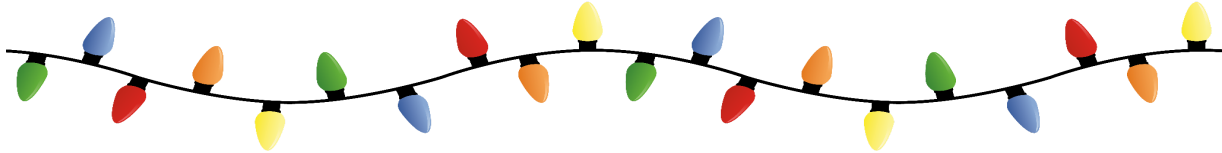




Hawks Highlights

December 2021



Principal's Note:

Merry Christmas! It is difficult to believe that Christmas is less than a month away and just slightly over a month away for our Russian families. How time flies! We hope this newsletter finds you healthy, happy and excited for the events to come.



November has been a busy month. We had many days and nights focused on report cards. Teachers were excited to meet with parents and reported back that the meeting times were appreciated. We hope you were able to connect with your child(ren)'s teacher(s); however, if the scheduled parent teacher nights did not work for you, please reach out to the teacher and they will be happy to set up another meeting time with you. Just call the school.

The school activities for the month of November focused on Remembrance

Day, Metis Week and spirit days. Thank you to Madame Doucet and her team of helpers for the November Day assembly. We met as individual classrooms but participated together in listening to Taps, two minutes of silence and The Reveille. Metis week saw a few guests in our building. Artisan Holly Rae Yuzicapi worked with our grade 4-6 students showing how to build with quills. According to kids, this is not an easy task. And we also were entertained by two Metis singers from Buffalo Lake and our very own Paulina Kuznetsov.

We also experienced our first three snow days this November. When travel is unsafe, buses do not run but the school is always open. We ask that you still call the school to let us know your child is safe at home. Otherwise we mark your child absent and phone calls are automatically sent to you. We just want to make sure that nobody is in the ditch and needs assistance. Thanks for your cooperation with this procedure.

Volleyball filled our evenings and weekends this month. All of our teams - Grade 5 & 6, Junior Teams, and Senior Teams had a successful season. It was great to have students on the court learning and improving new skills, demonstrating fair play, integrity and spirit, and rising to the high level of competition. Please see the articles below for how each team did. Thank you to Mr. Reid, Miss Babcock, Miss Nevill, Mrs. Landry, Ms Delorme, Ms McCullough, and Mr. Kim (coached both jr and sr boys teams) for your time, dedication, and great school spirit.

This month we are excited to work with Trickster Theatre for the week of December 7-10. The professional actors will be at our school for the week working with students in grades K-9. Stay tuned for more details on the presentation we will be sharing with you starring your kids.

Thanks to the Students Union and Miss. B, we will be having a week of Christmas Spirit from December 13-17. Please see the calendar below for details.

On behalf of the Ecole Plamondon School Staff, we would like to wish you a wonderful winter holiday, a blessed Christmas, and a new year filled with health and happiness.

Remembrance Day

Ecole Plamondon remembered the soldiers who died and those who served our country in the service on November 10 by watching Remembrance Day presentations and participated in two minutes of silence



Metis Week

This month we had the privilege to celebrate Metis Week from November 15-19. During this week, we learned more about the Metis culture as well as had special guests, Holly Yuziciapi, Bryce Delorme and Kyran Reid. Holly is a Native Arts instructor at Portage College who came in to show the grades 4, 5 and 6's how to create Indigenous art using porcupine quills through land based teaching. We also had a bit of Metis music and entertainment presented by Bryce and Kyran. They visited the elementary classes playing their guitars and singing Cree/English and classic country songs.



Trickster Theatre

Trickster theatre is coming to École Plamondon school on December 7th to 10th! Classes in K-9 will be exploring the world through theatre. Trickster theatre offers fun, engaging, and

effective learning through action. Students will co-create a performance with professional artists based on their choice of theme.

Book Fair



Preschool News

November was a very busy month in preschool. We learned a lot about staying healthy, how important it is to get our rest, how to exercise and why we need healthy foods and that sweets are treats. Our book this month was The Hungry Caterpillar 🐛

This was the best month ever for us because we went to our very first book fair! A-lot of us ended up sick for Halloween so we had our dress up party in November.

We love the snow and the wonderful weather. Preschool ended the month in our pyjamas at the Teddy Bear Picnic.



Kindergarten

In Kindergarten we have been reading different versions of “The Three Little Pigs”. The kids have enjoyed alternate endings and surprises. This will finish this week with the students making retelling bags with puppets they make out of spoons. We have also talked about parts of the story sequence and the setting of the story (Straw house, Wood house, Brick house).

We have been talking about our culture and how we are unique. We celebrated Métis week by learning how to jig and the significance of the sash. One of our special centres as we continue discussions about culture is Matryoshka dolls - great also for mathematics as we talk about seriation (small to tall) & (tall to small). We continued practicing patterns, counting, sorting and adding with some centres from Halloween.

layer with different materials and got to enjoy the treat afterwards.

In Language Arts, the grade threes started a novel study called, *The Mouse and The Motorcycle* written by Beverly Cleary. They are excited to learn all about Ralph the Mouse and his interesting experience with his friend's toy motorcycle. The grade threes have been writing more and continuing with their spelling tests. In Math, the students are enjoying building numbers with base ten blocks and identifying the place value of each number. In Social, the grade threes enjoyed creating treasure maps as they ended their Mapping Unit and are learning more about Ukraine, Tunisia, Peru, and India.

The grade three students did a great job on their Remembrance Day Song, *One Tin Soldier*, that was included in our school celebration. Another fun experience the students got to enjoy was celebrating Metis Week. Ms. Delorme had some wonderful activities set up such as listening to live music to celebrate the week.

The class is very happy that we have had a lot of warm weather, though they are very excited about the new fluffy snow! I am looking forward to meeting with all of the parents on Parent Teacher Interview Night to go over the students' growth throughout this learning term.



Lien and Evdokimov Grade 3 News

During the month of November, the grade three students experienced a virtual Farm Safety Presentation on November 2nd, where they learned about how loud sounds affect our hearing and stressed the importance of wearing hearing protection. This presentation ties in with our Science Unit that we are starting called Hearing and Sound. One of the fun activities we did in Science to end off our Rocks and Minerals Unit was a soil level demonstration with tasty treats! The students built each soil layer with different materials and got to enjoy the treat afterwards.

In Language Arts, the grade threes started a novel study called, *The Mouse and The Motorcycle* written by Beverly Cleary. They are excited to learn all about Ralph the Mouse and his interesting experience with his friend's toy motorcycle. The grade threes have been writing more and continuing with their spelling tests. In Math, the students are enjoying building numbers with base ten blocks and identifying the place value of each number. In Social, the grade threes enjoyed creating treasure maps as they ended their Mapping Unit and are learning more about Ukraine, Tunisia, Peru, and India.

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During Métis week the students made Red River Carts from popsicle sticks, toothpicks, and twigs for wheels. Two students chose to make their wheels from paper towel rolls. Each student had the opportunity to use a glue gun which held everything together. The student's learned about where the cart originated and that it was used as a mode of transportation to get from one place to another, as well as a way to transport furs, goods, and other supplies.



Grade 4 News

It has been a busy November in grade four. This month we had the privilege to celebrate Metis Week from November 15-19. During this week, we learned more about the Metis culture as well as had special guests, Holly Yuziciapi, Bryce Delorme and Kyran Reid.

As we move into December, we're starting new units such as Lights and Shadows (Science) and Alberta's Regions (Social Studies). In Language Arts we continue to work on our writing and research skills. In Math, we've been investigating word problems and looking for context cues that will tell us which operation we are to use to solve written questions.

Have a great December and remember to read for twenty minutes every night!



Grade 5 & 6 News

The Grade 5 and 6 classes have been working hard in all their classes and are learning how to use technology to support their achievement.

We celebrated Metis Week this month. On November 18 the Grade 5 and 6 joined the Grade 4 class and had the opportunity to participate in a workshop about First Nations art by Holly Yuziciapi. She talked about how and why she started creating her art and then the students had some opportunities to try sewing with porcupine quills. It was a really hard task but all the students kept trying their best. They asked lots of good questions and were very polite and respectful.

Bryce Delorme also came to help celebrate Metis Week. He and his friend were joined by Paulina Kuznetsov to demonstrate some guitar playing and singing. The Grade 6 class wanted them to play Old Towne Road but Bryce informed them firmly that all new music was junk and instead played them Folsom Prison Blues by Johnny Cash.

In art class, the students have worked on collage, chalk drawing and painting and created a Remembrance Day poster. Snow days have made finishing some of our projects a bit difficult, but everyone is doing their best.

ELA 8

The grade 8 language arts class had time to visit the book fair this week as well as take some time for personal reading and language arts games. The class finished up their first novel study last month and had a short unit on story telling which will culminate in



each of them recording themselves telling a story of their choosing.

We are starting on our new novel Dogsong by Gary Paulsen. During the unit students are going to learn about figurative language, symbolism and Inuit culture and comparing it to our own cultures. We are looking to complete our novel study in the new year.

ELA 9

The grade 9 language arts class is just finishing up their short story unit and I am looking forward to reading their own creations as they write their short stories. This is a big project that we will be working on over the next few weeks before Christmas break. Please encourage your student to share their story with you as they develop it. It would be great for them to have an opportunity to share their story before they turn it in. After the break we will be starting on our first novel study - Touching Spirit Bear by Ben Mikaelson.



Chem 20

Chemistry 20 students demonstrated the effects of acidosis on the body by changing the pH of water with their breath using only a straw, and an indicator called bromothymol blue which turns yellow in acidic conditions. They did this before and after exercising, and found that the water became acidic much more quickly after

running up and down the hallways for three minutes.



Grad News

This month the graduates have been given an early Graduation Gift from the EPS School Council/PAC. At the last PAC meeting the group decided to give \$40 towards each graduate's hoodie. Hoodies will be ordered prior to Christmas Break and will be here in time for the graduates to enjoy them for the new year. A huge thank you to the PAC members who wanted to give the graduates a gift they could use before the end of the year.

Remember graduates that you need to get your pictures in to Ms. Kim or Ms. Lisa before you leave for Christmas Break. Also, the first \$50 installment for grad fees is due. If you have any questions or concerns please see Mrs. Rebkowich.

Students Union

Over the past couple of weeks, the students union has been busy planning and organizing 5 Days of Christmas which is going to start on Monday, December 13th and go until Friday, December 17th.

Monday-Thursday: There will be a candy gram sale and a Hershey's Kisses guessing jar

Day 1 of Christmas Activities

- Christmas Trivia (Kahoot will be sent to teachers to play during the day)
- Ugly Christmas Sweater Day** (There will be prizes!)



Day 2 of Christmas Activities

- Coloring Contest (There are prizes to be won!)
- Christmas PJ Day!**
- Grades K-6 Christmas movie at lunch



Day 3 of Christmas Activities

- Grades 7-9 Christmas movie in Miss. Babcock's class at lunch
- Snowman building competition for all grades (prizes to be won!)
- Christmas Hat Day!**



Day 4 of Christmas Activities

- Grades 10-12 Christmas movie in Miss. Babcock's class at lunch
- Dress up as your Favourite Christmas Movie/Story Character** (for prizes!)



Day 5 of Christmas Activities

- Candy grams will be handed out
- Winner for the guessing jar will be announced

-DIY Christmas card making at lunch; classes will get pre made packages and can complete in class on your own time

-Christmas Sock Day!

The Students Union wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas!! Please join us in celebrating the holidays this year!



Learning Commons

Our Learning Commons has been invaded by colorful monsters!

We have had so much fun at the **Monster Book Fair!**

The book fair is a great way to raise money for new books and supplies for our makerspace area. Thank you to all the students and parents that supported us. Thank you to the students who helped me create some of our colourful monsters to decorate the library.

Here are some highlights from our exciting week!



Hawks Athletics

Sr. Girls Volleyball - Zone Championships (Host)

The Plamondon Girls were excited and proud to host 1A Girls NE Zone Championships on Nov. 19/20 at the Bold Center in Lac La Biche. The team went into the tournament ranked as the number one 1A Girls team in the Zone and had high hopes of claiming a Provincial berth. The Girls played excellent all weekend but ran into some very tough competition and unfortunate circumstances that saw us lose 2 very close 3-set matches to Beaux-Lac (Bonnyville) and St. Jerome's (Vermilion) - teams that we had previously defeated in our earlier meetings this season. With so many skilled teams in our zone we knew it was going to be a challenging and competitive tournament and it certainly proved to be the case with many upsets and close scores. The Plamondon Hawks lost out in the Quarter-Finals to St. Jerome's (Vermilion) 25-11, 19-25, 16-18 in a tightly contested match that just didn't go our way in the end. It was a tough way to end our season as we enjoyed a great deal of success this year, placing 1st in Boyle and 2nd in four of our other 5 tournaments. We look to be a contender again next year as we have 8 of our 10 players returning, including 5 senior starters.



Not being able to play the sports we love during covid affecting so many people, getting back onto the volleyball court has been a huge mood booster, and were so happy to be playing with so many wonderful people. During the season our team has formed so many close connections and we've really grown into a family. We've come so far from the beginning and we're all so proud of each other. Ecole Plamondon School would like to sincerely thank Lac La Biche County for providing funding assistance for court rentals that allowed us to safely host this large 10-team event at the Bold Center in Lac La Biche.

Sr. Boys Volleyball - Zone Championships in Two Hills

The Plamondon Sr. Boys Team had an amazing 2021 season from start to finish. The team played an exciting brand of volleyball with spectacular defensive plays combined with a dynamic offense that constantly kept teams under pressure. The Hawks Sr. Boys also earned the number one seed heading into the Zone tournament and had high hopes of reaching Provincial Championships which would be earned with a victory in the Zone Playoff in Two Hills. The team played flawlessly in round-robin, dominating their pool with straight set wins over Smoky Lake, Kehewin, St. Mary's (Vegreville) and the host school from Two Hills. The team then defeated Mallaig in the Semi-finals to set-up a showdown with the only other undefeated team in the draw, E.H. Walter from Paradise Valley. It was a tightly contested final between two highly competitive and well prepared teams. Unfortunately our boys came out on the short end of a 15-13 score in the 3rd set to claim the Zone Silver. It was a great season for our Sr. Boys team and we are extremely proud of their growth and

many accomplishments this season!



The jr. girls volleyball team has been going good, and has been practicing on hitting and receiving. And got 2nd in wards out of three teams. And are now going to districts in cold lake. I feel like the team has good sportsmanship and is very easy to play in. -Iroya, grade 7.



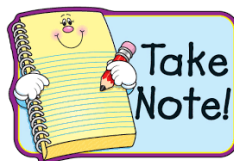
The junior boys volleyball team has had a great season! On October 30th, they placed 2nd place after an intense final game against Aurora Middle School. On November 22nd, the boys competed at the West Ward playoffs at EPS, and placed 2nd, earning the right to compete at Districts Playoffs in Cold Lake on November

27th. Stay tuned for next month's newsletter for results!

The Rookie volleyball season ended on October 30 at the Bold Center. The boys and girls teams participated in a 3 team tournament where they played each team twice. The girls team went to the final and captured first place. The boys team lost in the semi-finals. Our students represented their school well and were complimented on their improvement throughout the day. The coaches were proud of their sportsmanship and are looking forward to next season. We hope Ms. Delorme continues to coach the Grade 5 and 6 level volleyball next year - she has so many great drills and helped the groups learn so much.



Dates to Remember



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



January Dates:

January 3 - First Day Back

January 7 & 8 - Russian Christmas

January 12 - Social Studies Part A Diploma

January 18 - School Council Meeting via Zoom at 6:30

January 24 - Social Studies Part B Diploma

January 26-28 - Exam Week








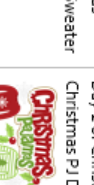




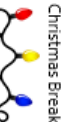











January 26 - Grade 9 Social Studies PAT

January 31 - End of Semester 1 for High School Students

February 1 - Start of Semester 2

December

2021

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|---|
| | | | | | | |
| | 5 Wellness Day – No School  | 6 Trickster Theater  | 7 Trickster Theater  | 8 Trickster Theater  | 9 Trickster Theater  | 10 Trickster Theater  |
| | 12 Day 1 of Christmas Ugly Christmas Sweater Day  | 13 Day 2 of Christmas Christmas PJ Day  | 14 Day 3 of Christmas Christmas Hat Day  | 15 Day 4 of Christmas Dress Up as Your Favorite Christmas Movie/Story Character  | 16 Day 5 of Christmas Christmas Sock Day  | 17  |
| | 19 Christmas Break  | 20 Christmas Break  | 21 Christmas Break  | 22 Christmas Break  | 23 Christmas Break Christmas Eve  | 24 Christmas Break Christmas Day  |
| 26 Christmas Break  | 27 Christmas Break  | 28 Christmas Break  | 29 Christmas Break  | 30 Christmas Break  | 31 Christmas Break New Year's Eve  | |