

January 2021

Principal's Note:

Happy New Year! We hope that your Christmas/Winter break was wonderful. We have been blessed with warm weather and we hope you found time to enjoy the great outdoors and have fun in the snow and on the ice. We wish our Russian and Ukrainian families a blessed Christmas as they celebrate their Christmas this Thursday, January 7. С Рождеством Христовым! We wish everyone good health and happiness in 2021.

The first week back has been quiet yet busy. The school is always open, but most staff and all students are working from home. Even though many of our staff have been working from home, they have been providing interactive and interesting classes, and our Educational Assistants have been supporting student learning. We are all learning new skills with our online courses - both exciting and frightening. We are proud of the hard work our students have put into their studies and the support parents have provided to ensure learning continues. Our Kindergarten to grade 6 students have tried out online learning this week. We were excited to hear the news that on **January 11** we will all return to school to continue our learning in the classroom and enjoy each other's company - looking forward to seeing all of our kids again. Yahoo!

NLPS Board of Trustees made changes to our January calendar to increase the amount of face to face time we have with our students. Our January Family Friday has been moved from January 15th to January 8th. There is no school this Friday. We will be at school on January 15th as it is now a regular school day.

AHS rules regarding social distancing, wearing masks, frequent hand washing, frequent use of hand sanitizer, and remaining in cohorts will continue to be followed. We continue to need your assistance by keeping children with any of the Covid symptoms at home. We will continue to provide online learning opportunities through Google Classroom so your child does not fall behind.

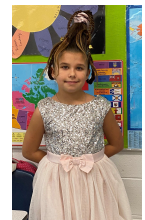
January will be a busy month. We have three full weeks of in-person learning this month. At the end of the month high school students will be writing their final exams for semester 1 and quarter 2 courses. February 1 is the beginning of Semester 2 and Quarter 3 courses. Please see the exam schedule attached at the end of the newsletter.

We are glad to see the kids online but are anxiously awaiting their return. We have missed them.

12 Days of Christmas Fun



There are many pictures throughout the newsletter that shows some of the amazing costumes we saw during our 12 Days of Christmas Fun - many students participated and enjoyed in the



festivities. Thank you to parents for helping their children find costumes and clothing. The joy of Christmas could be felt throughout the building. Lots of prizes were won!



Teddy Bear Christmas



Thank you to LLB Remax Realty for donating teddy bears for our Preschool to Grade 3 students. They were a huge hit with the kiddos!!

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 **division reps**. This position is important as you will provide insight and perspective for students/parents in your child's division. There are three positions still available: Grades 4-6 (Division 2), Grades 7-9 (Division 3), and Grades 10-12 (Division 4). We are excited to work together to steer through this year of Covid, move forward in our planning and continue to improve EPS. 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 **January 14th** at 6:30 in a ZOOM meeting. The invitation will be on our school website and our Facebook page on January 12th.

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!](#)

Winter Clothing, Please!

This year more than ever, it is important that we get outside for fresh air and 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.

Family Literacy Day

This year's theme is "*Travel the World Together*" and while we aren't able to do a lot of traveling right now, there are plenty of ways to explore our world virtually and encourage literacy at the same time.

The following links are just some of the ways that you can celebrate Family Literacy Day this year.

[Tips to celebrate Family Literacy Day](#)

[Activity Sheets](#)

[Activity Booklet](#)

[Free printable bookmarks](#)

We would love to see how your family celebrates Family Literacy Day! Share your photos with us and your photos could be featured on our Facebook page.

Preschool News

The month of December was short but very busy. We made snowmen for our moms and many decorations for the tree. We just loved our new stuffies from Remax and new book from the EPS library. Thank you



Dressing up for the 12 days of Christmas was a lot of fun and some of us won awesome prizes. Thank you, Ms. Lisa.

This week we would like to welcome Sawyer and Evelyn to our class.



Kindergarten

Kindergarten enjoyed many stories of the Gingerbread man. We finished our unit by decorating sugar cones and adding candy decorations.



Grade 1-2

Grade 1-2 students enjoyed participating in the 12 Days of Christmas leading up to winter break. We had some great costumes!



Grade 2

In December we studied Animals in Winter and had a great time with our hibernation party building dens, playing animal games in the snow and visiting with our animal stuffies. We also learned about Christmas traditions through stories, writing and songs. The 12 days of Christmas was a big hit with 2R and we enjoyed seeing the pajamas, sweaters, decorations and other creative ideas to get us in the Christmas mood. Art was a big part of our month with students creating wonderful paintings and crafts using winter as inspiration.

Grade 3

The grade 3 class enjoyed making these Christmas tree cards which had to be folded in a specific way. The best part was decorating the trees in many different colours of glitter. The students also made a jingle bell with colourful glitter and a coloured feather of their choice stuffed inside.



Grade 4

Ms Pelton's Classes

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a relaxing break and is ready to get back to learning. Thank you all for working so hard

through online learning - keep up the good work!

Math 10C - Only one month to go! We are finishing up the semester with linear relations and systems of equations. Keep up the hard work as we move closer to the final exam. You may wish to start working on review independently - it has been a long time since we did measurement and trigonometry!

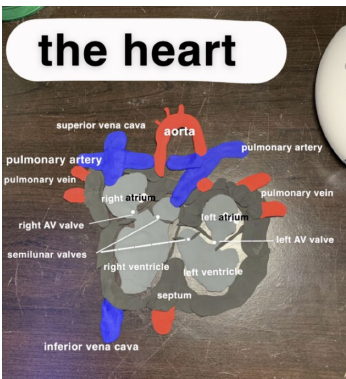
Math 7 - Grade 7s have been getting creative with our geometry unit - a necessary skill when you forget your ruler and compass at school! We will continue to learn about circles and areas of different shapes with a focus on solving word problems.

Math 8 - The grade 8s are working hard on fraction multiplication and division. This takes a lot of hard work even when we are in the classroom, but maybe one day they will love fractions as much as I do!

Photography 7 - The grade 7s have been exploring different techniques and skills in photography class. There is a lot of creativity in this group. A common theme in their daily uploads is photos of cats!

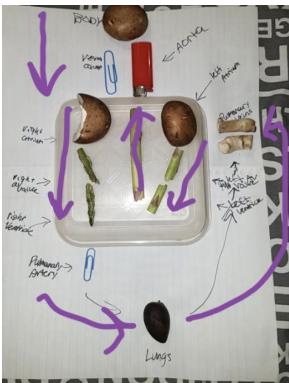
Bio 20

As grades 7-12 students shifted to online, students learned the true value of being resourceful. Instead of looking at a real heart, the Biology 20 class had an opportunity to use both sides of their brain to



"create a model of the heart." They had to tap into their right creative side and their logical side to ensure they had all the connections

right. They not only had to show the four chambers of the heart, but also all of the

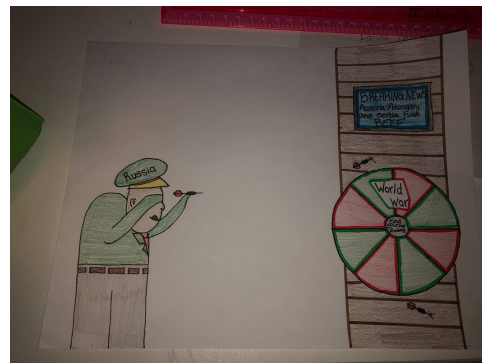


blood vessels that attach to it. They also had to explain how blood goes from one section to the next and if it is oxygenated at that point or not. Here are some of the amazingly creative assignments they were able to create with whatever they could find in their new classrooms.



The Causes of WWI

The Social 20 class completed an assignment where they had to create a political cartoon and provide an editorial on the causes of World War One. Here is one of the pieces.



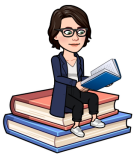
Within this cartoon you can see a Russian man throwing darts at a dart board, with news that Austria/Hungary is having issues with Serbia. The dart board labelling bullseye as minding your own business and not being involved in other countries politics, while the rest of the board says get involved and potentially start a world war. The Russian man is most likely not to hit the centre of the board, as you can see his previous two shots missed the board and he is blindfolded. I think that in 1914 the Russians were the ones that truly started the war, they bothered an ordinary war between two nations and got involved; which got other countries involved as well. This cartoon is a comical idea of the options that Russian politicians had before making the decision of getting involved in the war. Of course another option was on the table, but the chances of the darts hitting the certain areas of the board were very similar to the chances of which decision Russia would make.-Justine K.

EPS Artist Shines Bright



Grade 10 student Emma Watson created a recreated one of Vincent Van Gogh's paintings starry night. The painting was done on and off throughout 7 months. The inspiration for the painting came from an assignment that was done in French class about Vincent Van Gogh and the art that he had done.

Learning Commons News



In December, using the proceeds from the Book Fair, I was happy to be able to give each student from Preschool to Grade 6 a brand new book for Christmas. Seeing their faces light up when they each got their gift was wonderful! If any students were absent and did not receive their gift, they will once we resume in person classes.

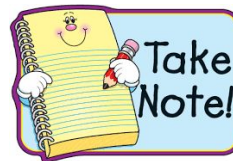


Hawks Athletics

EPS Athletic Awards 2020

Due to Covid 19, athletics has been put on hold until further notice. We are hoping to be able to offer practice times for our different teams, but this will be determined by AHS and Alberta Education. Thank you for your understanding. We hope to be able to add team practices sometime in the near future. Until then, stay safe!

Dates to Remember



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

February Dates:

February 1: Semester 2/Quarter 3 Starts
February 11 & 12: Teacher Convention - no school for students
February 15: Family Day - No School
February 24: Pink Shirt Day
March 5: Family Friday - No School

January

2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Happy New Year!	2
3	4 Online Learning Begins 	5	6	7 Russian Christmas 	8 Family Friday – No School 	9
10	11 All Students Back at School (subject to change from gov't) 	12	13	14 PAC meeting Zoom meeting 6:30pm 	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 Hawk's Jersey Day or School Colors Day 	23
24	25	26	27 HS Exam Week Family Literacy Day 	28 HS Exam Week 	29 HS Exam Week 	30
31	1 February Semester 2/ Quarter 1 Begins 					

High School Exam Schedule

All exams are scheduled for the morning unless otherwise noted. Students are allowed to leave the building once the exam is completed. A parent note is required for students leaving the building and students need to sign out. There will be a study space available for students remaining at the school but they are required to remain in that location for the remainder of the day.

January 27, 2021	January 28, 2021	January 29, 2021
Math 10C/10-3 Social 20 English 30	Social 10 Bio 20 First Aid - Grade 10 - TBD (PM)	Science 9 First Aid - Grade 10 - TBD (all day)

