

Classroom CORNERSTONE

2020-2021 Volume 10

Some Things Never Change

Some things will never change. Isn't that reassuring?

For one thing, God is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Hebrews 13:8). In a world that seems to change with every passing moment, where quarantines and restrictions seem to come and go each week, Jesus never changes. Still with us. Never leaves us. Always faithful.

This is the most reassuring thing! Our ability to go out to eat relies on restaurants being open. Our ability to pay our bills relies on our jobs remaining intact. Our ability to fellowship relies on our ability to be present together. These are all so important, and when they change, the hurt and challenges we face are real. Nevertheless our ability to live in joy now and for all eternity relies on the unchanging nature and promise of Jesus. The most important aspect of our lives rests on an unmovable, unchanging rock. A firm foundation.

As we have headed back to school, this has been the promise we have clung to most! We have faced so many changes, and our children have been so adaptable. We are learning! We are growing! We are fellowshiping!

All of it is a blessing to witness in our kids as they have journeyed through school these last few months.

Read about some of the joy and learning on the pages of this edition of the Classroom Cornerstone. As you do, remember the biggest blessing we continually share with the children is the rock of Jesus Christ.

Merry Christmas!
Mr. Robinson



JK-SK



Teacher's Note

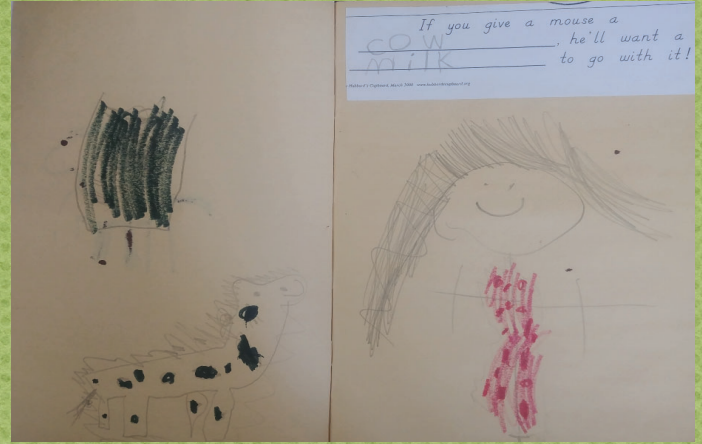
Mrs. Shantz

What a wonderful start to the school year it has been! The kindergarten class has settled in well and has learned their classroom routines splendidly. It has been so much fun getting to know each of the new kindergarten students, and seeing the returning students again. A highlight of this term has been seeing how creative the kindergarten class is. As we read through Genesis in our classroom Bible I have been reminded how creative God is. I see this creativity in my students and can't help but feel amazed. A Cheerio box has been turned into a robot, a piece of paper is turned into a scroll (and the scroll's script which is 'read' to me is just as creative as the idea of a scroll itself!). It has been very easy to love and teach such a wonderful group of students.



Natalie and Emilia

Cohen



Aleida's journal entry



Abigail's leaf graph

Ellie's turkey



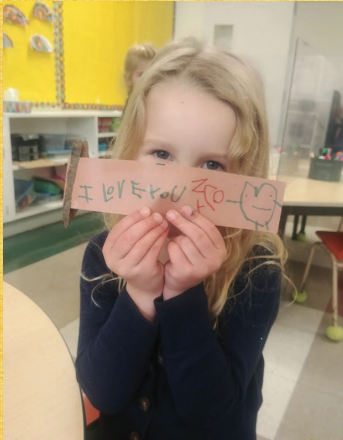
Breanne, Lily and Emilia on the playground



Emilia's owl

Aleida's apple





Lily



Emilia

Ask the Class

If you could be the teacher for the day, what fun activity would you plan for the class?

Cohen: I would make the people do a fishy craft, and I would make them eat snack when it is snack time and eat lunch when it is lunch time.

Ellie: I would do recess, quiet time, snack, free choice and math.

William: I would say, "Go to snack!"

What is the one thing you want to learn about this year?

Cohen: Cheetahs and lions. And I want to learn about socks and crocodiles.

Ellie: I want to learn about movies, and watch them!

William: I want to learn about books.

What do you like to do at recess?

Cohen: I like to play with my friends.

Ellie: I like to play in all the zones, even outside!

William: Eat snacks outside!

What do you want to be when you grow up?

Cohen: This is a big question ... Nothing too scary ... I would be a firefighter.

Ellie: I want to be a skater on ice.

William: I want to be an airplane driver.



William



Breanne's leaf graph



If you could trade places with anyone for a day, who would it be?

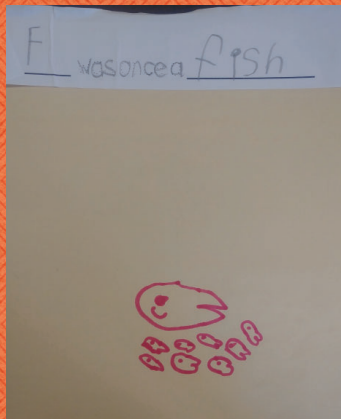
Cohen: I would be Daddy!

Ellie: I would trade places with Baby Yoda.

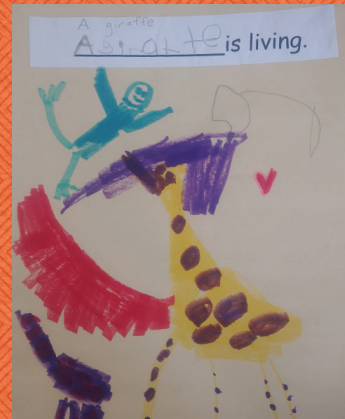
William: You! (Mrs. Shantz)



Abigail's sub



Ellie's journal entry



Breanne's journal entry



Jonathan in the outdoor classroom

Grade 1-2



Teacher's Note

Mrs. Lachance

What a joy to be back in the classroom with my children. Yes, my children. That's how I see them and that's how I talk about them.

I am so proud of how they have adjusted to the new routines and expectations. We have had so much fun. We grew plants from mystery seeds and made plan posters. We made family trees. Christian education crafts are always a highlight and so is free time. We have a lot of creative minds in our classroom. We learned to tell time and how to count money. The Grade 1's are growing in their ability to read. The grade 2's know how to add and subtract two digit numbers without regrouping. The grade 2's are also learning the difference between narrative and descriptive writing!

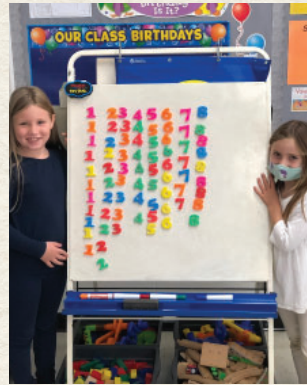
We pray with faith and commitment and have hallelujah jump-ups when God answers our prayers. I love the way each child's gifts, interests and abilities bring joy to our classroom. Playground zones are new this year and have actually been a huge success. God is at work and it is such a privilege to join Him in our classroom each day.

A Birthday Surprise

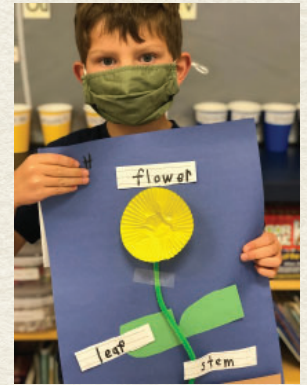
By Lauren

"It is my birthday," said Toad.

Meanwhile, Frog was making a birthday cake for Toad. Frog had enough money for new shoes for Toad. Frog brought a pair of shoes. "Surprise!" shouted Frog. "Happy birthday, Toad!"



Capree and Macy



Noah's flower diagram

Stuck in the Forest

Narrative Writing by Capree

A butterfly was stuck in the forest. I need someone to help me. Could you help? This is the worst day. Aw. I found my helpers.

Happy Butterfly

Descriptive Writing by Gihon

There is a butterfly with wings and a smiling face. The butterfly is really happy.



Levi's repeated shape art

Launa's repeated shape art



Charlie's repeated shape art

Miquela's repeated shape art

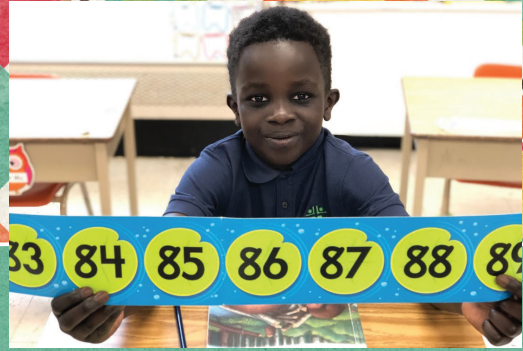


Lunchtime! (Elijah)



Ben's tall tower

$$\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ +2 \\ \hline 4 \end{array}$$



Gihon's counting

ASK THE CLASS

If you could be the teacher for the day, what fun activity would you plan for the class?

Esther: Make a flower

Charlie: Free time for one minute.

Ben: Take them on a field trip to a swimming park.

Jocelyne: Pet the kitty.

Kailey: A scavenger hunt.



Capree's cup of kindness

What do you like to do at recess?

Esther: Go on the monkey bars.

Gihon: Freeze tag.

Aleah: Play made up games.

Capree: Sliding on the slide.

Kailey: Play on the playground.

If you were a photographer for the day, what would you take pictures of?

Macy: My whole family together - aunts, uncles, big cousins, baby cousins - the whole bunch.

Esther: The statue of liberty.

Elijah: A maple tree.

River: A unicorn and a dolphin.

Ethan: Mrs. Lachance

Gihon: A shark jumping in the air.

What do you want to invent?

Alli: A robot that can do anything and it's only in my house.

Miquela: A drone.

Charlie: A mouse that would go in the water.

Lauren: A magnifying glass that makes things smaller.

Ben: A machine that could clean up my messes.

Kailey: A statue of a hummingbird.

If you could trade places with anyone for a day, who would it be?

Ben: A girl because they have so many options for crafts.

Levi: God so I can see Him.

Noah: Someone in Holland because they have really good sausage rolls.

Luke: My uncle Chad so I could live in Australia.

Launa: My brother because he does better art than me.

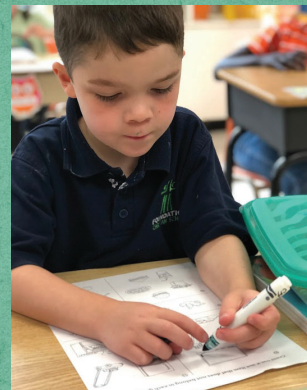
Gihon: My brother.

Jocelyne: My mom.

Little Duck's Adventures

By Alli

Little Duck went on a walk to the forest to swim. After that, he went to the fear that was tall. the bear was very tall and scary too.



Charlie



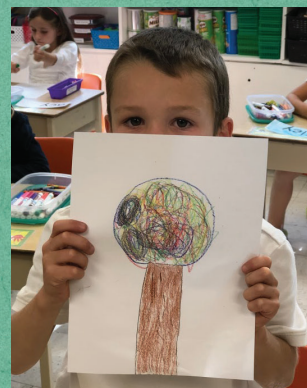
Alli working on MAP Testing



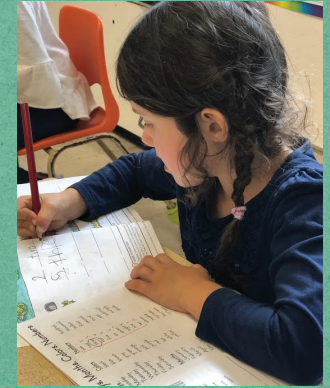
Alli and Miquela



Alli and Macy playing Prisoner's Base



Luke's tree drawing



Esther's printing

Grade 3-4

Teacher's Note

Mrs. Kerr-Bott

It has been wonderful being back in the classroom with my students again. It is a little different, but we are all together. The students have adapted to the new routines quickly and respectfully.

It has been great to see many new friendships form during the first few months of school as the students meet new people and welcome others from a different grade than the previous year. During recess, the students have found many different ways to play on the school property, and they are exploring areas in the yard that they may not have visited much in the past. Fortunately, we have had many days of wonderful weather since school began, which makes playing outside that much nicer.

The outdoor classrooms have also been a great addition to our school day this year. The students are excited about going outside during reading times and completing lessons in a large outdoor space. Just take a moment to imagine learning science in an outdoor classroom where the natural landscape you are learning about is at your feet, you can listen to the birds sing as you work, and the breeze ruffles your hair. Ahh, marvelous! This is truly a unique experience for all of us. In these days of change, we are all learning together how to be gracious and flexible. As we grow and learn, we are also realizing the many, many blessings that rain down on us here every day.



Aurora



Claire



Lila's Remembrance Day poster



Eva's self portrait

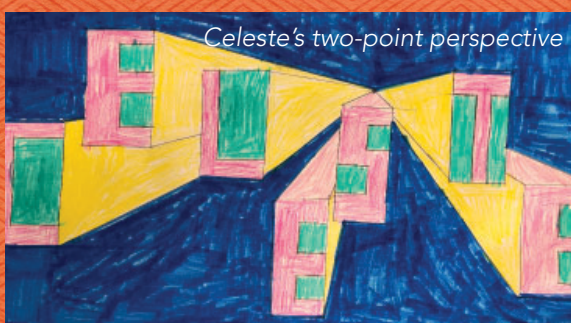


Joseph's self portrait

The Lost Hamster

By Cole

One rainy day my hamster Fang was playing in his cage. Then he bit his cage and all his teeth fell out. He ran really far away. I looked everywhere, but still I couldn't find him. Then I remembered that Fang loves food and eats it every second. So, I got some food and he saw it. Then he came running to me! I put him back in his cage and patched up the hole!



Celeste's two-point perspective

The Missing Mountain Mystery

By Ivy

One day the bob cats that lived high in the mountain went to go hunting. They were two sisters. The youngest was named Rose and the oldest was named Fern. They said goodbye to their mom and dad and set off on their journey to the forest. The other animals were not there. Then it started to snow. It got thicker and thicker as they went. They were worried and then they saw a cave. They ran into it. They noticed a tunnel in the cave. They ran in it. It was dark. They were totally lost.

The tunnel led to an open space. There were five tunnels. They chose the one in front of them. It was dark. They could not see each other. They saw a torch. It had a paw on it. It was a fox paw. The fox's name was Tulip. She asked what they were doing in her house. They told Tulip that they were lost. She said that she could help them. They went out of the tunnel. It went up the mountain. They were home. Their mom and dad were happy to see them.



Lila

The Twin Astronauts

By Peter

Once upon a time there were astronauts named Jake and Jack. They were identical twins. There was an astronaut meeting. The leader said, "Who would be willing to go to Mars and find aliens?" No one answered. So then Jake and Jack said, "We can go." The leader laughed and said, "You rookies will never be able to make it." So then he said, "Will anyone else be willing to do it?" No one answered again. Then he said, with a sigh, "I guess I'll have to send you two." Jack jumped for joy. "Yippee!"

The next morning they said bye and blasted off. When they got there aliens came and threw them into jail. Jake said, "He was right, we were too young and inexperienced to go."

Back on earth people went to save them and they did. They were the first people to find aliens and return safely.



Jacob



The Three Friends

By Kylie

Once upon a time there lived three friends. Their names were Celeste, Emily and Kylie. One sunny day they decided to go for a walk. As they were walking they fell into the river.

Emily said, "There will probably be a log we can grab before we get to the waterfall." "WATERFALL!" screamed Celeste and Kylie. Then they saw a log. They grabbed it and climbed out. "Where are we?" asked Emily and Kylie. "I do not know," said Celeste. "We're lost?" cried Kylie. "Yes," said Celeste with a tear in her eye.

So, they looked for their house. After a few days of eating berries Celeste said, "Why don't we just live in the forest." So that is what they did.

ASK THE CLASS

Do you prefer classes inside or outside? Why?

Aurora: Outside. Then we can be in nature.

Emily: Inside. It is warm inside.

Claire: Inside. It is easier to hear people.

What do you like to do at recess?

Aurora: I like to play with my friends. I like to play tag sometimes with them. We play it in most of the zones.

Kirsten: I like to play four square.

Emily: I like to play robot princess. We played it last year and I liked it.

What is your favourite subject? Why?

Aurora: I like art and music. With art you can use your imagination and I just like making music.

Kirsten: I like math because I like using numbers and making math questions.

Mark: I like math because you can learn more things like adding, subtracting and mental math.

Claire: Christian Education. You get to make crafts and learn about bible stories.

Elijah: Gym. We can play cool games such as prisoner's base or basketball.

What do you want to be when you grow up?

Aurora: I want to be a teacher because I like school.

Kirsten: I would like to be a math teacher.

Mark: I want to be zoo keeper. I could take care of the animals.

Emily: An oceanographer to swim with sharks.

Claire: I want to be a police officer. My cousin is a police officer and it sounds like a cool job.

Elijah: I want to be a construction worker so I can drive machines and build stuff.

Broken Down Since 1933

By Jake

One beautiful morning, on an old farm, in an old house in Hungary, there lived an old man named Jethro Orville McKenzie.

He noticed a cool antique phone in the newspaper. Jethro wanted it so much he wanted to buy it. He remembered that he could not get to the store because his old GMC Stepside truck did not start. So, he called a mechanic. Upsetingly, the mechanic did not fix old GMCs. Poor Jethro. Surely someone would buy that old phone. Suddenly, he remembered that he used to be a mechanic! So, he got out his oil can and got to work.

When he was finished, he drove as fast as he could! He got to the antique store and got his antique phone. When he got home he had some coffee and a nap. He knew it had been a good day.

Grade 5-6



Teacher's Note

Mrs. Robinson
We started off this term with many changes and uncertainties. However, it took us no time at all to get used to our new normal, and to thrive. This class is full of positivity, smiles and hard work. They have had a fantastic first term.

We have gotten our creative juices flowing by using descriptive writing to describe an imaginative island. There were candy islands, lego islands and cave islands. In science we learned about conserving energy and had a full day building model homes that conserve energy. In social studies we learned about First Nations and made amazing presentations for the class. This term I have seen lots of generosity and respect towards each other. I am so grateful that we can be in the classroom, learning together again!



Cara, Cadence, Katie, and Danielle working on their energy efficient home

Paradise Island

By Katie

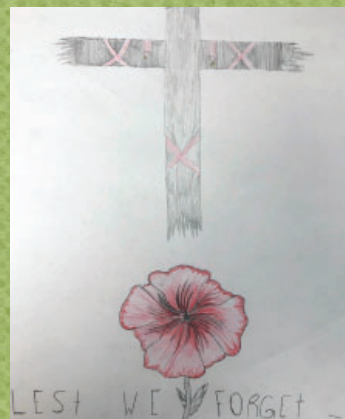
You're probably wondering what Paradise Island looks like, because it would be dreadful to go on a vacation that looks awful. Well, the sun sets happily over the aqua blue water while you fall asleep to the moon illuminating the sky. The coast is better than Italy! There are mountains with white snow glistening in the sun. If you are lucky you might even see a rainbow! The sun blazes across the sky every day and the moon flies across the night sky.



Cara's self portrait



Elijah working on his energy efficient home



Kaleb's Remembrance Day poster



Michael's word art

Candyland

By Cadence

Candyland isn't just famous because of its fine quality, Candyland is also famous for their fabulous places! To start, we are going to look at a few famous places to get a glimpse of Candyland architecture! One of the famous places is Pie Tower. Pie Tower is 10,000 sugary pies stacked in a tower with rock solid cement. Some of the pies are up to 200 years old! One of the other famous places is Donut Park. Donut Park is a sweet smelling park. There are zippy swings, zappy slides, slippery monkey bars, and firm baking toys made of baking ingredients that smell like donuts! One of the extraordinary places is Cupcake Tower! Cupcake Tower is where Mr. and Mrs. Stan live. They live on half of the palace. The other half is a classy hotel with cupcake furniture. Outside, are creamy, chocolatey fountains and fancy tea areas and a grand pool!

The Underground Kingdom

By Corbin

The Undermen people have a unique taste and all their meals consist mostly of various types of succulent fungi. Mushrooms in the underland grow from 1 centimeter tall to 8 feet tall. These mushrooms can be transformed by the best cooks (usually the farmer's wives) into a glorious, salty stew that is a favourite food among all the Undermens. Some fungi are either fried to make fungi chips, or are mixed with worm milk (mashed worms) to make a sweet breakfast, a lot like cereal. The worm milk is fermented by the farmers and made into a divine, rich, cheese. The glossy white cheese is slightly zesty and acidic, but tastes great with fungi chips, and the smooth fruit of the smooth vine. The glowing, smooth smooth fruit are golden in colour and they shine brightly against the dark green of the vines they grow on. These fruits are very sweet and syrupy and their appetizing outer skin conceals a mouth-watering juice inside. Those are all the foods of the Undermens.



Corbin's building



We love using our outdoor classrooms!

ASK THE CLASS

If you could be a teacher for the day, what fun activity would you plan for the class?

Danielle: I would play dodgeball with my classmates.

Levi: I would have a tech day.

Kaleb: I would do gym and art.

Do you prefer to have classes inside or outside?

Danielle: I prefer them outside because you get fresh air and you don't have to wear a mask and you can work wherever you want.

Levi: Outside because I don't have to wear a mask and if you are done you can play on the tarmac or the swings.

Kaleb: Outside because you can breathe in fresh air.

If you were a photographer for the day, what would you take pictures of?

Danielle: I would take pictures of nature and animals and pictures of the Rockies.

Levi: Sports games, nature and mountains in Alberta.

Kaleb: I would take pictures of sports games.

What do you want to invent?

Danielle: I would invent a robot that did work for me.

Levi: I would invent an underwater laboratory and elevators that go through the earth to the other side.

Kaleb: I would invent a robot water bottle.

What do you feel grateful for today?

Danielle: I feel grateful for my family, relatives, friends and teachers.

Levi: I am thankful for school, food and family.

Kaleb: I am thankful for family and friends.



Basketball gym class



Michael doing basketball drills

Grade 7-8

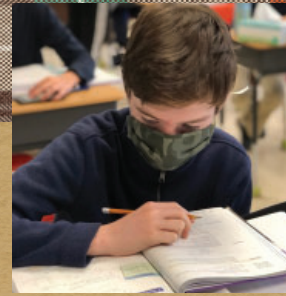


Teacher's Note

Mme. Skinner

We're having a great start to the year! I have really enjoyed seeing the students re-adjust to learning in the classroom once again, and they're doing some excellent learning already. We enjoyed our short story unit in Language Arts

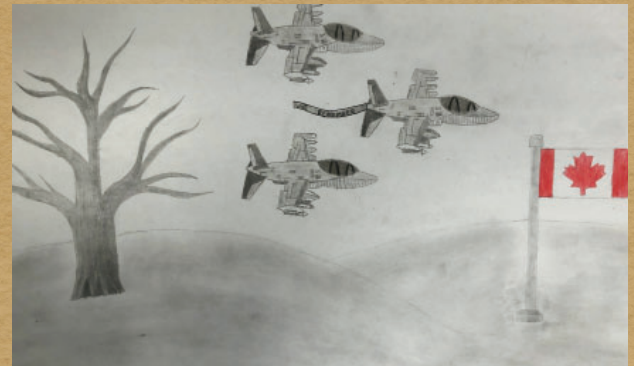
and are well into our first novel study of *The Magician's Nephew* by C.S. Lewis. In Geography, the grade 7s completed their unit on Landforms and Water systems and the grade 8s completed their unit on Population and Settlement Patterns. I have also been very impressed with the dedication the students have shown to memorizing their memory work, particularly with the 10 commandments.



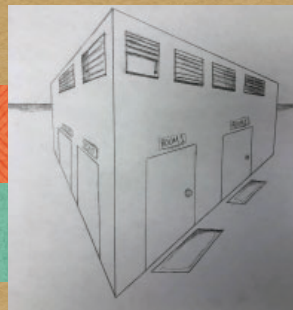
Graham



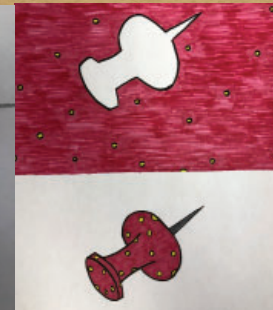
Avery



Jaden's Remembrance Day



Casey's 2-point perspective



Avery's positive/negative space

Ask the Class

If you could be the teacher for the day, what fun activity would you plan for the class?

Stella: I would take them outside and have a fun day.

Gabe: I would take them to SkyZone.

Owen: I would take them to LaserQuest.

What do you feel grateful for today?

Stella: For our teachers who give their time to us.

Gabe: Being able to have a roof over my head and having a family.

Owen: Probably my dog.

What subject is your favourite and why?

Stella: Gym because you can get exercise and it's fun to learn different sports.

Gabe: Gym because I can let out my energy.

Owen: Science because I like learning about how all the different stuff works together.

Do you prefer to have classes inside or outside? Why?

Stella: Outside because I like the fresh air and you can learn better.

Gabe: Inside now but outside when it's hot out because there's more to look at.

Owen: Inside because the stumps outside are not very comfortable and it's easier to learn outside.

Would you rather be stuck in the middle of the desert or the ocean? Why?

Stella: Ocean because you can try to swim somewhere and you can eat the fish.

Gabe: Ocean because there's most likely a chance of a boat or airplane going by and you can fish for food.

Owen: Ocean because if it's on an island I could find a source of food and fire, and I like water.

Aladdin

By Casey

My name is Kaashvi Ahuja. I am fifteen years old, and I live in Agrabah. Everyday I pound grapes with my knuckles to make wine. I sell it at the market. My mother and father both died long ago, and life is hard. I barely have enough food to feed myself. I had money, but barely enough. But now that's gone too.

It all started one day when I was wiping the grape stains from my weary knuckles. The sun was high up in the sky and blisteringly hot. I had grown used to this kind of weather, but that didn't explain the chills that were running up and down my back. I felt like someone was watching me. I turned around and studied my surroundings. I was in the back of my market booth, where I had been pounding grapes all day. My little market was near the edge of the city, so I did not get much business. The tall walls that surrounded our city were thick and strong, with beige tinted bricks. Trees sprouted out of the ground in a few places, with large wide green leaves, and furry brown balls resting in their branches. Markets and booths lined the streets and the walls, selling goods, like spices and snake-skins.

I squinted my eyes but still saw no one. I heaved a sigh and turned back to cleaning my purple stained hands. And that's when I noticed it was gone. The small, woven box with a blue flower painted on it. I gasped and started searching wildly through the stacks of grape baskets, hoping that I was wrong. But the truth lay out bare. Someone had stolen my box of savings. Everything I had ever worked for. It was gone, like water dried up in the desert on a hot day. I felt something wet in my eye and I rubbed it away. I had nothing left here. I grabbed my hijab and wrapped it a little too tightly around my head, and set out for the streets. My head felt heavy so I hung it low. I hurried

along the sandy streets, passing the much nicer wine shops, and toward a hut made of large knotted palm branches. I gently knocked on the little door and was immediately answered by an elderly woman with dark wrinkled skin like an elephant, and grey, mousy hair.

She smiled at me and said, "Hello Kaashvi. Have you come to get Aloham?" I nodded quickly and she went back into the hut, coming back moments later with the small, dark skinned, six year old boy I loved more than anything in the world. He was staying with our grandmother while I worked during the day. I took him by his hand and led him back onto the streets, plastering a fake smile as I waved to my grandmother. We were just starting back down the sandy streets when Aloham stopped.

"Kaashvi, what's wrong?" I turned around and dropped to one knee, pulling him into a hug. I felt the wetness return to my eye but this time, I didn't wipe it away. Aloham was all I had left. I pulled away and wiped the water from my eye. I was about to tell him everything was going to be alright when I saw something. A man with a purple worn vest, black pants, and a bare chest came walking past us with something large clutched under his arm. A woven basket. With a faded blue flower on it. I stared. That was mine! I knew it for sure. I called for help. A few guards leaped from their posts and followed my pointed finger to the man. I heard a few mumble, "It's that rug-rat, Aladdin, again." A small monkey jumped off a patched roof and landed on the man's shoulder. My heart raced. I looked down at Aloham, hoping he wouldn't see the worry in my eyes. I looked up just in time to see the last of his purple vest flapping in the wind as he whipped around a corner. And just like that, it was over. My money was gone. I gripped Aloham's hand and turned back to go home. Back to nothing. I gulped back my heart which had somehow gotten into my throat and walked back down the lonely streets. My head was heavy. My soul was broken. My heart... cracked. I hated that man. More than anything. He was a wretched person, to steal from the poor. And he didn't only steal my money. He stole my future.

Far away, a bare chested man sat in his stolen home, pitying himself, wishing for a better life. But, well, you know how that story goes.



Teacher's Note

Miss Dietz

We are so thankful to be back in the classroom again for math and science. The grade 7's learned many topics including square roots, exponents, and rectangular prisms. The grade 8 material consisted of topics such as

scientific notation, order of operations and triangular prisms. In Science the grade 7's enjoyed creating their own mini ecosystems as they learned how ecosystems change and how humans can impact them. The grade 8's studied cells that involved learning about the organelles of a cell and how plant and animals cells differ. They also got to create their own three dimensional cells.



Grade 7-8 (continued)

Carter and “The Soldiers”

By Jaden

Dear Carter,

This must be hard for you, but after your mom’s passing, it is too hard for me to stay. I am leaving. You must stay here with your siblings. I don’t know where I am going. DON’T TRY TO FOLLOW ME! Goodbye Carter.

“Carter! Carter! Carter! Come!” Pedro shook Carter back to reality, and away from his memories.

Carter saw the look of sheer terror on Pedro’s face. Vrrmmm. Pedro was only five years old, still young, but old enough to know that the rev of that particular engine was a terribly dangerous sound. Danger was coming at a consistently rapid pace.

The danger wasn’t the two vehicles, but rather who was in Willys M38 and the Bantam BRC-40. (The Willys M38 and the Bantam BRC-40 are military, stolen from an American military base.) The people who were in the vehicles were locally known as “The Soldiers”. They were a group of four men who wore long-sleeved shirts, camo cargo boots, and steel-toed boots. They could blend in with the military, but despite their looks, they weren’t with the military; they were against the world. The leader, Draco, who had a sidekick named Draven, was riding into the village. The other two soldiers were unknown to the villagers.

Carter knew what to do immediately. He grabbed Pedro’s wrist and pulled him into a hut. This was Pedro’s home. It was made of logs and had one door with only one window opposite to the door. This wasn’t the first time “The Soldiers” had come, so Pedro knew what to do. While Carter shut the door, Pedro went to the only bed and hid under it for cover. Once there he fell silent and knew he must stay there silently until “The Soldiers” had left.

After shutting the door, Carter joined Pedro under the bed. “I scared.” Pedro whimpered. Pedro knew he shouldn’t have talked, but his fear was welling up inside of him and he didn’t know what to do. The only answer Carter knew to give him was, “Pray.” Simultaneously they bowed their heads and closed their eyes. They prayed silently, knowing they shouldn’t talk.

Carter knew to stay under the bed, but while praying he came to the realization that something was off. Something was different. Looking at Pedro he whispered, “Stay. Don’t move.”

Carter got out from under the bed, and went to the window. Nothing. He couldn’t see anyone, just the field, where they had just been playing soccer. Being thirteen and curious, he walked to the door and opened it a crack, only to see nothing. Maybe if he were older he would have been responsible and stayed hidden, but right now he walked out of the door. He walked to the corner of the hut and peeked his head around. Once again, nothing. He walked around the corner, to the back of the house and past the window.

“Ahhhhh!” that was a recognizable, high-pitched scream, only made by the vocal cords of a five year old child. Pedro! Taking a few paces backwards, Carter caught a glimpse of the scene through the window. Pedro was screaming while being led, half dragged, by two of “The Soldiers”.

Carter ran to the front of the hut, but was too late. He saw Pedro being lifted into the Bantam BRC-40 by a man. This man had never been seen with “The Soldiers” before; he was new. Even though he was new, Carter recognized him at once. Dylan was the man’s name.

An image of a note flashed through Carter’s mind. The note from his father was signed, Love Dylan. Dylan was Carter’s father and apparently, he was now part of “The Soldiers”.

Frozen in place, Carter welled up with rage. His face turned red. Suddenly, “CRASH!” lightning struck and thunder crackled. A storm was coming, but that didn’t matter. Carter sprinted forward just as the two vehicles drove off.

As Carter stopped where the jeeps had been, it began to rain. Carter was soaked in an instant, but decided to run after the two vehicles anyway. Carter was determined. He blamed everything on himself. He couldn’t imagine that the day could get any worse.

He had been following the vehicle’s tracks for ages. How long had it been? He glanced at his watch, it was 9:39 pm, August 2nd. It had only been an hour and a half. He followed the trail that the vehicles had left. 100 meters ahead, the trail took a sharp right. There was a line of trees to his right that was good for cover. He ran on. He stopped only when he was 20 meters from the turn. This was when he noticed that there was a forest to his left. The weird thing was that all the trees were casting a shadow leading deeper into the forest. That meant that there was light coming from his right, but it had been a black void the whole time. The storm had stopped so maybe the light was the

sun, no it wasn't. It was 10:09 pm. The stars were out. The bright yellow glow had to come from an artificially, man-made light source. The light was coming from behind the pine trees on his right. Carter gradually crept forward until he was beneath the big pine trees. He was silent, not making the slightest of noises. No human could ever hear his footsteps.

Peering through the trees, all Carter could see was a big concrete brick compound. This belonged to "The Soldiers". There was a black steel door facing Carter. Maybe it might lead him to Pedro. But, what if he saw his dad? The only answer was to trust God.

Walking through the door, Carter realized there was no turning back. Down a long steel corridor, he found two doors right before the corridor split off to his right and left. The doors had little windows with steel bars. Were these prison cells? Was Pedro here? Carter hoped so. He opened the door hoping to see Pedro unhurt, sitting there, but no.

There was no sight of Pedro, but wait, someone was there... but who? A woman turned and looked at him. Immediately he knew that her name was Rachael. Frozen, a single tear fell down his cheek. He was looking into the eyes of his mother. She was alive. "Pedro. In the other room. Go!" were the only words that she spoke.

Opening the door, Carter saw Pedro sitting on a small bed. Pedro ran and hugged Carter. Pedro's eyes were red after crying for hours. He led Pedro th Rachael. She picked Pedro up and whispered, "Let's go. We need to get out of here. Go. Quietly." Walking out of the room, with Carter leading, it happened. There he was. Dylan, standing tall and blank faced. No emotion. "Go! Leave! I'll cover you. I've got this..." Carter told his mom while pointing at the door. The last sentence trailed off as his voice trembled. Carter knew his dad was stronger than him, but there was hope, hope that seeing Carter might convince his dad to come home. Pedro and Rachael left and made the trek home. They arrived safely, but Carter was not as safe.

"You don't want to do this." Carter told his dad, but his dad said nothing. "Come home. Come, let's be a family again. I miss you. I still love you." What else could Carter say to his father's blank stare to make him come home? After a minute, Dylan finally spoke, "How could anyone forgive me? If I come back, I'll be arrested, or worse. I made my choice and that is that." Carter knew what to say, "bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. Colossians 3:13." With that, Dylan rushed towards Carter. Carter thought he had made his dad mad, but then, there was a single tear streaked down Dylan's face. He picked his son and gave him a hug. With that, they went home.

In the coming week Dylan turned "The Soldiers" over to the authorities. Dylan became a Christian and was baptized. Pedro went back to his mom and the village lived in peace, and Carter's family was a true family once again.

War of 4802

By Alyssa

"The house feels so empty without Mom and Dad," I thought as I remembered my parents' calm eyes as they told me they would be gone for a while. "But what will I do when I'm bored?" I remembered protesting. "You have your friends, and nature," Mom had told me calmly. "Maybe I should go outside," I thought to myself. I recalled coming outside in the fall when I was younger. Fall was a time for thanksgiving and fun, but it all seemed boring when there was no one to have fun with. "Annie!" a familiar voice screeched as the doorbell was being pushed every second. I opened the door to see my best friend, Olivia. "Where are your parents?" Oh yeah. "At war," I replied, letting her in. She looked at me and said, "Right, I gotta tell you something." She whispered the harsh words into my ears, and my eyes widened. "So I have to go to war?" Olivia smirked. "Not without me." "In that case, we should get Alex." Alex is my cousin. He is 13, two years older than me, and Olivia is 12. "I'll go talk to him." As I was walking to Alex's house, I thought about what Olivia had said, "Badly hurt..." The rules of the war are: if the parents can't fight, they'll bring the children, age 10 and up. Unlucky me, I'm 11.

Before I knew it, I was getting shipped to the edge of former Canada, with my best friends. "Well, what now?" Alex's voice rang out throughout the car. "I don't know!" I accidentally blurted out. "I know, I wasn't actually looking for an answer," he answered, almost amused. When we arrived, I heard an old lady yelling. "These soldiers take forever!" her voice rang out impatiently. "At this speed, rocks will fight the battles for us!" I didn't like the sounds of that. "Finally, I will be your captain; you will call me Captain Margo," she said calmly. "Your parents were as slow as slugs, I don't want you to go the same pace," her eyes burned into mine, scary.

A few days later Olivia and I began to improve our abilities. "Alright, come at me," Olivia said confidently. I chucked fireballs and she instantly blocked them with her ability. Good one, I said, "You ready for the real thing?" She nodded. "Definitely." We saw Alex on the battlefield, using his ability to shield the swords of the enemy, then to attack. "I can see you doing that," Olivia whispered. "Well we'd both better do as well as him," I leaned in, lowering my voice. "Good luck." I watched her sprint onto the battlefield, ready to block anything that came her way. I slowly walked onto the battlefield. The battle raged like boiling water, I felt my heart beating really fast. It felt good.

A few days later, my dad was reported dead while miraculously, my mother survived. I ran onto the battlefield, ready to fight, until a sound behind me caught me off guard. I turned around to see nothing. "Look out!" I heard a voice screech. Crash! Bang! A few years later I slowly opened my eyes. "What happened?" I thought to myself. Beside me was my mom, and a few cards. My mom ran downstairs. "She woke up! She's finally awake!" A flood of people came through my door, amazed to see me. I remembered the war. "Why am I here?" I said, puzzled. "I should be fighting!" A few chuckles came from the room. "The war ended 3 years ago," my mom explained. I tried to get up but my leg hurt. Ouch.

Now, a few years later, I am used to telling this story. It is my story.

Music (and more)



Highlights from Music

Truthfully, in the midst of a global pandemic, I thought our humble Christmas musical would take a break like every other theatre company around the world. There were just too many obstacles...until Mr. Robinson came to me and said, "Of all the years, I think this year people could really benefit from a message of Good News."

This play stretched every one of us in ways we never could have guessed: from teaching outside, recording video, recording separate audio, choreography, asking other staff to create a scene where one didn't exist, to involving students with speaking parts who normally wouldn't.

This play took the gift of beautiful weather and our entire FCS community to find ways to persevere and overcome so we could share. In the theatre industry the adage says, "the show must go on" and so it does.



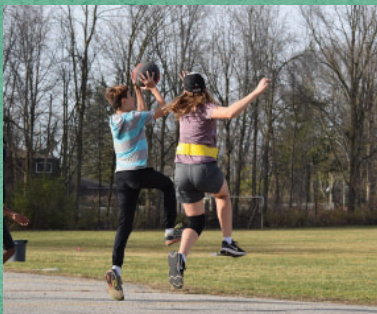
Recording the Christmas musical



Sports

Phys-Ed. Classess

Our Phys-Ed program was slightly different this term since gym classes could only be outdoors. However, we were blessed with really great weather and we were able to do a lot of similar activities as last year. Our JK/SK class learned various games and activities which included obstacle courses, Ice Age, and Octopus. We also had an introduction to soccer. All other grades had units in soccer, ultimate frisbee and basketball. We were very creative this year and still managed to play everyone's favourite game; dodgeball. When the weather was too wet for outdoor gym then classes moved inside for health class. Health class focused on personal safety.



Cross Country

Students were able to participate in this year's cross country season despite the cancellation of the CAASO event. Students in grades 3-8 had two runs per week, one in gym class and one at lunch to get them ready for our own cross country meet at the school. The meet was held on Friday, October 23rd and here are the results:

Grade 3&4 (1.5 km)

- | Girls | Boys |
|---------------------|----------------|
| 1. Celeste Robinson | 1. Peter McRae |
| 2. Aurora Dobson | 2. Joseph Chol |
| 3. Kirsten Dueck | 3. Mark Roes |

Grade 5&6 (2 km)

- | Girls | Boys |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Katie Metzger | 1. James McRae |
| 2. Danielle Dixon | 2. Matthew Bishop |
| 3. Sahara Jacky | 3. Corbin Hoffmann |

Grades 7&8

- | Girls | Boys |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Stella Brubacher | 1. Benjamin McRae |
| 2. Hannah Eble | 2. Wyatt Jacky |
| 3. Avery Robinson | 3. Andrew Allison |



A Note from our EA's

This term we have invested a significant amount of time into developing specific plans for our students. We aspire to develop plans that will help the students thrive and allow them to get the most out of their education. Together as a team, we have enjoyed helping students gain confidence in their reading as well as exploring math skills such as adding and subtracting with regrouping, geometry and other essential math concepts. In addition to assisting with academics our goal is also to teach organizational skills, and allow students to gain more confidence and independence. We are grateful for an excellent first term and are anticipating the start of another.



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