

Madonna Catholic School Council

Meeting called to order at 7:01pm by Kerstin A, January 9, 2022, taking place online via google meet

In attendance:

Karen A	Jenness S	Kerstin A	Katelyn S
Kristie P	Jean B	Erin C	Rebecca K
Laura E			

7:01pm Kristie P opens with Treaty Acknowledgement

7:03pm Karen A leads in prayer "quotes of hope francis for the new year"

7:05pm Last meeting's minutes approval by Erin C, seconded by Jenness S

7:05pm Teacher's report presented by Katelyn S

- Pathways

Pathways is excited to get into a regular routine after the lovely long break! Last month, we had fun counting down the days to Jesus' birthday by lighting the advent candles and incorporating it in our calendar time. We did a lot of work on our fine motor skills by making many ornaments as a present to our families. We got moving during the colder winter days by playing games in the gym, as well as numerous Christmas themed exercise videos (our favourite was "The Grinch Run"! ). Practicing speech sound was made fun by combining them with numerous turn taking games, such as "Beehive". Lastly, we practiced our songs for the Christmas concert daily (our best singing seemed to happen in the hallways instead of the camera, but I must say that the students still did a super job!)

This month, we are focusing on our sorting skills and having a wonderful time reading different versions of Jan Brett's "The Mitten". The staff is also taking some time to create a gross motor room for our students which will come in handy with the dropping winter temperatures!

- Kindergarten

Kindergarten is back in full swing after our long break. We have been taking advantage of the warmer weather by spending time outside, especially when it was our turn at the Loose Parts shed!

We are exploring space this month and enjoying learning about the planets, stars, astronauts, and the International Space Station. This is a fun, science loaded theme that everyone enjoys!

We are also exploring shapes and building-this ties in well with constellations, and continuing to practice our subitizing and comparing quantities.

We are also continuing to explore our letter sounds and working on building and decoding simple words, combining words to make compound words, and rhyming words.

We are looking forward to the warmer spring temperatures!

- Grade 1N

The students in Grade 1N were thrilled to be back at Madonna to see all their friends! We also are LOVING the outdoor snow building and sculpting fun! We had a blast with the Loose Parts materials on the ONE warm day before the Christmas Break and we are excited to have another turn there! A BIG thank you to the Parent Council for supporting Loose Parts.

On the first day back, we learned about the Epiphany by smelling myrrh and frankincense and looking at a ring made with gold nuggets. We listened to "We Three Kings" songs and dramatized kneeling down in adoration to worship the new Baby Jesus.

They love learning and are enjoying adding and subtracting numbers in math! We have started to log in to the Chromebooks in small groups with a volunteer, so that we can practice on Mathletics.

Our pea plants are blooming and growing -we actually were able to pick and eat some fresh peas today. (Yum and Yuck was the reaction -but mostly YUM). We will start planting some lettuce, basil and tomato seeds next. In science we are also having fun mixing colours. Check out our colourful corn syrup paintings in the S'More this week.

We are happy to have Mrs. N (our Family Wellness Worker) helping us with our friendship skills and problem solving in age appropriate ways.

It was a big disappointment to have no buses for our first swimming lesson, but we are learning to be flexible and resilient as we await our first lesson on Thursday. Thank you to the parent council for subsidizing the bus fees for swimming!

- Grade 1F

Grade 1F have been enjoying the warmer weather and outside time. We still have daily talks on how to be kind and a good friend to others. This fits in with our social studies program. We have been learning about what it means to be a good citizen. We often talk about our school community and the responsibilities and rights we have when we are in it.

In Language arts we are working on expanding our writing to include adjectives and verbs in our sentences. We will begin show and share again as many areas of the program of studies are touched on when we do this. The children also enjoy it immensely.

In science we will begin our unit on living and non living things. The students will be so excited to learn about this. It also ties so well with religion and how all of Gods creations are loved and valued.

- Grade 2S

Grade 2's are learning in Language Arts about adjectives and nouns. This is helping us when we are writing.

In social we are talking about Iqaluit and what we would wear and see if we went there. We are exploring what they used to live in in the summer and winter time.

In science we are exploring liquids and seeing all the different characteristics of water by doing mini experiments. In these experiments we listened to what water sounds like and looks like doing different things.

In math we are learning that when we add, order does not matter but when we subtract order matters.

In December we enjoyed winter activities of hot chocolate, floor hockey

- and curling.
- Grade 2/3  
Grade 2/3's are very happy to be back in class with all of their friends! In Language Arts, we have been working hard at increasing our writing stamina by writing on a variety of different topics, including practicing our persuasive writing. We have continued to practice phonological awareness to help with sounding out and spelling familiar and unfamiliar words. In Math, we are working on fact families and using a variety of strategies to solve subtraction problems. In science the Grade 2's have started learning all about liquids, specifically water. The Grade 3's have started learning all about building structures and using a variety of different building materials. In social, the Grade 2's have started to explore the Canadian community of Iqaluit and have learned about some of the Arctic Winter Games played up North. The Grade 3's will be exploring the global community of Peru and the diverse culture and landscape that is present there. In religion we have been discussing epiphany and will be learning more about the celebration of Mass and the various sacraments.
- Grade 3G  
Thank you for our yummy popcorn on our last day in December!  
The grade 3s are happy to be back in class with their friends! Our focus in Religion is the Holy Spirit and the Fruits of the Spirit. In Language, we are working on using descriptive detail in our paragraphs and reading to summarize. In math we are starting Subtraction practice and will be subtracting 3 digit numbers very soon. In Social Studies, we are traveling to Peru and explore how their culture is similar and different to ours. We are testing materials and learning how to hypothesize before we build.
- Grade 4P  
Grade 4's are excited to be back in class! In Language Arts, we are focusing on using a variety of sentence starters and opinion writing. Students are focusing on noticing the difference between a fact and opinion. In Math, we are working on our Multiplication and Division unit. In religion, we are starting our new unit, The Kingdom of God. Grade 4's were excited to attend our Christmas Mass in person. In Science, Grade 4's are working on the unit Simple Machines. In this unit we are learning about various ways to reduce and manipulate work using simple machines such as wheels, rollers, inclined planes, wedges, screws, levers, pulleys, and gears.
- Chaplain  
We have celebrated Christmas and Epiphany and are now in Ordinary time
- Indigenous Lead  
Assembly on Jan 13 Courage: The ability to face, danger, fear, and change with confidence
- Health & Wellness Champ  
In December the school was participating in the 12 days of Fitness. For the last 12 days of school a new movement was added for the students to participate in. This month students will be learning about the Arctic Winter Games and will have an opportunity to try out some of these games either in Phys. Ed, during recess or in their classrooms

7:16pm Principal's report presented by Karen A

- Masks and rapid tests sent home yesterday & today  
Please follow covid guidelines as closely as possible  
If you need assistance, please call the school for direction
- Staffing shortage at the moment. 2 EA's short this week
  - All divisional level PD requiring subs has been postponed
  - Redeploy staff in the building ... CRC, Principal will need to teach more
- Advent video had 837 views
- Bend the rules was \$675 raised in support of Luarana House
- Stuff a stocking raised around \$200 in support of Luarana house
- Loose Parts going very well, The kids love it!
- Swimming lessons are a big hit! Kids all have big smiles
- Madonna is offering a new Kinder program next year. It was included in the S'more for a survey of interest. Full day, everyday kinder. Must have minimum 18 kids to have this program fun
- Miss Salisbury is leaving Madonna January 28th, 2022. You will be missed Miss Salisbury!
- Mrs LaRose is returning from maternity leave on January 31

7:26pm Kerstin A approaches the idea of council making pancakes for Shrove Tuesday

7:27pm Trustee report presented by Jean B

The process has begun for a new Superintendent. Interviews happening January 26. Hoping to have something announced by January 27. Mr Haggerty's last day is January 31st

There are going to be 3 subjects they hope to start this fall: english language arts, phys ed & mathematics. Not touching French, social or science. March 1, the rough curriculum will come out

The schools are following the covid guidelines that are given to them. Masks are to be worn in the classroom. The only time they can remove the mask is maybe phys ed and outside. Even sitting on the sidelines, masks must be worn. There is no covid tracking within the schools that has information going to parents. That is considered private information.

7:34pm Chair report Kerstin A

January 30 bottle drive fundraiser 11am - 2pm. Kerstin A and/or Jenness S will be there during this time

Hot lunch cycle 2 is now open until January 26. Please place your orders

Save on & Cobbs is still ongoing

Last meeting it was announced we will receive a \$500 grant but there are stipulations on that. Kerstin will discuss with some other school councils to inquire what their plans are

Next meeting is February 16 @ 7pm

Unsure if Valentine's Day cards are allowed to be brought to school. Karen A will get back to us & make an announcement

7:41pm open discussion

Kristie P thanks parent council for hot lunch & swim lessons financial help

Karen A asking if council is considering sponsoring families for hot lunch on cycle 2

7:47pm meeting adjourned

Meeting minutes were recorded by Jenness S and submitted to [madonnaces@gmail.com](mailto:madonnaces@gmail.com) on February 16, 2022