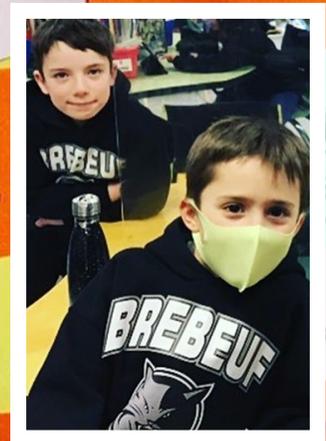




St. John Brebeuf School Connection

Living, Learning, Serving in Christ



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Families and Friends,

It is hard to believe that we have entered the final chapter of the 2020/21 school year. The school continues to operate at a restricted orange level, and this will likely continue until the end of June. We were pleased to welcome back many of our remote learners in January and the vast majority of our student body are now attending classes in school. Families still have the option to remote learn for the duration of the restricted orange level.

We have demonstrated much growth as educators and a community in the past thirteen months. We certainly look forward to the day when the school can return to 'normal operations' with extra-curriculars, assemblies, and specialist classes returning to the status quo. However, the pivot to a more robust on-line learning platform along with requirements inherent in our re-opening plan have brought with them many innovations and routines that will carry forward for our community beyond the pandemic.

With new variants in the mix and beginning to spread in the province, I ask our families to consider their out of school activities carefully, and to adhere closely to the guidelines presented in our school re-opening plan. School and home must work together in order to safeguard our school community.

Please join me in continuing to keep our school community and those directly affected by COVID-19 in your prayers.

Cara Campbell



A "BIG" hello from grade 4.

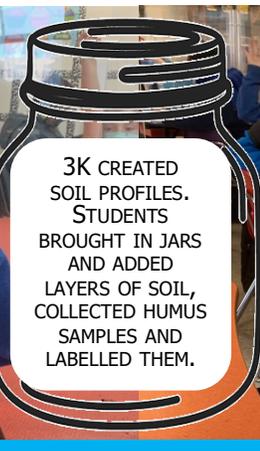
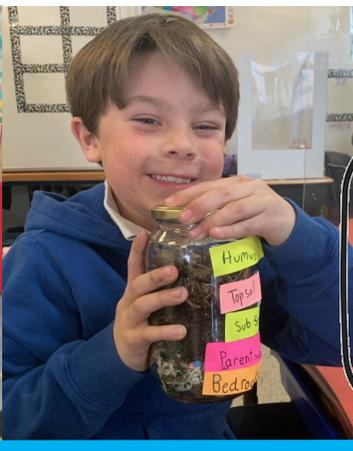
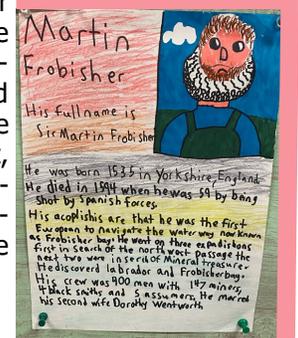
In grade four this year, we are passionate about cultivating a love for life-long learning. Someone once said, "the only thing constant is change", well the grade 4 class has definitely proven that they understand this quote and that change is not only necessary but needed. We, as a class, are constantly changing, learning, and growing. In our pursuit of learning we have become ferocious readers and researchers, always looking for answers to questions and striving to learn about ourselves, and the world around us on a daily basis. In both math and language arts we have learned how to use concepts effectively in class as well as apply them to our daily lives through units such as time/measurement and TUSC. We might not be ready to put in wall to wall carpeting or to speak at a school assembly but we definitely are making great strides to getting there. In science and social studies we have learned about living things, our environment, habitats, light and sound, government and being a good citizen. As a final pursuit to our passion we have discovered our artistic and compassionate sides through our Lenten journey and love of drawing. Our grade 4 journey is always changing and continuous, it winds, weaves, curves and at times can be unpredictable but we are excited to continue on our quest of learning with our grade 4 classmates and teacher.

Ms. Chilelli



Greetings from 5M! The past few months have been a busy one for 5M! In spite of constant adjustments to routines and safety rules, we continued to show resilience and determination. We reviewed our multiplication and division skills to conquer fractions and decimals in math. What an achievement that has been! As part of our writing workshop, we explored persuasive writing further and tried to sell the best donut ever. Using our creativity, we each made our own donuts come to life by constructing them out of paper-mâché, patiently painting each layer, and adding "toppings" and "fillings". The construction process took almost two weeks, but it was all worth it! The great thing about books these days is that they have movie adaptations. We finished reading *A Wrinkle in Time* for novel studies and are surprised at how different the movie is from the book. In science, we learned many interesting things about the human body. We were particularly interested in how our bones, muscles, and ligaments work together to help our bodies move. Our biggest concern is what could happen to our lungs if we make poor lifestyle choices later on. We went back in time to learn about some of the first European explorers who came to Canada, whose grueling voyages seemed to lead to either their disappearances or very short lives! We are quite fortunate to be living in present-day Canada, to say the least. Throughout the season of Lent, each of us took turns leading the prayer every day. We used different, meaningful words from each prayer and connected them to make beautiful honeycomb art. We are blessed to be together in 5M and are looking forward to the spring season!

Mrs. Marcaida



BOBCAT BEAT

Hello, Bobcats!

Can you believe that it is already spring? With the temperatures warming up, and the snow melting, we will be doing many more PE activities outside again!

This winter, the gym was busy with activities!

The K-2 students learned many new games, and have been working on their locomotor skills like running, jumping, hopping, skipping and galloping. They also practiced their throwing and catching skills, while learning to strike using racquets.

The grade 3-4 students learned how to play tennis this winter. They learned the different types of hits, how to control a ball, and how to play with a partner over a "net". They also had a chance to compete in our SJB Social Distancing Summer Olympics. They are now learning how to work as a team while playing cooperative games.

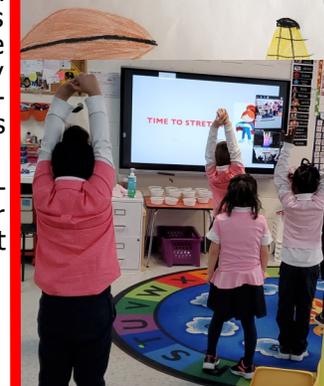
The grade 5-6 students started the new year with our Social Distancing Summer Olympics while the grade 7-8 students learned at home. Then, the grade 5-8 students completed fitness testing to analyze their fitness levels. After that, the middle years students developed their frisbee skills, learning how to play games both inside and outdoors. The grade 5-6 students are now starting an Omnikin cooperative games unit, while the grade 7-8 students are learning about the interesting game of Team Handball.

In February, K-4 students had an amazing Zoom visit from Lisa Bowes, the author of the *Lucy Tries* book series. She zoomed into each of the classrooms, sharing her book *Lucy Tries Luge*, and shared strategies on how to be brave and try new things. Over the month of March, students have been getting out into their community to get active and try new things with Lucy. They have all been documenting their adventures, and have been sharing them in their classrooms. Stay tuned for the SJB book called *Lucy Tries EVERYTHING!*, which will feature all of the fun Lucy activity photos collected from the students. Go Bobcats! A huge thank you goes out to Lisa Bowes for taking the time to visit (virtually) our school!

The SJB Bobcats are still on their quest to run Terry Fox's 5,373km to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Terry's run. During many of our classes, we gain our kilometres during our warm ups or fitness based activities. So far, students and staff have run 3,122km. We only have 2,251km left on our journey! So many km to run this spring to finish off his Marathon of Hope!

Bring on spring and all of the great outdoor adventures ahead! GO BOBCATS!

Ms. Craig, PE Teacher



NOTES FROM THE MUSIC ROOM

The warm weather is here and we are getting closer to the end of another school year! Despite the changes to the way music is delivered with current restrictions, I have really enjoyed spending time with the students and focusing on other aspects of musicianship and creativity. Here are a few recent highlights:

- Members of Taiko group "Fubuki Daiko" came to SJB as part of the "Artist in the School" program. All of our students got to experience a concert and many got to try Taiko drumming. Links to the performances are available on the Music Portal.
- Thank you to the Manitoba Arts Council, SJB administration, and PAC for their support of this event.
- The grade 6 class is completing a multimedia composer research project. Students researched and presented their chosen composer and a famous piece, representing almost 500 years of classical music history.
- The grade 4 & 5 students have been learning about some of the great musicians and bands of the jazz era. They have also been working on a songwriting project together.
- Grades K-3 students have been working on rhythm reading and writing, choreography, and listening to great music in a variety of styles and from a variety of cultures over the past 7 months.

With the release of bulletin #9 by the MB government, singing and the playing of wind instruments is allowed so long as certain criteria are met. I am speaking with students and administration to see how this will look here at St. John Brebeuf School. I will communicate with parents in the event that singing or recorders are reintroduced to classes.

Have a happy and healthy spring!
Mr. Frykas



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