

Classroom CORNERSTONE



Home Learning Edition

Not Too Distant

By Matt Robinson

We often comment on what things will be like in the not too distant future. "In the not too distant future I am going to do this, or that," we say.

In the days of global pandemic, this phrase has been used less, and had its meaning weakened. I have been thinking about this over the last several weeks. For me, this pandemic has animated this wisdom from James chapter four,

Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that."

Just 80 days ago I could not have imagined how school would look today. I could not have told you how our teachers would have risen to the occasion

of completely reworking a learning program, to come alongside and support our children at home. I could not have described how our parent community would have rallied together in love and grace, and taken on the task of helping their kids at home while continuing with work and every other task of life. I could not have predicted how well our children would have done in these challenging and ever changing new circumstances.

But, of course, God could have. Today, I can testify to the ways in which He has carried us as a school through these last weeks. Some of that is contained in these pages. Truly amazing!

Now, I think about the future and all God has differently. I simply look forward with bright hope and anticipation for what He will continue to do, whatever it may be! May we all continue to rest in His will!



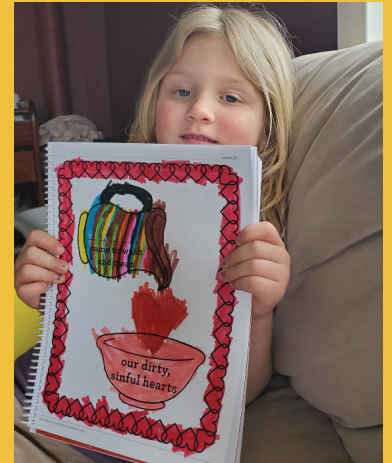
JK-SK



Teacher's Note

Mrs. Shantz

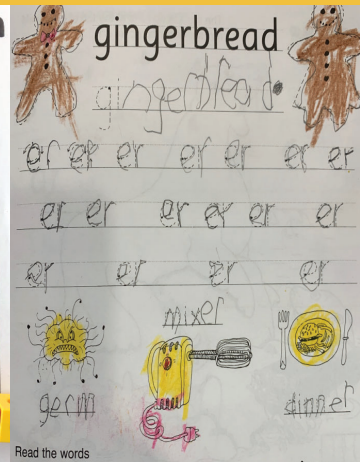
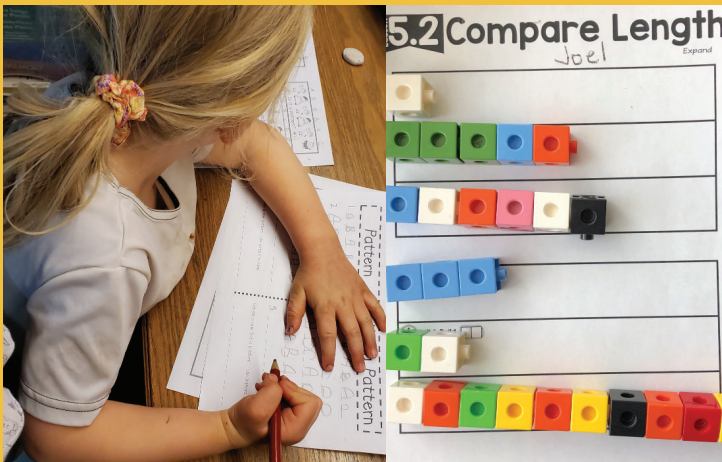
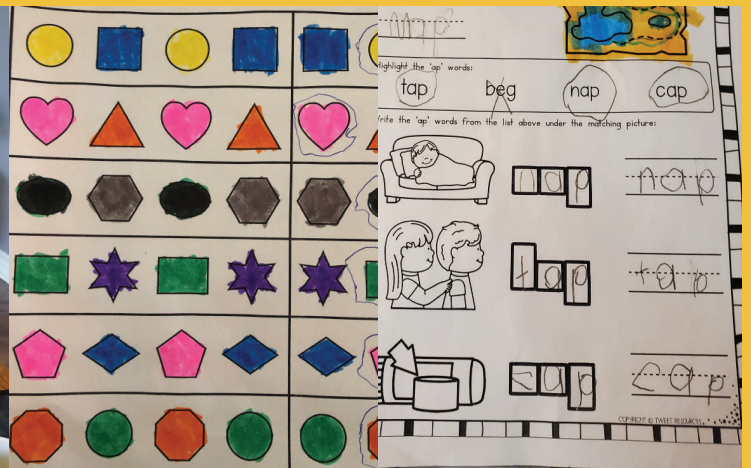
What an adjustment the past couple months have been! The kindergarten class is doing so well in embracing this new way of learning; I am so thankful to have the opportunity to teach such a fun and creative class. As I prepared for our first live class time, I had created detailed notes to help me facilitate a discussion on our read aloud book. I was overwhelmed, in such a positive way, when I realized all the students wanted to do was see one another. My screen filled with all of their little faces and voices echoing their joy in seeing their friends; the phrase 'I miss you!' repeated over and over. Our live class times have become my favourite time of the week, because, as the kindies have already voiced, I miss them! I am so thankful we are able to continue learning and interacting with each other. Through it all, God is good!



Natalie's colouring



Ellie and her toys





Ask the Class

What do you like best about learning from home?

Joel: I like learning about counting to 100. I like learning about lots of things and playing with Lego from home.

Miquela: Doing the work from my teacher.

Ellie: I like that I always get to be with my family and as soon as I am done my work I can go out and go swimming in the pool.

Alli: Online class time to see my friends.

What do you miss most about being at school?

Joel: I miss playing at school with my friends.

Miquela: Doing art and seeing my friends. I miss them!

Ellie: I miss my friends and teachers. I also miss being able to colour with markers.

Alli: My friends.



Miquela learning the letter 'q'



Ellie made a duck that quacks



Noah's lego creations



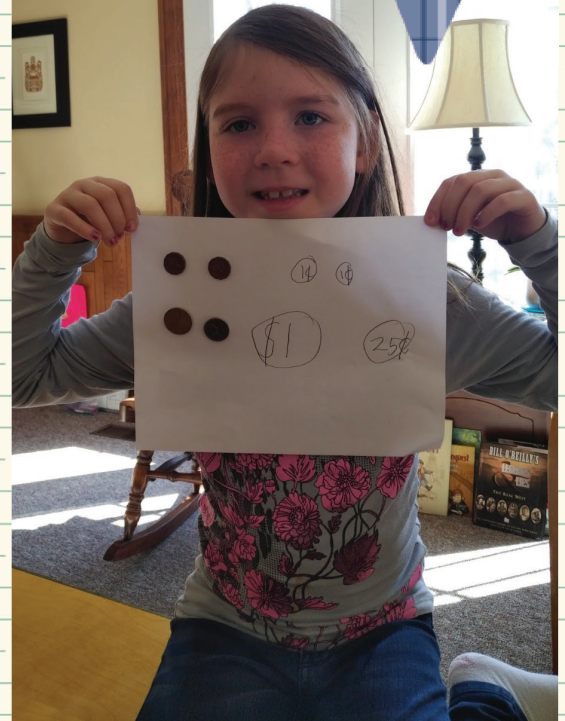
Look how tall Aleida's sunflower is!

Grade 1-2

Teacher's Note

Mrs. Lachance

Well, this term was certainly unexpected and very different. I cannot express fully my gratitude to God for sustaining us, to the parents for rising to the task of teaching, and to my kids for continuing to learn with joy and enthusiasm. The grade 1's started writing stories this term and the grade 2's learned to edit their stories. We learned about 2D geometry and how to measure mass and capacity. I always leave that math unit until the end of year because it is really messy. This year the mess happened at home! We had great class community times together via google meet where we sang together, read stories together and just had fun hanging out together. Who would have thought that so much learning could happen in pajamas and online? This class has brought me such joy. I know God loves these kids and He says to each one: *Well done, my precious child. You have been faithful to learn this term!*



Claire's money for the number 127

The Silly Snowman

By Lily

Once upon a time there were two silly snowmen. They loved to play. Then summer came. The snowmen melted. They made a grassman. They were very happy.

Dear Grasshopper

Dear Grasshopper:
How are you? I'm okay. Why are you so strong? I exercise. Did you say sorry to Mr. Elephant for stepping on his toes? It is nice to say sorry. I hope your friend gets better.

From Jacob



Ivy learns to divide



Macy's odd and even clown



ASK the CLASS

What do you like best about learning from home?

- Lily: We can see each other on the computers.
- Lauren: Working with my family, and I get to play.
- Macy: Phonics is easy to do.
- Gihon: Eat anything you want and play outside.
- Amin: Exercising in my house.
- Aleah: Having both my parents teach me and I get more time to play.
- Ben: Spending time with my family.
- Claire: Wearing pyjamas and riding my bike.

The Hairy Moose

By Mark

Once upon a time there was a hairy moose who never ever smiled. He had no friends because he was so hairy. They did not like the hairy moose but the moose never gave up. He went to lion. It was not a lion but a baby lion. He liked the baby lion. The hairy moose said, "Lion, no one wants to play with me". Lion said, "It's because you are so hairy. You need to shave your hair". The hairy moose said, "Okay". He shaved his hair. Then he went to dog. Dog liked him and the moose smiled.

Two Dirty Pigs

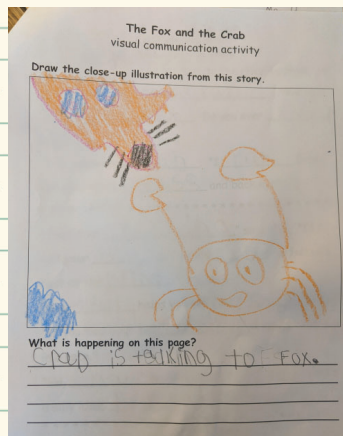
By Luke R.

Once upon a time there were two pigs playing in the mud. Their mom said to take a bath. So they did. They came out shiny clean!



What do you miss most about being at school?

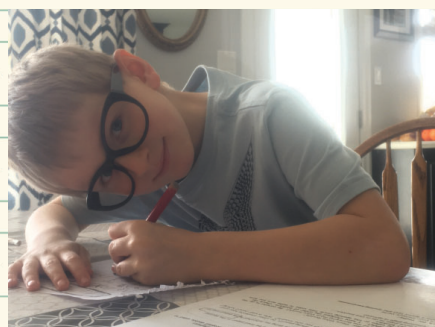
- Lily: My friends and my teacher.
- Lauren: Playing with my friends.
- Luke D: Helping in the classroom - putting papers in the take home trays.
- Amin: Everything.
- Launa: Christian education lessons.
- Noah: Playing with my friends.
- Train: My classmates.
- Emily: My friends and playing on the playground.
- Claire: Playing with my friends and free time.
- Kylie: My friends, Christian education, and art.
- Elijah S: Printing and computers.



Capree's illustration



Kailey's spelling



Ben hard at work

I LOVE SCHOOL

The Laughing Carrot

By Kylie

Once upon a time there was a laughing carrot who liked to ski down the mountains. The laughing carrot was purple. The laughing carrot had no friends because every time someone tried to talk he would laugh. One day the laughing carrot was sitting at his table thinking of what to do to stop laughing. All of a sudden he got an idea. He could be called the carrot instead of the laughing carrot. His plan worked! He had lots of friends.

Grade 3-4

Teacher's Note

Mrs. Kerr-Bott

School Days

Wow! What a crazy last few months. As I sit in my living room, looking out the window, I hear the birds singing and lawn mowers running somewhere in the neighbourhood. I see people quietly walking their dogs and keeping six feet apart from their neighbours as they greet each other. I feel the warm sun on my face and I can wear short sleeves again. If we were all at school I would hear students talking and joyful playing on the playground. I would see smiling faces waiting to tell me their latest news in the morning and I would see sun kissed noses after outside play.

Things sure changed a lot in term three. However, we are all together. We are doing what needs to be done right now until we can be back at school again. We have all jumped in to make sure we can connect and keep learning. We have learned how to use our computers to stay connected and do our lessons. I am amazed at how well we have adapted.

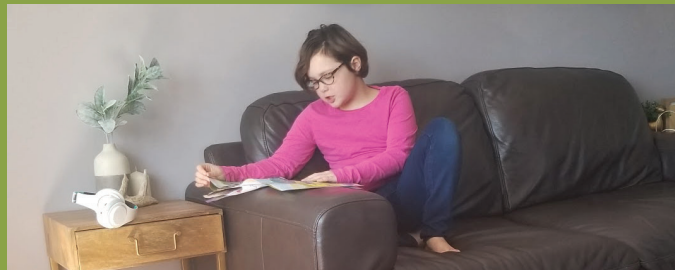
As I reflect back on these last few months, and read my students journals, I am reminded of how important it is to get together. Our class has enjoyed community time together every week, and it was rarely missed. I am frequently told how much this time is loved by my students. I love it too. I am thankful for all the talents and skills God has given us that has made all this possible.

I have also enjoyed working with so many parents to help their children keep learning and continue their school work. You are amazing!

I know we'll be back at school again. When that happens, I will listen with a smile to the talking and joyful playing. I will see the smiling faces and sunkissed noses with a new sense of happiness, knowing that God has brought us together again.



Manna's drawing



Eva reading a book

The Girl That Was Left Behind at the Airport

By Celeste

One day there was a girl named Miquela, she was 5 years old. Miquela was as cheerful as a chipmunk. Their family went to the airport. When they got there, something happened, something TERRIBLE happened.

Miquela was left behind! The airplane took off and she was all alone. Miquela did not know what to do. She was more frightened than a mouse about to get eaten by a T-rex.

Then something even worse happened. Miquela got kidnapped! She was tied in ropes that felt tighter than a snake wrapping you up. Miquela struggled and struggled but couldn't get free. Finally she broke loose.

After she was free she decided to go to the city. When she got there she easily got lost. She could not get any food or water. Then something awesome happened.

Her Granny found her! Miquela's Granny decided to take her home to her house. Miquela stayed there until her parents got back. God took care of Miquela. It was very scary. Still it was a happy ending for everyone [except the kidnappers].

Ask the Class

What do you like best about learning from home?

Ava: We get to go online with the class for show and share.

Kayleigh: There is more free time.

Jake: More time for rollerblading.

Joseph M: I get to help my brother Ben make videos.

What do you miss most about being at school?

Ryan: Two things. I miss my friends and I miss the snacks in my lunch.

April: I miss my friends, and I miss art class.

Celeste: I miss my friends and playing outside on the playground.

Lucas: I miss my friends. I miss playing with them.



Ryan



Danielle



April's fox

The Virus Adventure

By Danielle

There once was a family of 7. Their names were Ryan, Katelyn, John, Jessica, Rebecca, Isacc, and Mark. They really liked to have fun together. They always seemed to find themselves in some kind of adventure. Ryan and Katelyn's kids were quite young. The oldest was John and he was 15. Mark was the youngest. He was 2. They lived in a little town in Ontario called St. Jacobs. This family lived when there was a very bad virus. People couldn't go to school or work. Everybody had to stay 6 feet apart. It was very very scary. They had to leave to be safe because so many people had the virus. They decided to swim in the pond behind their house. When they all jumped in, they never came back up. They went deeper and deeper and deeper... until finally they came back up and realized they were in Florida. They thought it must have been a magical trip. They noticed that no one was there. Florida was deserted. This would be the perfect place to be away from the virus. It didn't take long before they realized how fun this was going to be. With everyone gone, they could use whatever they wanted, whenever they wanted. First they decided to use some things in people's backyards like trampolines, pools, and play - forts. Then they decided to have some food and get some sleep. The next day they went to Disney World. All the rides were left unlocked so they could go on any rides they liked. It was so much fun! They decided to live in Disney because all of the food was still there. It tasted delicious! They slept in the Disney hotels. They had so much fun! After one year the family thought it would be safe to go back home to Canada. There was just one problem... they didn't know how to get back home. "What are we going to do?" asked Ryan. They went to the beach and were considering their problem. When they all jumped in, they never came back up. They went deeper and deeper and deeper... until finally they came back up and realized they were back home. They were in the pond behind their house. "We are home!", said the kids. "Yay", said Ryan and Katelyn. They were happy to learn that the virus was gone! Since everyone was locked up for so long, the whole world decided to have world peace forever. They all lived happily ever after with world peace.



Grade 5-6

Teacher's Note

Mrs. Robinson

Well, this term did not go as expected. When we left for March Break I could never have imagined we would be out of the school the rest of the year. It has been unexpected and sad to not be with my students. When we started this journey of online learning I was waiting to see how our community rose to the occasion. We did it and more! Despite the uncertainty, increased workload to families, and a steep learning curve for students (and myself) we did it! We as a community made this work. I could not be more proud of my students (and parents) for their participation, hardwork and positive attitudes. I have also watched students grow and become independent and responsible. You guys are all amazing! I CAN'T WAIT to see everyone again in September!

Reflections on the Hymn 'I Come to the Garden Alone'

By Chelsea

This song is about the peace and joy of talking with and being in the presence of the Most High God. It talks about walking with God and just the presence and comfort of being with our Saviour. One of my favorite lines is "He walks with me and talks with me and tells me I am His own" because you are not alone when God is walking with you and He is always there to talk to. The best part is He tells you that you are his own and you belong to Him so when you feel the sense that you don't belong you know you belong to Him and that means everything. Charles Austen Miles wrote this song.

IT'S TIME FOR
SCHOOL

Ask the Class

What do you like best about learning from home?

Hannah: Two things that I like best about learning at home are that we don't have as much work as usual, and we can do it whenever we want, as long as we get it done.

Kaleb: What I love about school at home is that my Mom is with me.

Stella: What I love about learning at home is that we can help our siblings and we can eat during school if we want.

Corbin: I like online school because I like being at home to learn. If it's a nice day you can drop your work and play outside while the sun's out and then go back in when you're tired. Also you can eat peanut butter, throw snowballs, pick up sticks, and climb trees.

What do you miss most about being at school?

Kaleb: What I miss about school is gym.

Corbin: I miss the big snow mound because it doesn't blow into that high pile at my house. I also miss chess club because at home I just play against my dad and it's fun to play an in-person game with my classmates.

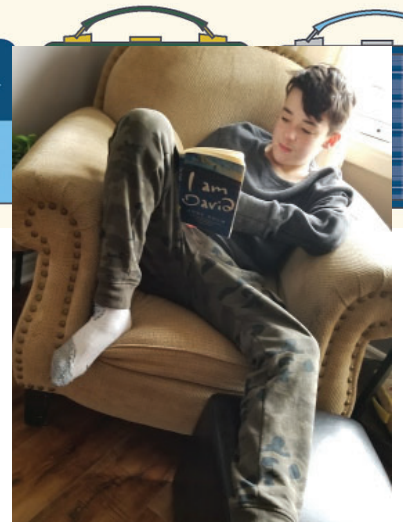
Hannah: Two things I really miss about school are that we don't see everyone in person anymore, and we don't have some of the special events like track and field.



Mrs. Robinson working with students online



Chelsea



Elijah

Overcomer of Fear

By James

One day, on a day that most people would say was awful, me and a couple of my brothers and my dad decided to go to Canada's Wonderland. The weather was dark and gloomy. It reminded me of the storm in the "Noah's ark" bible story. It looked like it would never stop raining. The car ride felt so long that it was like I was going to the end of the world! Finally we got the best park ever! There were real scary rides there because some were tall, some went upside and had corkscrews. My biggest fear was the Leviathan! Oh, how scary it looked. The drop was so steep that it reminded me of a waterfall. Anyways, I forgot about it because I was so distracted by all the fun regular rides. I had the most fun a kid could ever have! I went on WILD BEAST, Dragon Fire, and Canadian Minebuster.

Soon after that my dad gave me a dare. The exact dare was to go on Flight Deck. I thought that I would never do that ride. I thought for all these years, something I would never go on was this roller coaster. The ride FLIGHT DECK is so scary! It goes upside down like when you are swinging on monkey bars. My bravery hit me very hard like a slap in the face right before I was going to go on. Then I went to the lineup that was very short because of the bad weather. Soon it was my turn, I went on THE FLIGHT DECK! BOOM! I hit the drop and then the loop de loops and then came the corkscrews and it was done. I felt AWESOME like I had just accomplished a lifetime goal. I did it, I overcame my fear. My dad was proud of me and then I went on the FLIGHT DECK again.

Soon after that we went home. We all had fun, especially me. I felt like I was flying high up in the sky. I felt taller that day because I did a ride only my older brothers had done before. I did something I never thought I would, and I felt great.

Grandparents

By Casey

For always being there
And always staying true,
Dear grandparents one and all.
I dedicate this poem to you!

Grandma, you are strong,
You know when to have fun,
Even when we mess up,
You still call us honeybun! :)

Oma and Opa, loving and kind,
Always ready to give us glory,
When playing a board game.
If its chess, or cards, or even Sorry!

Nana and Grandpa, generous and happy,
Also so full of hugs to give away
Whenever we see them there smiling
We will always love them, day after day.

We love our grandparents,
strong, loving, kind, generous and happy!
Always giving us cards
that could make anyone sappy!

God bless you all!
In you, Christ lives!
And no one could ask
For better relatives!

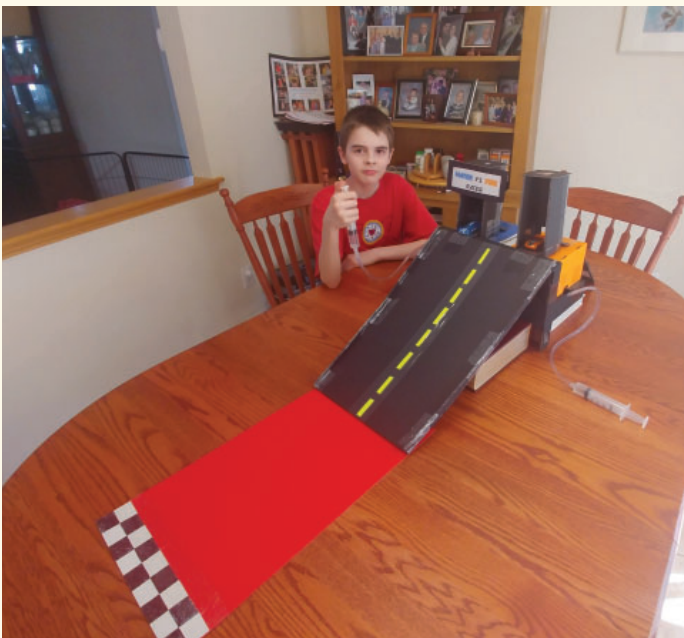
And just one more little quick note!
(And trust me this wasn't planned)
You really are great people. No...
YOU ALL ARE VERY GRAND!

Grade 7-8

Teacher's Note

Mme. Skinner

Term 3 has been quite a roller coaster! I have been blown away by the amount of resilience my students have shown in these times. We all know how stressful it is to stay home for weeks on end, work very hard to keep hands clean and keep distance from loved ones, and to complete school work outside of a classroom setting. Despite all this, our students have worked exceptionally hard to understand lesson videos, take responsibility for completing their work and asking for help, and benefit from this time of learning at a distance. I think it's safe to say that we will all appreciate being back in a physical school building that much more when we are eventually able to do so! We have learned so much in language in our Journalism study, as well as the added courses of History and French (as well as Math and Science with Miss Dietz!). It is no small feat to complete this coursework effectively, and I'm certain that the students have learned a lot about the importance of self-imposed routines and schedules. I am immensely proud of you all for your maturity and hard work this term!



Kyle and his hydraulic toy

Teacher's Note

Miss Dietz

We didn't let this time of isolation stop us from learning math and science. At the start of the term both grades completed their Geometry units and throughout the term they completed units on Integers, Algebra, and Probability. The grade 7's also had a unit on Percents while the grade 8's completed a unit on the Pythagorean Theorem. For Science the grade 7's finished their unit on Structures. We still managed to complete our Egg Drop projects but this year the grade 7's had to drop them at their homes and videotape them. We also completed a unit on Heat. The grade 8's finished their unit on Fluids and made Hydraulic or Pneumatic toys for their major project. Their last unit of the term was Water Systems.

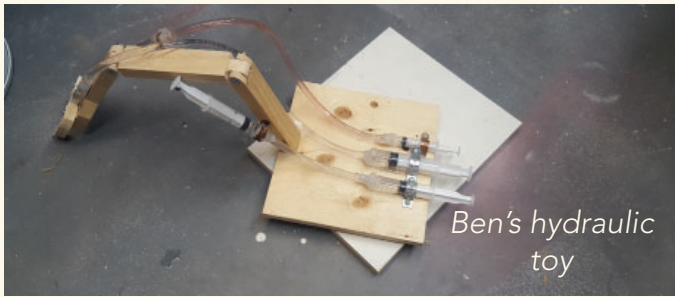
Feature Article: Smoothie Bowl

By Maggie

MARY LEMMON, a 77-year-old mother and grandmother from Stratford, Ontario has started a blog offering ideas for easy, healthy treats you can make with your kids or grandkids during lockdown. Motivated by her love of food, particularly desserts, but also her desire to eat healthy, Mary created these sugar-free desserts that are perfect for making at home. The recipes are so simple, even your kids can make them. Here's the recipe to one of her favourite desserts, the raspberry smoothie bowl:

Start with one cup of raspberries, then half a cup of blueberries (or any berry of your choice). Blend it, then add half a banana, a spoonful of plain yogurt, blend it again and enjoy.

Mary's daughter, Dr. Lemmon said, "This is the tastiest dessert I've ever had." One review said "I tried it with strawberries and blueberries instead, and it was perfect for me." So I decided to try this smoothie bowl recipe for myself. Guess what? They are correct! I've never had a dessert that tasted better than this. I recommend you go to Mary's blog and try all the other recipes. I promise you won't regret it. Check out Mary's blog: www.maryskitchen.ca/blog



Novel Study Reading Response

By Jaden

My first impression of [Theodore Boone: The Activist by John Grisham] is great. I like it because it has a little bit of introduction and explanation on the main character, but then it jumps right into an exciting adventure. I personally think this book catches the reader's attention because it gives background on the main character but it is jam-packed with adventure almost right away.

Feature Article: Don't Stress!

By Molly

Did you know that horses have stress signals in their back? It's true! Horses can sense the rider's legs and it can spook them. However, horses have their own way to calm their stress as well as the stress of their rider. When it comes to stress, horses have their own remedies. One of them is a quick trot around a field! Horses have a nerve in their middle back that senses the rider's legs tightening - a sign of stress. When the horse feels this, it takes it as a warning of danger nearby. No stress on a horse is like riding a bike backwards with your eyes closed. But it's normal to feel queasy on a horse. It's hard at first to relax, but you need to trust.

Trust is the foundation of all relationships, even with horses. You don't have to talk in order to trust each other either. Your horse will learn to trust you, knowing that you aren't stressed or scared on his/her back. When you trust your horse, you learn to step out of your boundaries in riding and escape to unknown lands; your mood will improve dramatically! When you are on the back of your horse, your mood lifts and your spirits rise. The atmosphere around you is warmed and quiet, but in order to receive this feeling, you need to trust and relax. Whenever you are on your horse, riding in the wind, you feel like a word and thought is being blown away behind you, never to be seen or heard again.

Call a horse centre today to book a horse ride and experience this unimaginable feeling! Horses hate stress: it's in their blood, or rather, their lower back. They can actually feel it too. The only way to relieve stress on a horse is to trust. When you trust your horse, you let go of all your fears and stress and ride it away. Soon you'll see your emotions rising and unexplainable joy. You may be scared of a horse now, but wait until you're on. Just remember: don't stress!

Ask the Class

What do you like best about learning from home?

Landon: I can just get started at 7:30 and get it done, then I have the rest of the day to myself.

Jeevan: I don't have to just sit and work all day. I can take breaks whenever I want and I have more freedom.

Tommy: Everything. I can get my work done and have the rest of the day free. I like that it's online because I can choose what I do and when.

Ashton: I don't get distracted as easily because I'm by myself.

What do you miss most about being at school?

Landon: Some assignments are hard to understand online by myself, it's easier to work with a teacher or Miss Lichty.

Jeevan: Sometimes technology isn't working like I need it to.

Tommy: People.

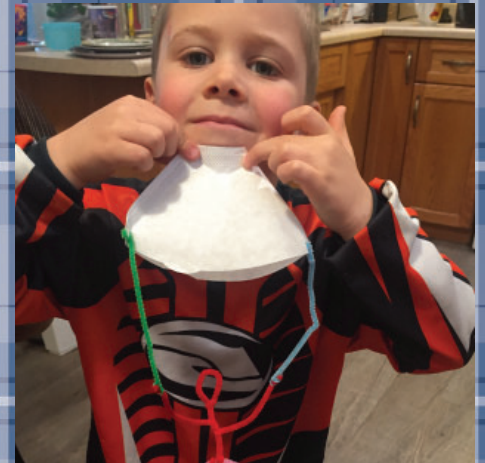
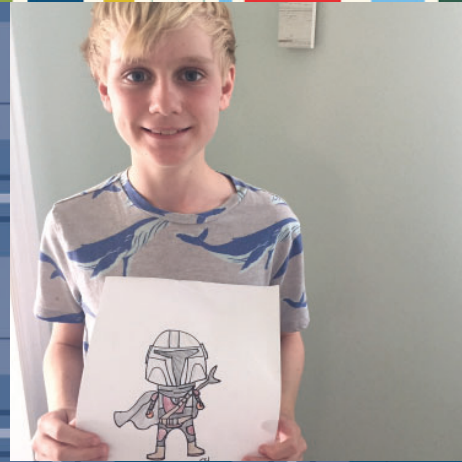
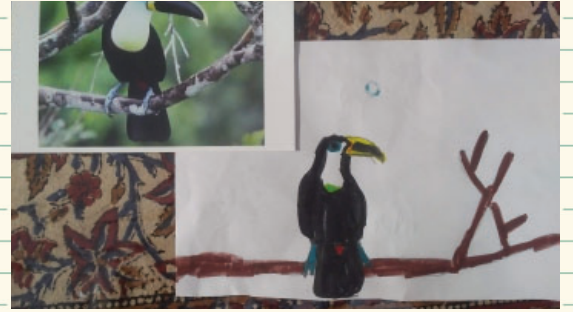
Ashton: I miss being around people.



Avery's egg drop project and workspace

Creative Fun

Since all of term three was completed at home, our students had a unique opportunity to be creative, to play outdoors, to engage in projects around the house, and to be a blessing to others. These next pages give a snapshot of how our students took advantage of this special time.



is it
recess
yet?



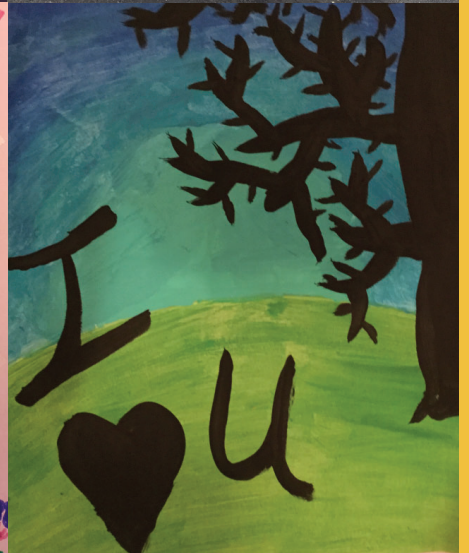
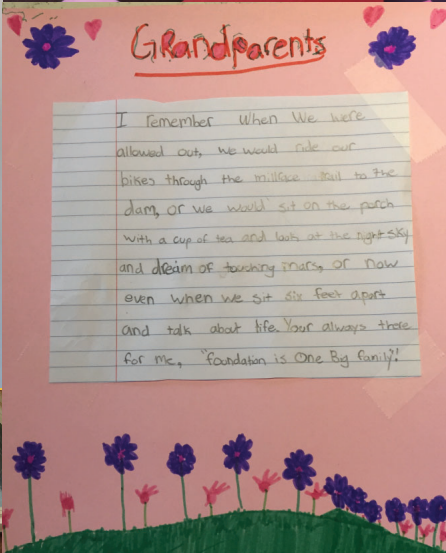
Outdoor Fun



Around the House Fun

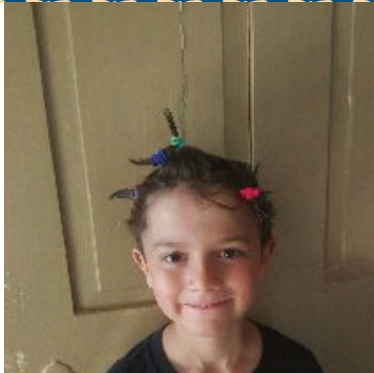


Blessing Others Fun



Crazy Hair Day!

We really missed our Rockin' Rally days, so we decided to have Crazy Hair Day from home!



SCHOOL'S COOL

A Note of Hope

By Casey

Times are shifting and changing.
We must all have faith.
And when we do this,
We will get through this phase.

Some things come and go,
While others just stay.
And if we have hope,
Then this might all go away.

So yes, we must suffer through
Even pain of the heart.
We must all stay together,
Even when we are six feet apart.

So if we just had hope
Something might change.
A new kind of path,
A turning a page.

So be patient with time
And try tying a new rope.
And all this will pass
While we stand in our hope.



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