

Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw School Newsletter

Strong Together In All We Do



November/December 2022

News from the Principal



Gilakas'la

With the arrival of the snow, winter seems to have arrived. However, it's still hard to believe that it's December already and we are only a couple of weeks of school left before the Christmas break!

The end of November also culminated in the end of our first term. I am very pleased with the considerable growth our students have shown. I don't think this can be attributed to one particular person, strategy, or program, it has taken a consistent approach of forming strong relationships with our kids, having high expectations for their learning and behaviour while supporting this with strong cultural teachings.

As we head into the holiday season I'd like to thank all our families for your support and we look forward to seeing you at our Christmas Concert on December 15. I'd also like to thank our dedicated staff who put their hearts into providing safe and caring classrooms and creating engaging learning opportunities for our students. As partners in education, we are **STRONG TOGETHER IN ALL WE DO!**



This is the last newsletter before the Christmas break so I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of our staff to wish the community a safe and happy holiday.

Reed Allen - Principal

News from Karen

Happy December! I am sure everyone is super excited about upcoming events. First, our Christmas Concert and then the much-anticipated winter break. I hope that everyone has a safe and happy holiday. Enjoy these activities to complete with your child/ren. Happy Holidays from my family to yours.

Christmas

C	S	T	Y	C	A	S	T	N	E	S	E	R	P
D	S	G	N	I	K	C	O	T	S	E	E	H	O
K	R	R	I	N	G	S	Y	A	D	I	L	O	H
I	T	D	N	E	M	S	G	N	A	L	N	O	E
N	C	H	R	I	S	T	M	A	S	Y	O	J	S
D	Y	O	O	S	E	F	I	A	A	C	S	D	J
N	T	P	E	S	E	R	I	N	C	L	Y	O	A
E	S	N	S	S	R	R	A	D	E	A	T	S	A
S	Y	S	H	C	T	I	H	Y	H	I	N	I	A
S	K	A	A	S	I	E	Y	R	M	K	N	D	S
A	R	N	R	M	C	C	S	R	S	Y	T	N	Y
R	A	T	I	O	S	T	T	D	Y	S	N	N	O
D	I	A	N	S	Y	E	S	A	E	R	I	I	T
I	A	S	G	I	C	A	O	F	A	M	I	L	Y

- JOY
- PRESENTS
- TREE
- SHARING
- HOLIDAYS
- FAMILY
- CANDY
- CHRISTMAS
- TOYS
- SANTA
- STOCKINGS
- KINDNESS

News from Shannon

In November and December we worked hard, we played hard, we battled sickness and we enjoyed a SNOW day! ❄️

We have our IEPs ready to go, thank you to everyone who were able to contribute to our student's educational plans. I look forward to touching base with you again next term.

We hosted Chelsea, our SLP (Speech Language Pathologist) for 3 days during which she was able to observe students and give important feedback to teachers and to Dea-ta, our SLA (Speech Language Assistant). Dea-ta was able to spend a whole day with Chelsea on our Pro-D Day, doing intensive learning all about supporting our kids.

We also had Robyn Altmiks, an Occupational Therapist come to observe some students at the school and provide valuable information for working with our students. Chelsea and Robyn will be working with our students all year.

We are so fortunate to have access to these professionals who have expertise in these areas. They together with families, partner professionals and our staff, to ensure that we are providing safe and individualized supports for our students.

🎄 I wish you all the very best Christmas and New Year! 🎄

Chelsea Van Tol



Dea-ta Dawson



News from Dianne's Grade 6/7 Class



Our Amazing Sasam - Our Future Leaders

We are so thankful for all the wonderful learning memories this past month. The indoor soccer tournament, hiking to Quaste Lake, the Quaste River hatchery tour, t-shirt gifts from Nawalakw, visit from the elders, "the Marys", hiking the Cluxewe Salt Marsh trail, learning from the Marble River, having Davis teach us about the medicines at Georgie Lake, snowman building challenges and an awesome presentation about diabetes rom Denise and Cassidy! Gilakas'la ❤️



*Wishing you all a
Merry
Christmas
and all the best in
2023!*



News from Nic's Grade 5/6 Class

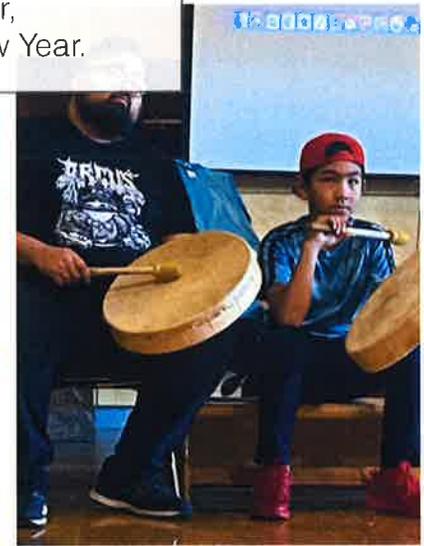


'Twas a few weeks before Christmas, when all through the school
Staff and students kept busy, keeping their cool;
Report cards were written and Parent Teachers to come,
But learning still happens, there's more to be done.

November kicked off with a big soccer tourney,
A fun interruption to our usual journey.
When classes resumed, we returned to our learning,
Projects galore, our brains never stopped churning.

Remembrance Day and our biome assignments
Were opportunities for our skill refinements.
But no it's not over, there's still much to share,
ADST, skating, and learning out in fresh air!

And our Christmas Concert is coming and we hope you are too!
As thanks for your care and support we want to gift you
A song and dance and some holiday cheer,
To say thanks, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



News from Leslee's Grade 4/5 Class

Another busy month in our class has gone by.....We start our days going through the 5 steps from our Mindful Morning sheet so that we start each day calm and focused for the activities ahead! Our class decorated poppies and leaves to make our class wreath "Lest We Forget" in memory of all the people who have fought for our freedoms. We started a 30 Days of Gratitude Challenge and record what we will do that day in our journals! So far this year Grade 3/4 has read over 400 EPIC BOOKS and plan to double that by the end of February!

As winter is arriving and Christmas is around the corner, the students are getting excited and in the Christmas spirit!

We are starting to plan and work on preparations for our Christmas concert and can't wait to see you then!

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!!



News from Jen's Grade 3/4 Class

Friendship Soup

Ever wonder what the magic ingredients are in a friendship? Well, the grade 3/4 class has created a recipe that is destined to keep and create long lasting friends. Here it is and it's not a secret. It is made to share with everyone! On behalf of all the students, Tiffany and myself we wish you all a Joyous holiday season. Enjoy special moments with these kiddos for two weeks! We will surely miss them.



Alice - A sprinkle of jokes. One cup of curiosity.



Leslie - One scoop of Maya'xala.



Carla - One tablespoon of love.



Lazarus - A sprinkle of sharing.



Kendra - One cup of laughter. One handful of trust.



Willie - Four handfuls of music and dancing.



Kevanna - Two scoops of friendship butter.



Simone - One scoop of belonging.



Linden - One scoop of excitement.



Brendan - One big scoop of courage. One scoop of confidence.

Louisa - Two books of reading.

Nicole - Three teaspoons of joy. One cup of funniness.

Cristian - One scoop of silliness.

Konner - Two cups of kindness.



News from Jackie's Grade 2/3 Class

What can I do over the holiday break?

I can read my favourite books!

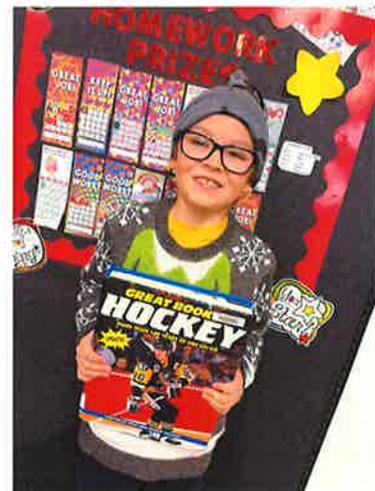
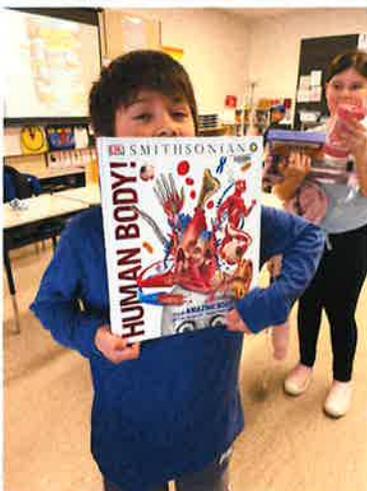
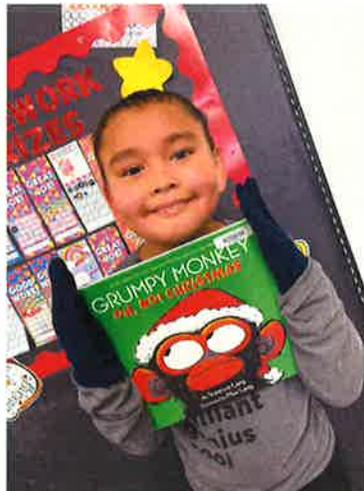
I can play my favourite board games!

I can bake cookies!

I can play with my friends!

I can have a dance party!

I can listen to Christmas music!



News from Melanie's Grade 1/2 Class



Our grade 2 students participated in our annual indoor soccer tournament. They did so well and we had a blast cheering them on.

In November we focussed on learning about peace. We read many books and poems about the concept of peace. Students were challenged to describe peace using their five senses. Below is some of their ideas.

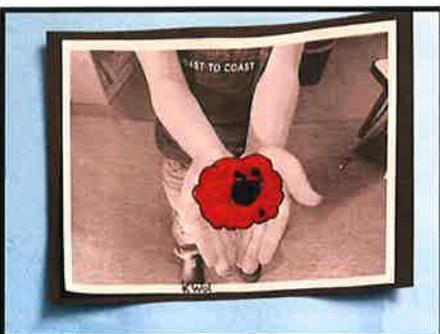
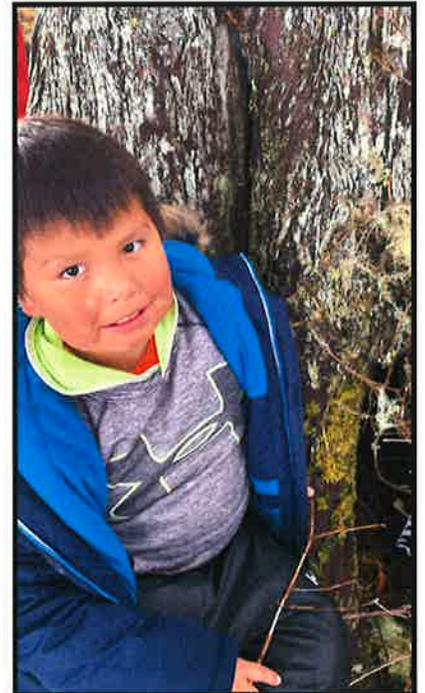
Peace looks like.... "my friends playing" Wynter, "baby Gunner sleeping" Oakley, "shiny stars and the moon" Landon

Peace smells like.... "Mo's pizza" Kwol, "fresh air" Maddox, "warm popcorn" Dorian, "McDonald's nuggets" Oakley

Peace tastes like... "ice cream with whip cream on top" Celenia, "rice with spam" Landon, "fluffy cotton candy" Cameron

Peace sounds like... "wind blowing in the atilil and birds singing" Cameron, "soft music" Douglas, "Shhhhhhh" Dorian

Peace feels like..... "soft feathers against my skin" Eve, "a little soft baby chick" Calai, "warm sand" Bentley



News from Sheri-An's K Class

Gilakas'la! What a wonderful November we've had. Our focus this month was learning about peace, bears and hibernation. We are gearing up for Christmas and will be writing letters to Santa and sending them at the Post Office. The kids have been practicing for our Christmas concert and are excited to share some of their crafts and art work with you. Our last week of school will be all about Gingerbread, stories, science, baking and decorating will be a fun way to end the year. Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas break with your beautiful families. Have the loveliest Christmas with your amazing kiddos. They are truly the embodiment of the magic and spirit of Christmas.



MAY YOUR
Christmas
BE MERRY &
Bright



Puzzle Buddies

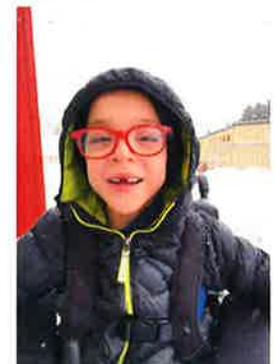
Will's Jams



Dino Zoo



Snow



News from Michelle's Pre K Class: November and December

It's beautiful to see the gangānanam grow and learn as they become more comfortable in the school and with each other. We have had a very musical month: music lessons with Teacher Jen, singing in Bakwamkala, dancing and singing during culture time and Kristine brought her trumpet in. They were amazed at the sound and feel of the trumpet. The band Will's Jams came to our school and we all joined in with actions, while Kian and Aliwas took centre stage to dance for the whole audience to copy. Now, it's time to get ready for our Christmas Concert and celebrate the season with crafts and baking. We will be performing "Ama'bidu dlu U'mas Kismis" and "I'm a Dancing Christmas Tree"



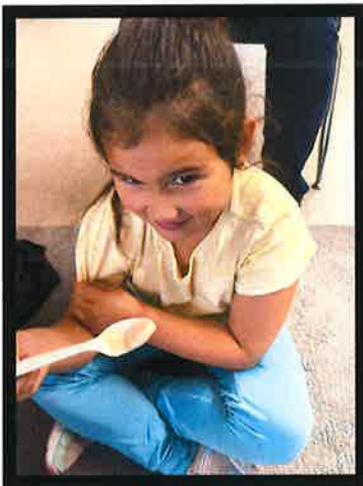
Meli Kismis!

Have a safe and wonderful holiday with your beautiful children.



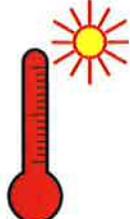
News from Robin's Bakwamkala Class

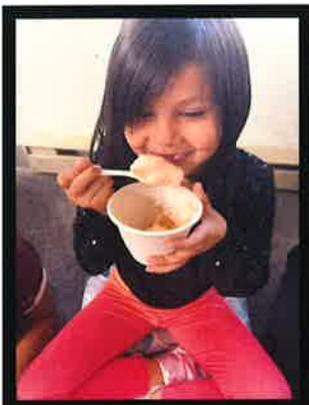
Gilakas'la. With the weather changing and the the arrival of snow, we have been learning weather language. Singing songs and practicing phrases are an important part of learning. Students have also been getting ready for the Christmas concert, and singing in bakwamkala. It is an exciting time of the year for all of us. I hope you all have a wonderful holiday with your family. Meli Kismis.



Satiya, Amelia and Karder trying bakwam ice cream

Lesson 7: Weather

		
t'risala	'yugwa	yola
		
k'wisa	pa'lxala	
		
pa'lxadzo	yu'ista	'wadala
		
t'salkwa	ik	yaksam



BINGO with the Pre-Ks



News from Lauren's Culture Class

Gilakasda'xw'la to all our Families and Sasam:

I am happy to share that our whole school has been in full swing of learning our dances (Tseka) of the Kwakwaka'wakw rich culture! It makes me so proud to see their pride when dancing with regalia.

It has been nice having Walter George in to share his knowledge and to sing with us.

The Sasam worked hard and completed their lineage "Nugwa'am" activity, which included who they are, where they come from, their family, their crests, and also added their favourite dances, songs, and traditional food.

The grades 6/7's are eager start to sew their tsep dlu kangextola next week!

Our Sasam continue to make me proud to see their pride and excitement for our Kwakwaka'wakw ways!

Gilakasda'xw'la, Gwanti'lakw



News from Heather's Physical Education Class



Our gym has been a very busy place, and, we have been having fun as usual!

November saw the return of our famous school soccer tournament!! We brought several local schools to have a fun-filled three days of soccer! Everyone had a great time :)



Our school sent several students to Sointula for the annual Cross Country Running Race; everyone finished the race and Takoda even got a ribbon!

Next up, we pulled down the ropes to have some swinging good times...and climbing good times! Our school has some VERY strong students!



Now, the badminton nets are up and we have been enjoying the to practice and develop our skills! Badminton has been a hit for all grades and staff!



Our music playlist has shifted to Christmas tunes now! The snow outside has helped with our festive feelings :)



Wishing you all the best of the holiday season!

- Heather



News from Chef Robert

Well winter arrived last week with a good dump of snow to play around in. We have now switched over to a more heartier and winter friendly menu to keep the little ones warm and full of energy. With Christmas fast approaching you can see the magic starting to show on the kids faces for Santa's arrival.

As baking season is upon us I thought I would share one of my favourite cookie recipes for you all to try and share with your family and friends.

Banana Bread Oatmeal Cookies

1.5 Cups All Purpose Flour

1 tsp cinnamon

1/2 tsp baking soda

1/2 cup butter

1/2 cup white sugar

1/2 cup brown sugar

1 Egg

2 Bananas Mashed

1 tsp Vanilla

1 1/2 cups oats

Preheat Oven to 350*

Mix butter and white and brown sugar in a large bowl with an electric mixer, once light and fluffy add the egg,bananas and vanilla to the mixture and mix well.

Mix Flour Cinnamon and baking powder together in a bowl and add slowly to the butter mixture using the hand blender.Stir in the oats at the very end.

Drop onto a greased cookie sheet and bake for 12-15 min until lightly browned, cool on a rack and enjoy.

I hope that everyone has a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to come .

Learning in Action



Students in Jackie's Grade 2/3 Class writing their letter to Santa.



Nic's Grade 5/6 and Dianne's Grade 6/7 students are taking learning outside every Monday!



Our annual indoor soccer tournament is back! it was so great to host the North Island schools for 3 days of fun and exciting soccer!

More Learning



Juno nominated Will Stroet of Will's Jams performed his high-energy rock-pop music for our school. Our students moved and sang along to the sing-along choruses and witty wordplay that promoted them to be active, creative, caring and community-minded.



Winter arrived BIG TIME and we even had a snow day! The students have really been enjoying playing in the snow. BRRR.



Birthdays this Month



Happy November Birthday to Cristian, Isaac, Dusty, Illiyanna, Mac, Phoenix, Celenia-Dawn, Frederick, Konner, James, Kaelyn, and Perry!



Happy December Birthday to Sophia, William, Ezra, Aurora, Brendan, Edgar, Quorbin, Kadence, Jacob, Linden, Mattias, Wynter and Kian !



Notices



Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw School

Christmas Concert



**Thursday, December 15
1:00 pm at the School Gym**

Everyone Welcome

Monthly Calendar

DECEMBER 2022



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	Div 1 Dianne Div 2 Nic Div 3 Leslee Div 4 Jen Div 5 Jackie Div 6 Melanie Div 7 Sheri An Div 8 Michelle			1	2	3
4	Div. 1/2 Outdoor Learning 10:00 - 3:00 <i>Happy Birthday Sophia Picin</i>	Div. 7 Post Office 10:50 Grade 6/7 Immunization Div. 5 Post Office 2:00	Div. 6 Post Office 10:50 Photo Retakes <i>Happy Birthday William Jacobson</i>	8	Div. 1-4 Skating AM; Div. 6/7 Storeys Beach 1:00 pm Div. 1-4 Skating AM; Div. 5 Elk Drive	10
11	Div. 1/2 Outdoor Learning 10:00 - 3:00 <i>Happy Birthday Brendan King, Edgar Campbell</i>	Div. 8 Post Office 1:40	14	Christmas Concert 1:00 @gym <i>Happy Birthday Kadence Walkus Happy Birthday Scooter</i>	Last day of school - PJ Day! <i>Happy Birthday Jacob Louis Happy Birthday Linden Jack</i>	17
18	WINTER BREAK - ENJOY THIS TIME WITH YOUR FAMILY					24
					Happy Birthday Mattias Charlie, Wynter-Rein Sheard, Martina and Teacher Heather	
 MERRY CHRISTMAS	WINTER BREAK - ENJOY THIS TIME WITH YOUR FAMILY					31
					School begins on the Tuesday, Jan 3, 2023 <i>Happy Birthday Kian Nelson</i>	