school with friends and expressing oneself in fun ways. It began with bowling at Rossmere Lanes followed by Valentine's Day, Crazy Hair Day, Sock Hop, and Colour Group Day.



# GRADE 1



**Celebrating 100 days of school!**

**Catholic Schools Week is a week of fun activities and field trips.**



**Building gingerbread houses with our Grade 4 buddies.**

**Winnipeg Harvest donations.**



**The grade 1 class has been very busy this term! The Grade 1 class lead the Ash Wednesday liturgy. In ELA, we are working on writing our own stories. In Math, we are skip counting and investigating 3 dimensional shapes.**

# Grade 2



Grade 2 & 3 went to the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra



We went to the Children Museum and learned about the Land and helped make our own teepee



Winnipeg Harvest



We celebrated Catholic Schools week at the bowling alley



Fun with math relay race



In science we made mystery slime



Grade 2 enjoys expressing themselves through art! Gr.2 and 5 working on their stained glass hearts.



WINTER 2023

# GRADE 3

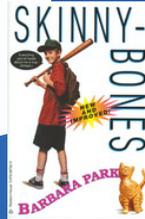
## Exploring Structures

*In science, the students looked into the different ways to strengthen a structure such as changing its shape, number of layers, and bulk.*



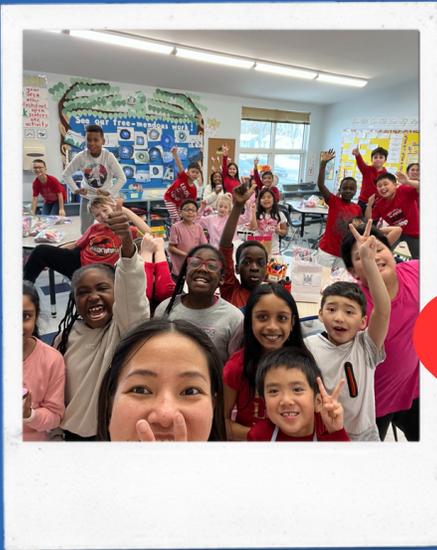
## Class Novel Study

*Skinnybones* is about a child who, because of his constant bragging, found himself in a battle against a classmate, who is a Little League Baseball legend. Prior to reading the novel, the class got to experience playing baseball in the snow.



## Valentine's Day

Love is definitely in the air last Valentine's Day when the students generously shared letters, treats and compliments with each other.



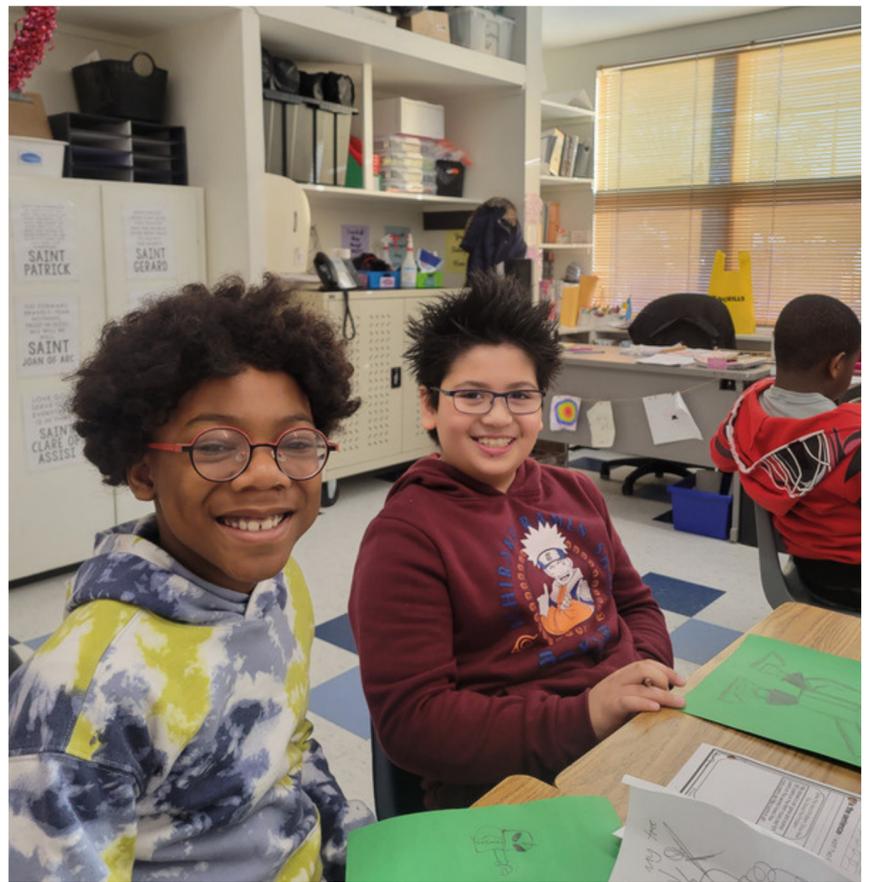
## Lunar New Year

*Xin nian kuai le!*

The class celebrated the Lunar New Year 2023 with a lucky Dragon dance.



# Winter in Grade 4



The grade 4 class had a blast this winter! Our favourite memories include participating in Catholic Schools Week, exploring the life of St. Valentine, and learning about influential Black Canadians for Black History Month!



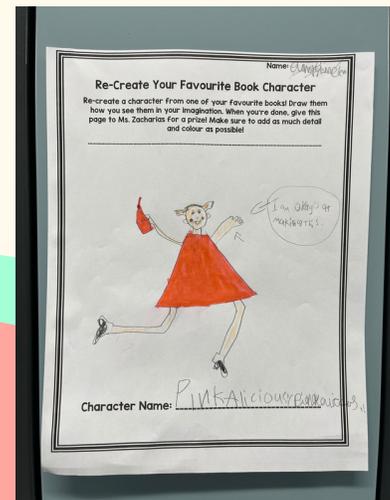
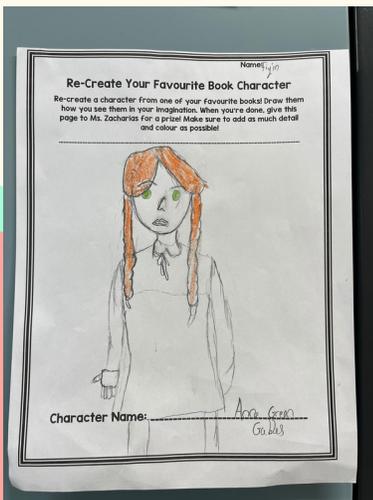
The grade 4 class loved spending time with our grade 1 buddies while we made Valentine's cards and read stories. The grade 4 students also became confident in new math skills, like long division and decimal place value. The class tried "one point perspective" art and created cool street sketches!



"READING IS AN ADVENTURE  
THAT NEVER ENDS"

# I LOVE TO READ MONTH

During the month of February, the Grade 5's participated in various activities that involves reading. The students were challenged to read 15 minutes every morning. They also recreated their own favourite character by drawing and colouring them. Some wrote their own poetry or researched a poet they are interested to know more about. Lastly, we had several guest readers who read wonderful stories with them, Mrs. Wildfang, Mrs. Vivo and Gladice Dimaapi (Mrs. Dianquinay's sister). Students were reminded of the importance of reading!





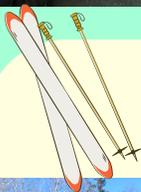
# AMAZING MATH RACE!



During our Factoring and Divisibility Unit, students participated in a journey around the Islands of Hawaii to reinforce concepts such as greatest common factor, least common multiple, prime and composite numbers, factoring and factor trees.

# PAPER LANTERNS AND STAINED GLASS HEARTS

With our Grade 2 buddy readers, we made a couple of winter crafts namely - paper lanterns and stained glass hearts. The students enjoyed making them and helping out their buddies. Through these crafts, students were able to showcase their amazing creativity and imagination!



# SKI TRIP AND BOWLING

Students have participated in various field trips the past month. During Catholic schools week, we all went for a bowling trip in our pajamas! Just recently, we also went to Falcon Ski Ridge Resort where the Grade 5's had a winter fun day tubing down the slopes! We have had an amazing time strengthening friendships outside the classroom.



# GRADE 6

## winter news



So you think you can bowl?



Reading buddy fun!



Candy Cane Olympics!



Guest Reader!



# Music News

Mrs Jackson, PK-6

Winter 2023



## Mrs Jackson's news.

Hello everyone, winter is a great time to learn music!

Since I last wrote, we have had the choir sing at the Remembrance Day service, and our Christmas Concert.

I am so proud of all of our students for their, patience and perseverance in preparing for the concert. It certainly paid off! I received many kudos to share with the students.

November and December were filled with preparations for the Christmas Concert, lots of singing, choreography and acting. January brought a field trip to the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra for our grade 2 and 3 classes, where they saw and heard some pretty amazing music.

This term, all classes have been focusing on developing their musical literacy. The primary goal is to be an independent reader and musician, so if they choose to enter a band or guitar programme in middle school, they can with the confidence that they can read music and play in an ensemble. Another goal is for students to write their own compositions. They will begin to understand how to write music in a group, how much work goes into a composition, and how short these compositions actually are when you play them. Hopefully this will help them understand that music is an art form, and it takes a lot of work and determination to create something you are proud of and that people like!

Grade 4 students were the first group this year to study the Ukelele.

## Ukelele



Not only can they strum chords to accompaniment tracks, but they are learning to read the music on the staff and apply it to the instrument. They are learning how the fretboard works and that one pitch can be played in a variety of places on the instrument.

## Things you'll only hear in music!

"Catch a fly, put it on your hand, squish it, then blow it off"

Mrs Jackson said while teaching the folk dance Ding Dong Daddy.

## Upcoming Events

March 15 - Gr 5 & 6

- Beauty and the Beast @ St. Mary's Academy

May 1 - Music Monday



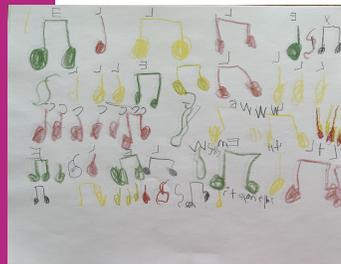
# Boomwhacker Compositions

... in K, Gr 1, 2 and 3



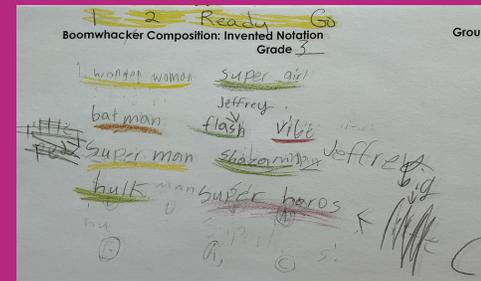
## PreK and K

K students created their compositions on two words: Snowman, and Hat, and two notes - Mi and So. They put 8 pictures in their own order and away they went. Pre K students composed in a whole group setting, on bells and sticks, and made choices with Mrs Jackson.



Boomwhacker Compositions are great for teamwork.

The focus of each grade was to use invented notation and work and play together. Grades 2 and 3 had more specific criteria. Their goal was to come up with theme that has a lot of rhythmic words. To put the words in 4, 4 beat lines, to end on the C and play it together. Writing down the music was intended to be an experiment using invented notation. Pictured are how some the different groups notated their short compositions.



## Grade 5 Orff

Soprano Xylophone

Glockenspiel

Alto Xylophone

Tambourine

Wood Blocks

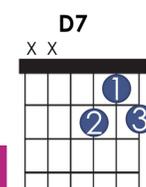
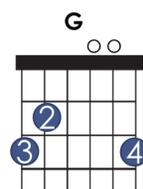
Bass Xylophone

ti-ka-ti-ka ti - ti - ta

Grade 5 students are cultivating their ability to play musical lines independently in an ensemble, follow a form, and watch the conductor for very subtle directions! They performed their piece "My Momma Told Me" at a recent assembly.

## Guitar in Gr 6

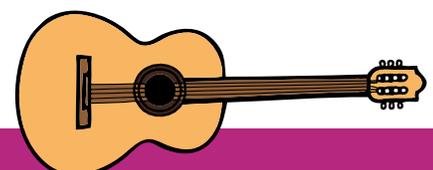
The grade 6's can play the melodies of songs like Ode to Joy and Rockin Robin using the first 3 strings, and songs using chords!



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Rockin' Robin

J. Thomas



# WHAT'S NEW IN P.E?

## FUN FRIDAYS!

*As a reward for some excellent behavior, P.E. classes that now run on Fridays will be part of Fun Friday! This involves students moving around in a circuit, going from station to station. Stations vary from scooters to shooting baskets. The excellent thing about the circuits is that students get to practice a variety of skills that they have been learning throughout the year*



## ACTIVITY DAY

*On the Thursday of Catholic Schools week, the school was filled with fun activities. The lower wing (Pre-K to 2) had their fun in the morning with the upper wing (3-6) in the afternoon.*

*Activities ranged from beanbag tossing through to a frantic team relay race in the basement. Fun was had by all and I am sure students eagerly await next year's fun!*



## A NEW IDENTITY

*Over the last few months, the school community has been working on developing an athletic brand for our St. Joseph the Worker athletic teams. After students submitted names to the school board, the name chosen from the selection was 'The Mighty Doves'. You can see our amazing new logo in the picture to the left :)*

