



Fall 2020 Newsletter

St. John Brebeuf Schoolconnection

Living, Learning, Serving in Christ



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Families,

With the second month of school drawing to a close, the safety of our students and staff continues to be a priority at the school. With the school response level recently raised to orange, we are now offering a blended program for our students. Families have the ability to temporarily opt for either in school or remote learning for the duration of the orange level response. Most of our students have elected to remain in class for the time being, but we do have some students who are remote learning. These students will stay connected to the classroom via live classes during the school day, and individual teacher contact time throughout the week. Families have the option to move between in class and remote learning if they find that their chosen option is not working for them.

While the school year has been different thus far, some things remain the same. When I visit classrooms, I still see happy, engaged students and excellent teaching happening. Things may look slightly different with desk shields and masks, but the core of what we offer to our students remains unchanged.

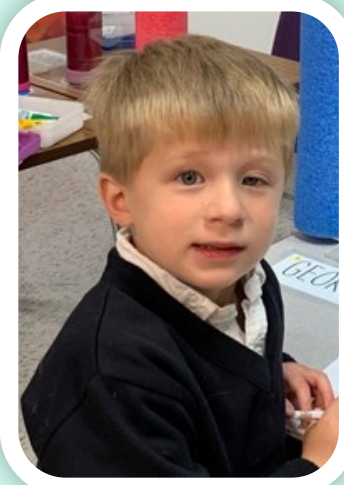
I want to thank PAC who have remained active this year despite unique challenges, and found a way to offer hot lunch, popcorn days, and a Thanksgiving treat to our students. Your role in keeping the parent community engaged is invaluable.

A big thank you to our staff who have adjusted and dealt with changing circumstances over the past seven months, and have done so with grace and without complaint.

And, of course, thank you to you, our families, for your support through this time, and your adherence to our safety procedures. We could not achieve what we do for our students without you.

Sincerely,

Cara Campbell



SJB SPIRIT WEAR

The deadline to order
SJB Spirit Wear

has been extended until October 31!
SJB Spirit Wear makes the perfect stocking stuffers for your loved ones and will arrive before Christmas holidays are here. A casual day for students to wear SJB Spirit Wear to school will be scheduled in the new year.

Remember a portion of every sale goes back to the programs and services provided at SJB. Orders can be placed at <https://www.schoolwear.ca/SJB/>.

Thank you for your support!
Parent Advisory Council



PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)

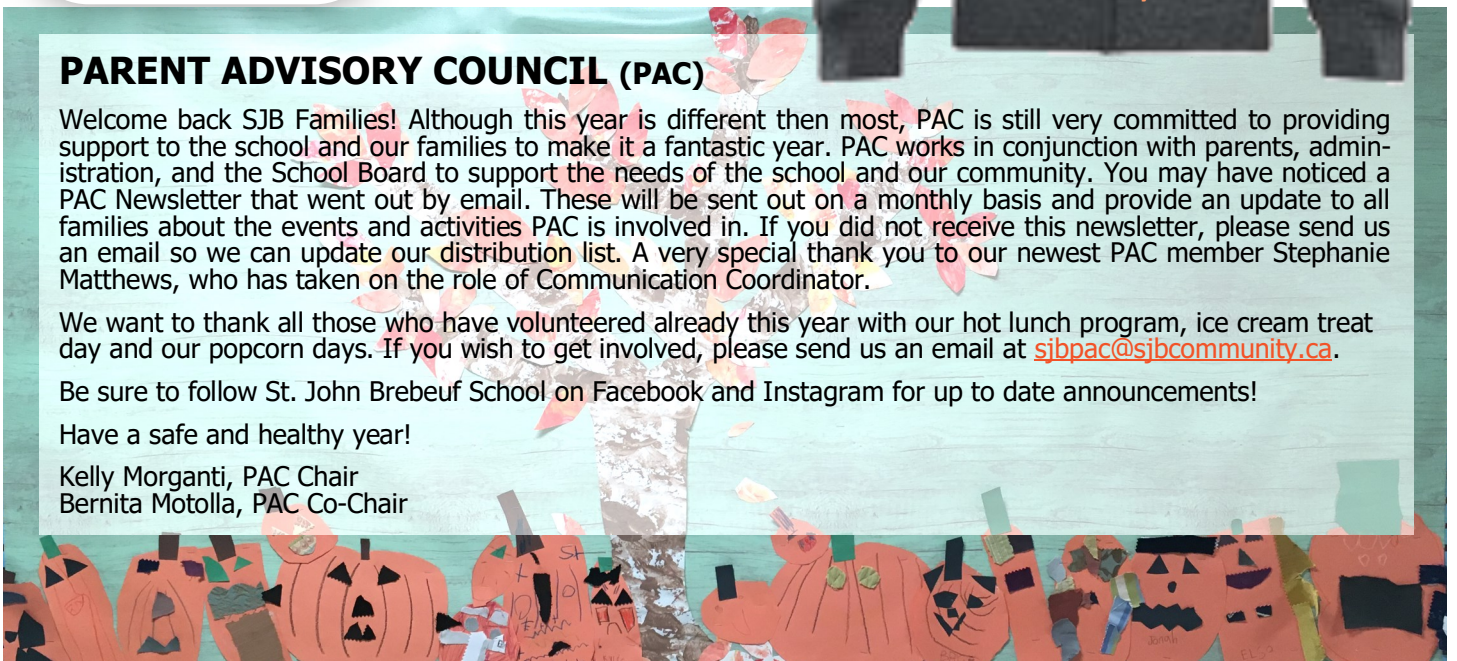
Welcome back SJB Families! Although this year is different than most, PAC is still very committed to providing support to the school and our families to make it a fantastic year. PAC works in conjunction with parents, administration, and the School Board to support the needs of the school and our community. You may have noticed a PAC Newsletter that went out by email. These will be sent out on a monthly basis and provide an update to all families about the events and activities PAC is involved in. If you did not receive this newsletter, please send us an email so we can update our distribution list. A very special thank you to our newest PAC member Stephanie Matthews, who has taken on the role of Communication Coordinator.

We want to thank all those who have volunteered already this year with our hot lunch program, ice cream treat day and our popcorn days. If you wish to get involved, please send us an email at sjbpac@sjbcommunity.ca.

Be sure to follow St. John Brebeuf School on Facebook and Instagram for up to date announcements!

Have a safe and healthy year!

Kelly Morganti, PAC Chair
Bernita Motolla, PAC Co-Chair



VIRTUES PROJECT

The Virtues Project is a global grassroots initiative with a mission to provide empowering strategies that inspire the practice of virtues, the gifts of character, in everyday life. St. John Brebeuf School has celebrated the virtues since 2002. Each year new virtues are selected, and each becomes the focus of our monthly practices. For more information on the Virtues Project, please visit www.virtuesproject.com.

Hope (September): *Hope is...placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1817).*

Courage (October): *I have courage. I am willing to try new things. I admit mistakes and learn from them. I listen to my heart. I have the courage to do the right thing.*

Respect (November): *I am respectful. I treat others and myself as we deserve to be treated. I show courtesy to everyone. I learn from the wisdom of my elders.*

Unity (December): *I am in unity with others. I appreciate differences. I do not support prejudice. I am a peacemaker. I care for the earth and all living things.*

Love (January): *I am a loving person. I show my love with thoughtful acts, kind words and affection. I treat others the way I wanted to be treated.*

Responsibility (February): *I am responsible. I give my best to all that I do and keep my agreements. I learn from my mistakes. I am willing to make amends.*

Service (March): *I look for opportunities to be of service. I do not wait to be asked. I am thoughtful of others. I make a difference in the world.*

Compassion and Empathy (April): *I have compassion. I notice when someone is hurt or needs my help. I take the time to show that I care.*

Cooperation (May): *I am cooperative. I work and play well with others. I respect the rules. I keep myself and others safe.*

Justice (June): *I act with justice. I stand up for the rights of others and myself. I have no need to pretend or defend. I choose to make amends.*

WELCOME TO THE ST. JOHN BREBEUF SCHOOL COMMUNITY!

KEN OTIENO - EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT

My name is Keneth Otieno. Originally from Kenya now a Canadian citizen. I am a Christian, married and a father of three beautiful girls. I have been an Educational Assistant for 4 years. I love working with children, youth, and adults. My passion is helping other people and positively impacting their lives, and making this world a better place. My hobbies are singing, writing, reciting poems, playing and watching soccer and swimming.



CLAUDIA SAGITORIS - EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT

Hello! My name is Claudia Sagitoris. I am very happy to be working as an educational assistant for Kindergarten at St. John Brebeuf. Last year I graduated from the Educational Assistant program at the University of Winnipeg. Before that I was a stay at home mom for many years and ran a home daycare. My hobbies include reading, running and learning American sign language. I am looking forward to a very enjoyable year getting to know all the students as SJB!



JESSE BARIS - EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT

Hello, my name is Jesse James Baris. Some students and parents may ask "why does Mr. B look so familiar?" This is because I've been back and forth in this school in different capacities this past decade. I started as an lunch supervisor and EA. I had originally left to further pursue my theological studies and some ventures in the Catholic Church, and had the opportunity to come back to substitute, be a guest reader during I Love to Read Month, and even a guest teacher in Art and Religion. I'm so excited to be back to this community! After school, you can catch me in the music or theatre scene in Winnipeg, creating art for fun, or binging on pop culture!



BOBCAT BEAT!

Hello, Bobcats! And welcome back to a brand new school year!! This year looks a little different, but we are having a blast already!

In September, students had fun learning new, socially distanced games outside. We found new ways to play together, and enjoyed learning team and individual games without equipment. The older students had a chance to improve their fitness, building their endurance through daily runs outside. They also played a number of different field based games. The younger students had the field all to themselves to play unique instruction based games, and had lots of space to move in interesting ways!

In September, we also celebrated the 40th anniversary of Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope. In the classrooms, I taught them about Terry Fox, his run, and the mark he was able to make in the world for those suffering from cancer. As a school, we started running his 5,373km journey together, and hope to walk/run that full distance throughout this school year. With each class running, even small bits of running really add up! So far, we have run 1,036km! Let's go, Bobcats! We also raised \$5,040! It is never too late to donate to the Terry Fox Foundation. Here is the school link if you are still interested in donating:

<http://www.terryfox.ca/StJohnBrebeuf>

This October, we have started introducing new equipment into our PE class, which has opened up new, safe options for games and activities to play with the classes. Students are looking forward to new opportunities to play different games inside the gym as the weather cools down.

Ms. Lindsay Craig



A HUGE SHOUT OUT TO 5I, WHO WALKED 360KM AT HOME AND AT SCHOOL DURING TERRY FOX WEEK!



NOTES FROM THE MUSIC ROOM

This year has been a unique year in music at SJB. Music classes are taking place in the classroom, and there have been many changes implemented to adhere with current Covid protocols such as:

- No shared instruments or music
- No singing or playing recorder
- Movement activities must be socially distanced

I am hoping to be singing in class with the students at some point this year, but the research has not deemed this a "safe" activity yet. In music we have been working on music theory and history, as well as looking more in depth at pieces of music such as the "Carnival of the Animals" by Camille Saint-Saëns, "Autumn" from "The Four Seasons" by Antonio Vivaldi, and even some pop music such as "Dynamite" by BTS in the older grades.

Extracurricular music clubs are still suspended, but I am hoping some of the offerings will be reintroduced soon.

Have a safe and happy fall!
Mr. Frykas

In the event of a **severe weather emergency**, all Catholic Schools will close if the Winnipeg school divisions close their schools.

Listen for school closures on CBC, CJOB, 99.9 FM, 94.3, 102.3 FM and 103 FM.

In case of an emergency that requires evacuation, Students will go to Ecole J.B. Mitchell. E-Blasts and/or website messages will be available in the case of any school closure or evacuation.

TECHNOLOGY

Technology classes are different this year as they take place in classrooms. Students currently use educational apps and websites on iPads instead of desktop computers. The iPads are cleaned between each use. In addition to content that connects to grade specific curriculums, students have explored topics relating to digital citizenship.

For example, digital footprints and staying safe online. Some grades have also learned about machine learning, and we will begin to code in all grades in the coming weeks!

Miss Susan Hill
Technology Teacher

PLEASE CHECK
THE
SCHOOL WEBSITE
www.sjbschool.ca
FOR MORE
INFORMATION
AND
UPDATES!

FRENCH

C'est l'automne!

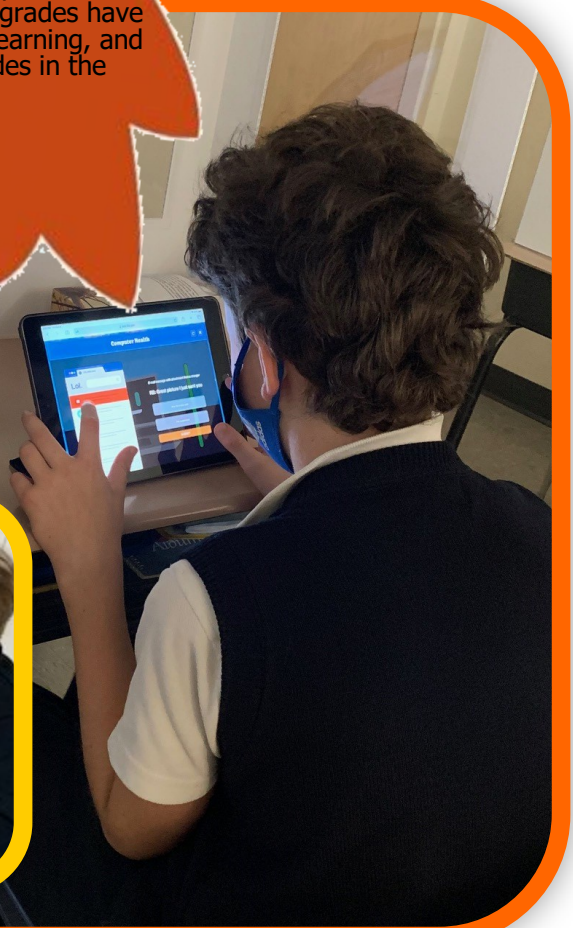
Wow, it is hard to believe the Fall season is upon us. Students and staff are adjusting well to our "New" normal. Remember to always socially distance!

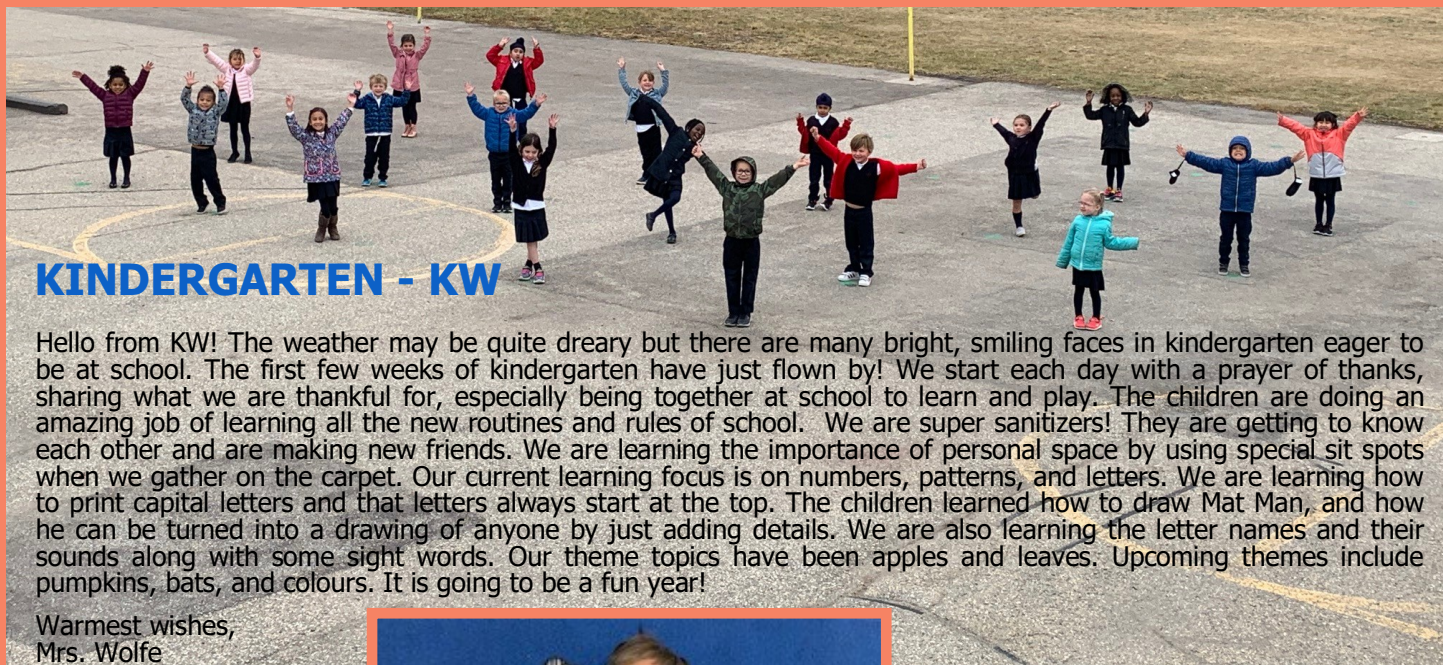
My classes discussed Thanksgiving and everything and everyone they were thankful for. Some wonderful lists were created!

Our French classes have also been busy learning our plays for the year. It will be challenging to present and perform our plays this year, but many students have already come up with some great ideas! Please stay tuned!

Stay safe and healthy.

Cordialement,
Mme. Bector





KINDERGARTEN - KW

Hello from KW! The weather may be quite dreary but there are many bright, smiling faces in kindergarten eager to be at school. The first few weeks of kindergarten have just flown by! We start each day with a prayer of thanks, sharing what we are thankful for, especially being together at school to learn and play. The children are doing an amazing job of learning all the new routines and rules of school. We are super sanitizers! They are getting to know each other and are making new friends. We are learning the importance of personal space by using special sit spots when we gather on the carpet. Our current learning focus is on numbers, patterns, and letters. We are learning how to print capital letters and that letters always start at the top. The children learned how to draw Mat Man, and how he can be turned into a drawing of anyone by just adding details. We are also learning the letter names and their sounds along with some sight words. Our theme topics have been apples and leaves. Upcoming themes include pumpkins, bats, and colours. It is going to be a fun year!

Warmest wishes,
Mrs. Wolfe



GRADE 1



Welcome to Grade One where there is a whole llama learning going on this year. We are excited to be back in school. We have started our school year with lots of learning and new routines. We are working on reading, spelling, math, and talking about how lucky we are that God has made us and given us such a wonderful world and remember that there is no problem too big for God. In grade one so far this year we are working hard at learning to read and how numbers work. There will be so many things that we will do this year that we will be very busy learning and growing.

Mrs. Walker

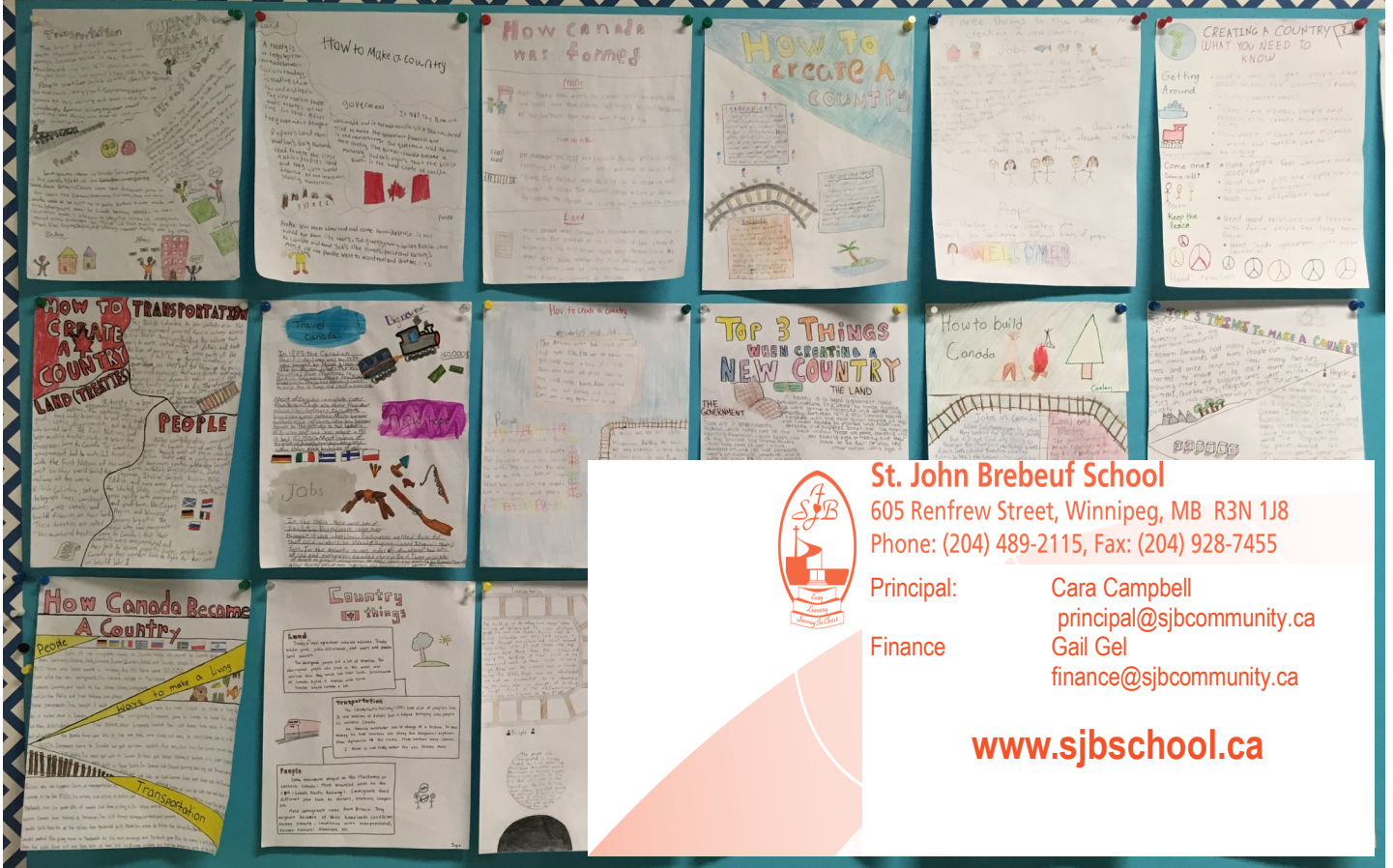
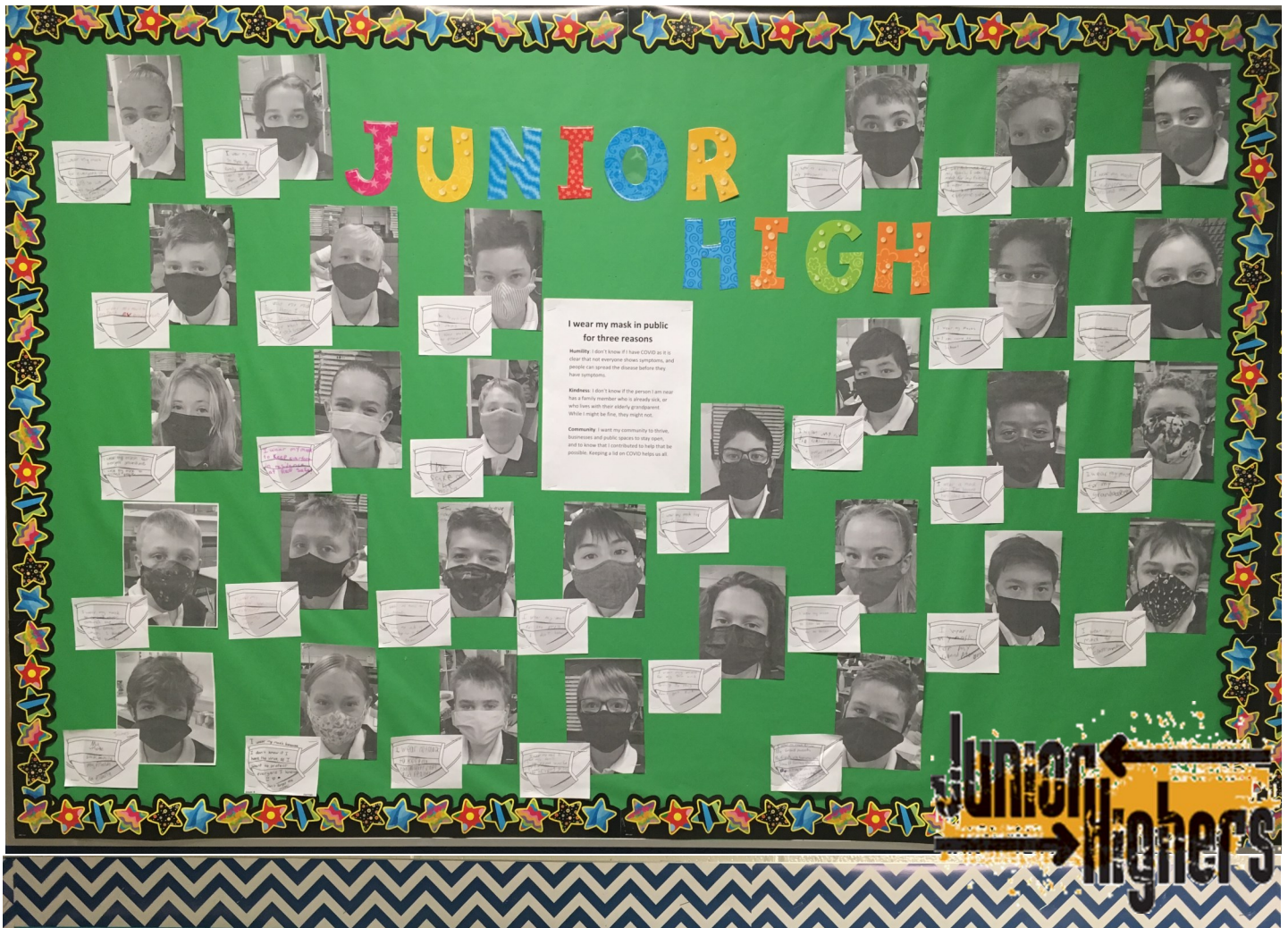


KINDERGARTEN - KM

KM is off to a great start in kindergarten! We are having fun getting to know our classmates and routines. We enjoy listening to stories, counting, and reading poems. Our favourite poem for the month of October is "Five Little Pumpkins". We are learning about the pumpkin life cycle and are looking forward to carving a jack-o-lantern. We learned about the changing seasons and made colourful fall leaves, tree paintings, apple prints, and turkeys! We enjoy spending time outside, playing fun games in Phys. Ed. class, and using ipads in Computer class. Each and every day is a new adventure in kindergarten!

Mrs. Moskalyk





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