



## Principal's Message

## March 2021 Newsletter

As we enter March, it is fun to look back at our I Love to Read month in February and to share what literacy learning looks like in our school.

In our school, we celebrated I Love to Read month with a bingo challenge every morning. Questions and answers were read on the announcements that classes marked off, just like a real bingo game. Once a line was filled in, the class could claim that line and receive a prize! As I write this, we have had 3 lines claimed by 3/4G, two lines by the K class and one line by the 7/8 class. Prizes will be awarded soon. We also did whole school reading time, and we hope you had time to do some of the activities that we sent home too.

Did you know that classes have approximately 2 hours every day of learning specific strategies for reading and writing, as well as practicing those strategies? Although we have fun in February with reading, teachers teach reading skills every day, all year long.

Some common terms you'll hear from your early-years child include Guided Reading and Independent Reading. Guided Reading is when the teacher works with a group of students who have a common need. This might be a similar reading level or it might be a similar skill they need to develop. The teacher will teach that small group almost every day. The teacher constantly monitors student understanding and decides if groups or skills need to be changed. Independent Reading is when students pick a book of their choice and spend a sustained amount of time reading. This develops reading stamina and fluency. It also allows for the love of reading to continue every day of the year!

In middle years, students continue to learn specific reading and writing skills, but that often looks different. Classes might read the same novel, or break into groups to read different novels. That novel work includes learning and practicing specific comprehension strategies like questioning, connecting, inferring and synthesizing new information with prior knowledge. Even in middle years, teachers are closely monitoring for comprehension strategies that will help their students transition to high school.

Some of the authors that our Woodlands School students are loving these days are Mo Willems (the pigeon series), Kimberly and James Dean (Pete the Cat series), Aaron Blabey, and Rebecca Elliott. Non-fiction books are also very popular. Topics range from rocks and minerals to animals to science experiments. Every year we get new books added to our library collection to keep it fresh and inviting for students.

We are lucky to have Mrs. Williams as our librarian who knows so much about what the students like, and keeps the beautiful library so well organized. Mrs. Williams also organizes I Love To Read month at our school.

If you want to have a conversation about literacy in our school, please reach out to your child's classroom teacher or me. We'd love to talk with you!

Alison Marttila  
Acting Principal

## Fundraising:

New fundraising initiatives are to be announced in the coming weeks.

If you have any fundraising ideas that you think will do well for our group, please do not hesitate to contact one of the board members.

Have a great spring break from PAC !!



We are looking for energetic individuals who are willing to join our PAC group. We work together to raise funds for the continued development of our playground and assist the school in various events. For more information, how to join or volunteer, please contact Lynnette Lindell @204-782-9372 or you can email her at [lynnette@lansard.ca](mailto:lynnette@lansard.ca). Thank you!



News from the PAC

Thank you to those who attended our virtual meeting last month!

Our next meeting will be held on:  
Tuesday, March 9th @ 8:30  
(via zoom)

If you are interested in being part of our next meeting, please contact Lynnette Lindell by email to add your name!

As there was no PAC meeting scheduled for January there are no Minutes to be posted.

February was I love to Read Month!

Thank you to Mrs. Williams who organized a month long bingo game and the challenges for the kids to complete! Everyone really had a lot of fun!

Congratulations to the classes who won the different bingo games.



This is a friendly reminder that we have a new Inservice scheduled for April 5th (Monday after spring break). There will be no school that day!

Students will return to school on Tuesday, April 6th.

It will be a school day 2.

The staff at Woodlands School would like to give a big *thank you* to our PAC for all the treats during staff appreciation week! It was truly thoughtful and enjoyed by all

**Have a relaxing Spring Break!**





## March 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Day 6 K	2 Day 1 K	3 Day 2 K	4 Day 3 K	5 Day 4 K	6
7	8 	9 Day 5	10 Day 6 K	11 Day 1	12 Day 2 K	13
14	15 Day 3	16 Day 4 K	17 Day 5  Early Dismissal St. Patrick's Day 	18 Day 6 K	19 Day 1	20
21	22 Day 2 K	23 Day 3	24 Day 4 K	25 Day 5	26 Day 6  Report Cards Home Last Day of Classes	27
28	29	30	31	<b>SPRING BREAK!</b>		