

March 2021

Principal's Note:

A month filled with kindness - is there anything sweeter than that? We have had a short but great February filled with learning about kindness, Black History, and anti-bullying. Please see the many articles about the learning we did this month.

I feel I need to apologize to everyone for the cold weather, buses not running, and our dip into the freezer again on February 26. I spoke too soon in January's newsletter bragging about our great month ... and we have seemed

to pay this month with crazy weather days. And today, Tropical Day, sees weather dipping again below -20 with freezing windchills. So, if I am to blame, my deepest apologies. However, on a good note, Tropical Day was a blast with everyone taking

part. Our drama students began our day with very beachy announcements, Miss Kim and three grade 6 students (Nilla, Kaleria and Grace) helped deliver fruit smoothies to all students, Mrs. Plamondon created a warm and wonderful photobooth, and Mrs.

Parent (the Super Snack Lady, according to Christopher in grade 2) sold popsicles. The halls were filled with students wearing colorful clothing, leis, grass skirts, and some students even wore shorts! Thanks to the moms and dads who helped get ready for the fun day. A big thank you to our staff who continue to dedicate their time making learning fun and creating a warm and welcoming environment. There have been so many activities and different learning opportunities in each classroom. Thank-you, staff!



March is going to be another busy month. This month we get to visit with parents at Parent Teacher Interviews. The dates are listed below and invitations to sign up for meetings will be sent out. Due to the number of phone calls we make that day, we have three different days so mark your calendars, and sign up for a chat to hear the many great things your child is doing and the next steps for learning.

Each month we are working on a virtue.

March's virtue is Tolerance. Tolerance.

According to Webster's dictionary is sympathy or indulgence for beliefs or practices different from or conflicting with one's own. Learning tolerance helps us be open to other cultures, ideas, and learning about different religions. We may not always agree, but we can learn and grow by respecting each other. We are excited for the many opportunities we have this month to learn.

We will also have a number of spirit days: Pi Day = 3.14 (numeracy fun! We had to switch the day (March 12) but we will have fun just the same!) and we will be selling pie, St. Patrick's Day (March 17), Twin Day (March 26) - find a friend and dress as their twin ... or triplet or quadruplet - let's leave nobody out! Our last week of March will be Literacy Week. Due to the strangeness of the year, this too will look differently but each elementary class will have a fun activity once during that week in the library.





School Council

EPS School Council Executive

Bailey Walsh - Chair

Connie Williams - Vice Chair

Chasidy Bourassa (with Kim Gauthier assisting) - Treasurer

Christine Tredger - Secretary

We are still looking for a **division rep** for division 4 (grade 10-12). This position is important as you will provide insight and perspective for students/parents in your child's division. We have been having great Zoom meetings and working through the ever changing pandemic year. Thank you for donating your time and energy to this important council.

We would like to invite all parents to join our next meeting on **March 30th** at 6:30 in a ZOOM meeting. The invitation will be on our school website and our Facebook page on March 29th.

School clothing is available to purchase throughout the year and there are many items

and sizes. The items can be seen by visiting: [Buy School Swag Here!](#)

March Parent-Teacher Interviews

It's that time of year again!!! We will be sending out a sign-up sheet for you to book your time slot (3:45pm-9:30pm) to connect with your child(ren) teachers.

Kindergarten to Grade 3 - **March 18**

Grade 4 to 6 - **March 23**

Grade 7-12 - **March 16**



Winter Clothing, Please!

Going outside is important to get fresh air, exercise and have some fun. Please help us make this time enjoyable for all. Children should bring **snow pants, toques, and mitts** (maybe even an extra pair) to school each day. Junior High and High School students need to bring a winter jacket with them for the bus ride ... just in case. If the bus driver does not feel a child is appropriately dressed, the driver can refuse to pick up the student.

Preschool News

In February if preschool was not outside sliding down the huge mountain outside their door

they were practicing kindness
This month we made rockets boats and cars,
hearts for valentines and had fun making mat
man/girl.





Kindergarten

In Kindergarten we are exploring numbers, in a variety of ways. We are using dice to begin pre-addition skills - by building numbers and putting them together. We are playing with patterns, and having lots of outdoor fun! We love our snow mountain!!! We were so fortunate to have a Kindness activity sponsored by the school and we made Kindness Buttons for pink shirt day.

Grade 1-2

The Grade 1-2 class celebrated the 100th Day of School on February 18 it was a fun-filled day all about the number 100!



Grade 2

It's been Fun in February for Grade 2. We have been practicing kindness for the month of February and spreading it around through kindness cards to the staff, surprise hearts for our friends, and art from the heart. Lots of treats and cards were shared during our Valentine celebration. Our 100th day of school celebrations included sharing our collections of 100 things, thinking about all of the 100 things we would like to do and do all kinds of things we could do in 100 seconds. We hope you enjoyed our 100th Day of School poem.



Grade 3

To learn more about black history in the grade 3 classroom we watched some videos about Amber Valley, also called "Secret Alberta" near

Athabasca. The students were interested in learning more about the people that came from the United States to Amber Valley, to make that area their home. They learned that the black people and their ancestors experienced slavery, so in 1905 they came to Canada to escape racism. At one time there were stamps made about Amber Valley, so during our art classes this week the students made their own stamps reflecting the lives of the people that lived in Amber Valley. We used our mathematical minds to figure out how long ago (1905 to the present) the black people first came here.



Grade 4

Brrrr! February was a chilly one. So glad that it has started to warm up and spring is in sight! This month we have made the most of the school days despite the inclement weather and continued to explore measurement in math and simple machines in science. During our STEAM class, students experimented by creating structures with spaghetti and marshmallows for materials. We found out that the triangle is the strongest formation and capable of holding its shape. Have a great March!

Grade 5

The grade 5 class has had a busy month. We spend some of our physical education classes learning how to curl and we will be going skating a couple of times in the next few weeks. We have also started our social studies group project called the "suitcase project" where we are trying to convince people to move to our region by highlighting nice things about it. For pink shirt day, we created buttons for ourselves with kindness quotes on them.

Grade 6

10 Crazy Facts You Didn't Know About Space

1. SPACE IS COMPLETELY SILENT

There is no atmosphere in space, which means that sound has no medium or way to travel to be heard.



2. THE HOTTEST PLANET IN OUR SOLAR SYSTEM IS 450° C.

Venus is the hottest planet in the solar system and has an

average surface temperature of around 450° C.

3. A FULL NASA SPACE SUIT COSTS \$12,000,000.

While the entire suit costs a cool \$12m, 70% of that cost is for the backpack and control module.



4. THE SUN'S MASS TAKES UP 99.86% OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM.

The Sun accounts for 99.86% of the mass in our solar system with a mass of around 330,000 times that of Earth.

5. ONE MILLION EARTHS CAN FIT INSIDE THE SUN

The Sun is large enough that approximately 1.3 million Earths could fit inside (if squashed in) or if the Earths retained their spherical shape then 960,000 would fit.



6. THERE ARE MORE TREES ON EARTH THAN STARS IN THE MILKY WAY

There are about **three trillion trees** on Planet Earth, and between **100-400 billion stars**, approximately, in the galaxy.

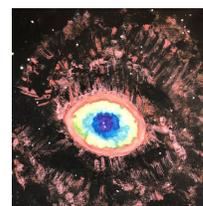
7. THE SUNSET ON MARS APPEARS BLUE

Just as colors are made more dramatic in sunsets on Earth, sunsets on Mars, **according to NASA**, would appear bluish to human observers watching from the red planet.



8. THERE ARE MORE STARS IN THE UNIVERSE THAN GRAINS OF SANDS ON EARTH

The universe extends far beyond our own galaxy, *The Milky Way*, which is why scientists can only estimate how many stars are in space. However, **scientists estimate** the universe contains approximately 1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 stars, or a septillion.



9. ONE DAY ON VENUS IS LONGER THAN ONE YEAR.

Venus has a slow axis rotation which takes 243 Earth days to complete its day. The orbit of Venus around the Sun is 225 Earth days, making a year on Venus 18 days less than a day on Venus.

10. THERE IS A PLANET MADE OF DIAMONDS

Grade 7

Grade 7 students enjoyed an ice cream float party and games for their good behaviour and hard work in the month of January.



Grade 8



The grade 8 class has been working hard on a Film Study unit in Language Arts class. We watched the

movie 42 for our final project in the unit. By watching the movie we were able to understand the struggles and racism Jackie Robinson endured. We learnt about Jack Crow

Law, segregation, and racism and saw how determination, bravery, and

To celebrate Valentine's Day, grade 8 students enjoyed a tasty treat, and calculated the percentage of each colour found in their bag of candy as an intro to our percent, decimal and ratios unit.



Grade 9 ELA

The Grade 9s have been working on a film study unit using the movie



“Remember the Titans”. This is a rousing celebration of how a town torn apart by resentment, friction, and mistrust comes together in triumphant harmony. We set the stage for many discussions and lessons around the topic of racism and discrimination, black history month, and kindness month. Our final lesson was a demonstration of what segregation and discrimination feel like.

Students had been randomly divided into two groups - one group was treated like the cream of the crop and the other was treated poorly. The reaction of the overall group was very interesting to observe. Only one student, who was being treated unfairly, had the courage to

stand up and speak out against the unfair treatment of half the class. Take time to ask your child about how they felt when they were treated differently - I think you will find it to be an interesting conversation.

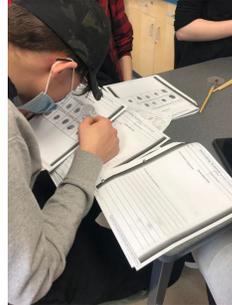
Grade 9 Math

Mrs. White's Math 9's watched the movie "Hidden Figures", which is about the huge contribution to math and science from three African American women in 1961. "As the United States raced against Russia to put a man in space, NASA found untapped talent in a group of African-American female mathematicians that served as the brains behind one of the greatest operations in U.S. history. Based on the unbelievably true life stories of three of these women, known as "human computers", we follow these women as they quickly rose the ranks of NASA alongside many of history's greatest minds specifically tasked with calculating the momentous launch of astronaut John Glenn into orbit, and guaranteeing his safe return."

Some of the questions students had to answer included:

- o What are the contributions of the women in the hidden figures?
- o How would their achievements inspire mathematics study?
- o How would you model your life after these mathematicians?
- o How did the true story of the black female mathematicians at NASA helped in the civil rights movement?
- o How did their achievements in space—contribute to our understanding of race, discrimination, and achievement in modern America?

Forensics 25



Mrs. White's Forensics 25 class has been learning about notorious criminals that were convicted with fingerprint evidence. They have done many activities to classify and analyze

fingerprints. In this lab, students lifted fingerprints off of a sheet of acetate "found at crime scene" and had to figure out which of their classmates the prints matched to.



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Learning Commons News

Hello, EPS students and Parents! This is my first message to you all from the Learning Commons as your new Librarian! It has been a busy few weeks for me, I have enjoyed visiting all the classes with the Library on Wheels. It has been so good to see you all.

Together we have read some great books, especially the ones with flying pigs and cows that like mail! Sounds strange?! Ask a Grade One or Two student, they will tell you all about it.

A big thank you goes out to Ms. Katie from the Public Library for all her help this last few weeks in and around the Learning Commons. We are looking forward to our upcoming Literacy Week Celebration, which will be at the end of March. We may even get a visit from The Cat in The Hat or the Grinch!

Happy Reading!

Mrs.Plamondon

Hawks Athletics

Hawks Badminton Club



We are very pleased to announce that we are permitted to move forward with small group practices for Badminton starting in March (part of Step 1 of the GoA's Path Forward).

Highlights include:

- ★ Currently no tournaments or inter-school sports are permitted.
- ★ Maximum of 10 individuals per group (includes the coach).
- ★ Participants must maintain a distance of 3m apart at all times
- ★ Participants must wear masks when not engaged in physical exercise.
- ★ Only singles play at this time (no doubles pairings)
- ★ Practices will be once per week for each age grouping
 - Monday: 3:30 - 5:00pm
Grade 9/10 (Reid)
 - Wednesdays: 3:30 - 5:00pm
Grade 5/6 (McCullough)
 - Thursdays: 3:30 - 5:00pm
Grade 7/8 (Evdokimov)

More specifics will be provided for registered participants as the practice season gets underway. A targeted start date of Monday March 1st is planned for.

As we have a limited capacity per section, registration will be on a first come, first serve basis (badminton pun intended) and required to be submitted through Google Forms: A link

was also sent to all parents & students email through School Messenger on February 25th.

PE Class at the Rinks!

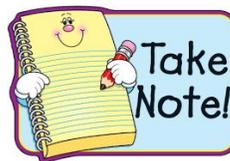


We have been very fortunate to coordinate some off-site activities for many of our PE classes as February comes to a close and we head into

March. EPS would like to sincerely thank the Plamondon Curling Club for their on-going support of Junior Curling in the area and allowing our classes to access their facilities for some great opportunities and FUN! We are also just starting up at the Plamondon Arena for some Skating opportunities in PE class and look forward to having some fun class activities at the rink!



Dates to Remember



Please check out our March Calendar at the end of the newsletter for important dates and fun activities.

April Dates:

April 2: Good Friday/Spring Break Begins
April 12: First Day Back from Spring Break
April 20: Last Day for Quarter 3
April 21: First Day for Quarter 4
April 30: Family Friday

March

2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	April 1	April 2	



Literacy Week



Grade 4-6



Grades 7-12



St. Patrick's Day
Wear Green!



Grades K-3



Twin Day!



Day in Lieu



Family Friday

Friday PI Day
PI=3.14



Good Friday
Spring Break Begins