



The *H*eights eadlines



October 29, 2021



Mrs. Denomme's Kindergarten class and Mrs. Gauthier's Grade One class made wonderful Fall displays for our hallways.



Sturgeon Heights School
50 Hogan Road
St. Albert, Alberta T8N 3X7

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Instagram: @sturgeonheightsschool

Principal: Aaron Chute
Vice Principal: Kerri Trombley
Telephone: 780 459 3990

Message from the Principal's Desk

We are having a fantastic time at Sturgeon Heights School! Between all the learning, the projects, and the fun, we are filling everyday with joy and happiness. I continue to be so impressed with how resilient our students are and their willingness to work hard at school. We are continuing to provide as many 'normal' activities as Covid-19 protocols allow, and we appreciate everyone's patience and understand as we continue to navigate through this adventure.

We have parent/teacher interviews right around the corner and all our staff are excited to have a chance to discuss all your children's growth and successes that have been taking place throughout the year. If you require any help signing up, please contact the school office. As well, if you would like to discuss anything with me, please do not hesitate to reach out via email or phone! I'm always happy to talk. Please continue to take care of yourself just as much as you are looking after your children. We are all in this together and need to continue to support each other. Stay safe and be kind.



*Aaron Chute,
Principal,*

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Message from the Vice Principal's Desk

Have a safe Halloween!

See you all next week.

Kerri Trombley, M.Ed.
(Kerri.Trombley@sturgeon.ab.ca)
Vice Principal



**Colorful pumpkin artwork
by Mrs. Robinson's Grade
Two class**

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Counsellor's Corner

Welcome to November! This past month, we have been busy building relationships with students and watching new friendships form. I have enjoyed getting into each classroom to introduce myself as the school counsellor and getting to know students as I visit with them in the hallways, library and outside, and when students drop by the counselling office.

Teachers have been working alongside the Learning Coaches and myself to update and create Student Learning Plans and Individual Program Plans to best support student learning. These will be sent home before interviews for students who have one. Please take the time to review the document and you can discuss it with your child's teacher during your interview timeslot. If you have additional questions or concerns, please reach out to your child's teacher or me.

I currently have counselling hours available for students in kindergarten to grade 9 every morning from 8:45-12:25pm, and some blocks throughout the afternoons. I am also available to visit classes based on teacher request. Students can request a meeting by asking their teachers, dropping by the counselling office, or emailing me at Amanda.Ohm@edu.sturgeon.ab.ca.

We will have a Fall break from November 8-12, I hope everyone uses this time to rest, recharge and connect with your loved ones. As always, we are here to support our Sturgeon Families, so please contact us if you have any questions or concerns. I wish you a wonderful fall season!

*Amanda Ohm
School Counsellor*



HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Coaches' Notes - October 2021

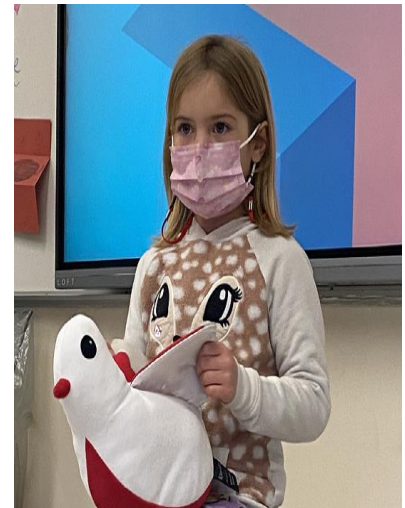
Your Sturgeon Heights Instructional Learning Coaches certainly enjoy working with your children and their teachers. Our focus this fall has centered around literacy. We are fortunate to have our school library undergoing refurbishment; students have access to a wonderful collection of books at school. Each school day, Sturgeon Heights students have opportunities to build their oral, reading, and writing skills. Thank you for the time you take to listen to your child's ideas, point-out print all around us, and read with your child.

Wellness News

Ms. Johansson has been in all grades from Kindergarten to grade 9 over the past month, presenting and modelling lessons based on social emotional learning competencies. In Kindergarten to grade 2, she is using the Kimochis program. Students are learning to identify emotions and talk about ways to express them. They have focused on happy vs. sad feelings, and then worked on kind, proud and friendly feelings. Classroom "Kindness Detectives" have been observing and reporting all the acts of kindness and friendly signals from their class cohorts.

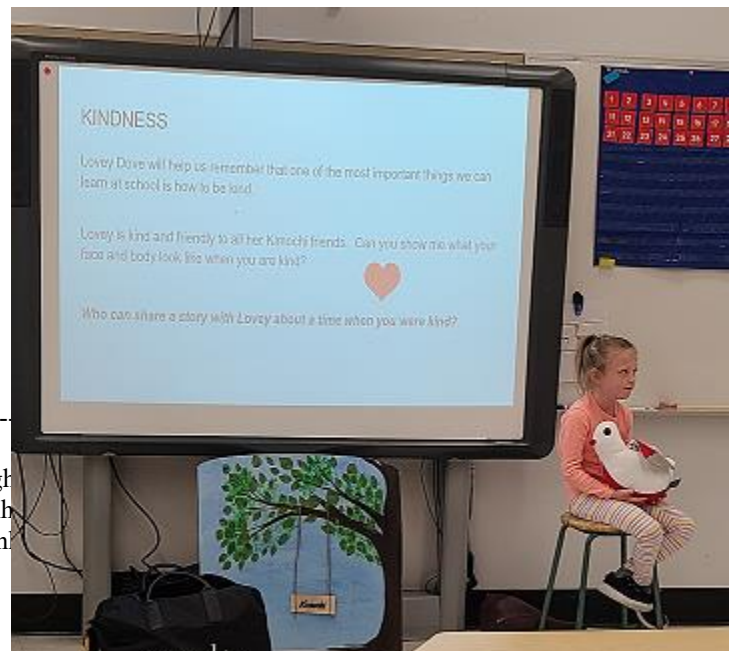
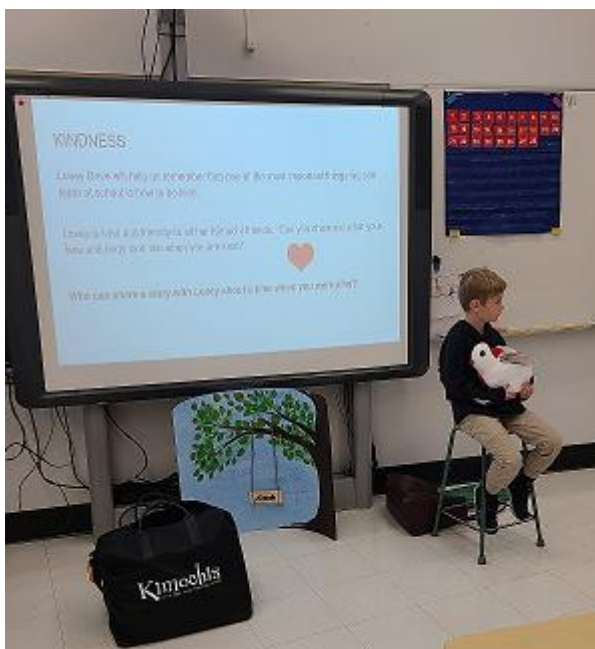
In grades 3 to 6, students are learning about how our values are like an internal compass. When we use a compass correctly, it helps us to get where we want to go; when we honor our own and others' values, it helps us to stay true to ourselves and feel content with our lives.

In junior high, Ms. Johansson has been team teaching with Ms. Oswald, covering a variety of topics related to self-awareness, respect and inclusive behavior.



As Learning Coach for grades 5-9, Ms. Johansson has been working with students to learn and apply assistive technology, often in the context of wellness health classes. Junior high has also had some practice using OrbitNote and Read and Write in their math classes to "show their work" by voice recording their thinking about the solution to math problems. Students have begun to test speech-to-text headphones for use with the assistive technology. In the coming week, each classroom will receive some of the newly purchased headsets for use in class. We are still encouraging students to have their own for consistent use. Here is a link for the inexpensive, comfortable speech-to-text headphones we will be using:

https://www.amazon.ca/dp/B08RN7M15P/ref=cm_sw_em_r_mt_dp_JST0NWGQHZZHXYZXEQK23



lake Sturgeon Heights
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TIPS and TOOLS for student learning:

Parents, as you make time to read with your child at home, don't feel that each reading encounter needs to push your child to "work hard" reading difficult texts. Reading development progresses more effectively when children enjoy their reading experiences. Reading to your child, models fluency and helps them with vocabulary-building. When you read aloud to your child they have the opportunity to encounter rich text and build vocabulary. Playing with words, singing rhymes, and sharing jokes are all literacy development experiences too. When you make literacy building a positive experience at home, we make a great team!

For older children, a recent example of the need for critical literacy was evident in our October 2021 election plebiscite questions. Plebiscite question 1 asked:

Should section 36(2) of the Constitution Act, 1982 – Parliament and the government of Canada's commitment to the principle of making equalization payments – be removed from the constitution? To vote against making equalization payments, the voter had to select "yes". Critical readers could identify the subject and verb in this lengthy question, and then the answer would be evident.

Should section 36(2) of the Constitution Act, 1982 – Parliament and the government of Canada's commitment to the principle of making equalization payments – be removed from the constitution?

Yes or No

We have a lot of work to do to prepare our children to become literate active citizens. Making time to discuss these types of real-life literacy situations benefits older students. Your learning coaches encourage you to watch for such examples of real-life literacy practice and work on them with your families.

Thank you for all you do at home to support your child's success at school!

Ms. A. Murray, Instructional Learning Coach K-4

amurray@sturgeon.ab.ca

Ms. J. Johansson, Wellness Coach K-9; Instructional Learning Coach 5-9

jjohanss@sturgeon.ab.ca



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MESSAGE FROM OUR TRUSTEE:

Elections for School Board Trustees were held in October and I am pleased to welcome to the Board of Sturgeon Public Schools our three new members:

Cindy Briggs in Ward 2, Bon Accord and Legal

Stacey Buga in Ward 5, Morinville

Irene Gibbons in Ward 7 in Gibbons/Lamoureux

They will be joining acclaimed returning board members:

Janine Pequin, Ward 1, Redwater

Joe Dwyer, Ward 3, Alcomdale / Villeneuve

Trish Murray-Elliott, Ward 4, Sturgeon Valley / West St. Albert (That's me!)

Tasha Oatway-McLay, Ward 6, Cardiff / Garrison

Our new Board Chair is Joe Dwyer and Vice-Chair is Irene Gibbons.

I invite our families and members of the public to join our Committee of the Whole and Public Board Meetings which are held at 4:00 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month, to get to know our new Trustees and learn what the Board is doing. On-line links can be found on the Division website.

I wish to thank our out-going Trustees, Terry Jewell, Liz Kohle and Misty Featherley for their many years of service to Sturgeon Public Schools. Their knowledge and experience will be greatly missed!

At the school level, I am thrilled to hear about the fun and exciting events taking place to keep our students and staff engaged. The Surprise Dance Party sounded like a tremendous hit and I know everyone is looking forward to Halloween activities. As much as anyone, I am looking forward to the time when parents, families and Trustees can participate in events at the school. In the meantime, thanks to everyone on our team for working hard to keep our schools safe and healthy.

Happy Halloween!

Trish Murray-Elliott

Trustee Ward 4

E: trish.murray-elliott@sturgeon.ab.ca

**Reminder to set your clocks BACK one hour on
Sunday, November 7th.
Daylight Savings Ends.**

BOARD MEETINGS:

The Board of Trustees meets twice a month during the school year. The Public Board meeting is held on the fourth Wednesday at 4:00 pm. The Committee of the Whole meeting is held on the second Wednesday of every month at 4:00 pm and is also open to public attendance.

Public Board Meeting – November 24th

Time: 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

The Board of Trustees meets twice a month during the school year. The Public Board meeting is held on the fourth Wednesday at 4:00 pm. The Committee of the Whole meeting is held on the second Wednesday of every month at 4:00 pm. Board and Committee Meetings are currently closed to the public. Please join us online at the link below.

Webex Online Meeting Link:

<https://sturgeonpublicschools.my.webex.com/sturgeonpublicschools.my/j.php?MTID=m25bcb213bdc51a75303abfb902be5848>

If prompted for password: Sturgeon2021

Here's your smile for the day!

Conversation in the front hallway today...

Student: Boy, that pumpkin really looks like a watermelon!

Office: Come and look more closely. Students touches watermelon and looks again.

Office: Do you still think it looks like a pumpkin, or could it be a watermelon?

Student: Well, of course it's a pumpkin, and the paint looks great!!

We do have great chuckles. Coco Melon would be disappointed to have someone think she was a pumpkin!



VOLLEYBALL PLAY:

Volleyball games have been in full swing, both in phys. ed classes and in league play within the Division. Our teams have represented Sturgeon Heights so well – and we are very proud of each and everyone of them.

Team players, in no particular order are:

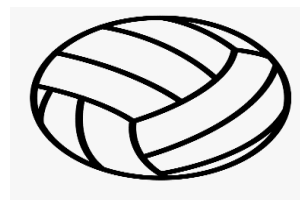
Girls' Seniors

Avah Coyes
Anna Perlinski
Avery Wood
Isabella Barsotti
Brooke Boven
Madison Waters
Isabella Young
Annika Boddez
Ayla Whitney

Coach: Mr. Ohm

Girls' Juniors

Jayden Allen
Robyn Baron
Emma Kendall
Easha L'Heureux
Naina L'Heureux
Sadie Mouser
Katarynia Vanstone
Alivia Chinni
Kennedy Klyne
Morgan Long
Sawyer Measner
Bree Wolff



Boys' Seniors

Braxton Boddez
Evan Halabi
Kayde Blair
Tymoore Ammar
Christian Dabbagh
Hayden Barry
Logan Schneider
Tyson Whitney
Koen Koretz
Max Holman

Coach: Mr. Robertson

Boys' Juniors

Grady Chaplin
Sebastian Beaupre
Gracin Knezacek
Robert Werbicki
Ty Funk
Corbin Charbonneau
Ashton Van Bruggen
Jeremy Lawson
Shaun Eagleson-Sun
Gavin Chinni



FIRE DRILLS and LOCKDOWNS:

As we mentioned before, we did practice a few fire drills and they ran very well. We have also done a lockdown drill, and it too, went very smoothly. We always hope we will never to use any of these exercises, but better that everyone is prepared..

POPPIES AT THE SCHOOL:

We will have poppies available at the school from November 1st until November 5th. If you would like your child to have one, please send in a small donation and your child's teacher will see that they receive their poppy. All donations will be turned over to The Legion, Poppy Fund.



REMEMBRANCE DAY:

Remembrance Day, Thursday, November 11th is a holiday from school for staff and students. It falls within our Fall Break this year. Remembrance Day is an opportunity for family and community members to remember those who have fought and fallen for our freedom. We will be having an in class observance on Friday, November 5th.

FALL BREAK:

There is a Fall break coming up for students and staff. No classes from November 8th to 12th, with a return to school on November 15th.



Mrs. Hoffman's Grade One class read a story about Creepy Carrots and did some amazing artwork to go along with it.

Wonder if they were friends with our Creepy Pumpkin?



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Mrs. Denomme's Tuesday/Thursday class got to celebrate on Thursday. Look at these great costumes.



Random costumes – such a wonderful suggestions. Our students have amazing imaginations!



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PARENT TEACHER VIRTUAL INTERVIEWS:

We are very excited to be hosting **VIRTUAL Parent Teacher Interviews** this year November 3rd and 4th (4:00 – 7:00 p.m. each date.) Please book your time slots using our booking site at:

Schoolinterviews.ca using code: **8d2ku**

- The site opened on Tuesday, October 26th at 5 p.m.
- You will be sent a special link to join the virtual conferences November 3rd (or before)
- If internet access is a problem for your family, please contact your teacher directly to arrange an alternative.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact the school if you have any questions,

TAKE OUR KIDS TO WORK DAY – GRADE 9's:

On Wednesday, November 3, 2021, the Grade 9 students will have the opportunity to take part in the annual, *Take Our Kids to Work* program, the signature initiative of the Learning Partnership. Every year, more than 250 000 students across Canada take part in this program. Sturgeon Heights School is a proud supporter of *Take Our Kids to Work* day and is excited to have our students participate this year.

Students will have two options this year:

1. To spend the day with a parent/guardian at their workplace, exploring and learning about that particular career; OR
2. Attend school and participate in several planned activities that will include web conferences, virtual field trips and opportunities to interact with industry professionals in entrepreneurship, health care, and technology.

Grade 9 students did receive a Consent Form for participation. Parents, please return the form to the school by the morning of November 3rd.

A large orange rectangular graphic with the text "TAKE OUR KIDS TO WORK" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters, followed by "2021" in a large, dark blue, sans-serif font.



Mrs. Clarke's class was very busy carving pumpkins this morning.

Thanks to our parent volunteers who came to assist and join in the fun.



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Mrs. Lyster's Grade 1 students shared amazing artwork with us.



Yoda joined us at school this week.

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STURGEON COUNTY IS OFFERING SOME GREAT PROGRAMS:

Fun With Finances! Reaching Your Financial Goals

Ages 12-18

Do you dream of saving for a car, trip, or college? This engaging and fun money-learning experience will provide an introduction to saving, spending plans, goal setting, and developing a positive money mindset. Join our resident financial literacy advocate, Susan Morrissey, CPA, and learn the basics of good money habits and take steps to reaching your financial goals and dreams.

Date: Tuesday, November 9 (Fall Break); 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Location: FCSS Office 9606 100 Street, Morinville

Fee: FREE!

National Child's Day

Ages 8-17 (Nov. 9); 3-10 (Nov. 17)

Join us for an evening of fun and imagination as we celebrate National Child's Day. Sturgeon County will be hosting two creative art sessions which will teach you the importance of this day while working on your artistic skill – both sessions will be taught by local artists! Participants will receive all the necessary supplies to create their own work of art and can show-case their creation in a virtual gallery.

Dates: November 9 (Paint-Night Style Follow Along Art Project for youth aged 8-17) and November 17 (Creative Expression for children aged 3-10)

Time: 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Location: Sturgeon County FCSS Office (9606 100 Street, Morinville)

Fee: FREE!

Métis Week: Indigenous History

Ages 6-15

Join us to learn about our local Indigenous History and to celebrate Métis Week! Celina Loyer from the St. Albert (Musée) Heritage Museum will be facilitating the learning.

Date: Thursday, November 25

Time: 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Location: Sturgeon County FCSS Office (9606 100 Street, Morinville)

Fee: FREE!

All programs are free, but you must register to attend.

You can register online at: <https://sturgeoncounty.perfectmind.com/> or by calling us at 780-939-8334

Any questions, please contact Ruth Kieser.

Ruth Kieser (she/her)

Community Program Coordinator

Family & Community Support Services

Sturgeon County

p: 780-939-8335

c: 780-722-0684

w: sturgeoncounty.ca

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Students enjoyed that many of the staff were dressed up also!





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n Chute
Trombley
59 3990



Mrs. Holmes had to craft herself new ears to go with her Hobbit costume.



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