

# BIRDSEYE VIEW

## FALL 2025 NEWSLETTER



Hello Hampstead Families!

As we move through the colourful fall season at Hampstead School, it's a joy to reflect on the many exciting events and initiatives that have shaped our year so far. Our school community has been buzzing with energy, curiosity, and connection!

We began the year with many annual traditions that our students always look forward to, including the Terry Fox Community Walk, the Cross-Country Run at Birds Hill Park, and the launch of our Grade 5 Swim Program. These events not only promote physical wellness but also foster a strong sense of community and perseverance.

This term also brought some wonderful new experiences. In Ms. McAuley's classroom, students had the unique opportunity to witness the hatching of baby chicks—an awe-inspiring moment that sparked curiosity and care. Another highlight was the planting of 600 trees, led by Mr. Walker, laying the foundation for what will become the "Hampstead Forest." Every student contributed by planting a tree, leaving a lasting legacy and deepening their connection to the environment and the land that we are learning on.

We were thrilled to welcome so many families to our Pumpkin Carving evening and our Welcome Back BBQ and Open House. These gatherings remind us of the strength and warmth of our school community.

Throughout all these experiences, our students continue to amaze us with their sense of wonder and enthusiasm for learning. Our dedicated teachers and staff have been guiding this journey with skill and heart, nurturing curiosity and encouraging exploration.

We look forward to seeing all of our families at our upcoming **Celebration of Learning on November 20th**, where students will proudly share the incredible learning and growth they've experienced this term.

Thank you for being part of our vibrant school community. We hope you enjoy our fall newsletter. You can expect another edition in March and June as we celebrate our Winter and Spring terms too.

Here's to a season filled with learning, laughter, and connection!

**Pam MacDonell**  
Principal



# Mrs. Acheson's Class

## The 4 Seasons

Mrs. Acheson's class has been learning about the 4 seasons! The 4 seasons are winter, spring, summer and fall. In the summer we like to go to the beach, go to the park and sometimes we go on vacation. In the fall we like to jump in the leaves and go back to school to see our friends. In the winter we like to play in the snow and build snowmen. In the spring we like to see the new flowers grow and are excited to bring out our bikes again!

We have to wear different clothing in each season. We need to wear jackets, ski pants, boots, mitts and toque to stay warm in the winter. In the summer we get to wear t-shirts and shorts so we stay cool in the hot weather.

We built a dioramas of our favourite season. We had to decide if we wanted to make a daytime scene or a nighttime scene. We used a planning sheet to help keep us organized. We had to include people and trees that matched our season. We had to add lots of details to our dioramas. We put our dioramas in the front display case so everyone could see them.





## Mr. Willms' Class

Over the past month, Room 1 has been working hard to learn about the geography of Canada.



Each student chose a Province/ Territory to research in great detail! We created an information poster about the Province/ Territory we researched.

We used our inquiry skills to create questions and to find important information. We used our artistic skills to create engaging and informative posters. Each of us designed and presented our posters to our classmates.





# Fun in Room 8

## Ms. Bilous & Mrs. Reyes' Class



Our class successfully completed a **Fish Habitat Diorama Project**, showcasing creativity, teamwork, and learning about aquatic ecosystems. Each student designed a diorama representing a fish habitat, including key elements such as water, plants, rocks, and other animals that share the environment.

Students used a variety of materials—recycled boxes, paper, and strings and crafted hard to bring their underwater scenes to life. Throughout the project, they learned how fish depend on clean water, food sources, and safe hiding places to survive.

The final dioramas were beautifully detailed and demonstrated the students' understanding of habitats, adaptations, and the importance of protecting aquatic life. The class proudly shared their projects with others, explaining what makes a healthy fish habitat. It was a fun and meaningful hands-on learning experience for everyone!





# ...and more fun in Room 8!



Our class proudly participated in the **Terry Fox Walk of Hope**, joining the school community in honoring Terry Fox's dream of finding a cure for cancer. The students showed great spirit and enthusiasm as they walked together around the school grounds, carrying messages of hope, courage, and perseverance. It was a meaningful and memorable day that reminded everyone that even small steps can lead to big change.



## Math Learning in Action

During our recent math activity, the class demonstrated great understanding and teamwork while learning about representing numbers and connecting math to real-life situations. Students worked in small groups to explore how numbers are used in everyday life—especially when using money to count, add, and make change.

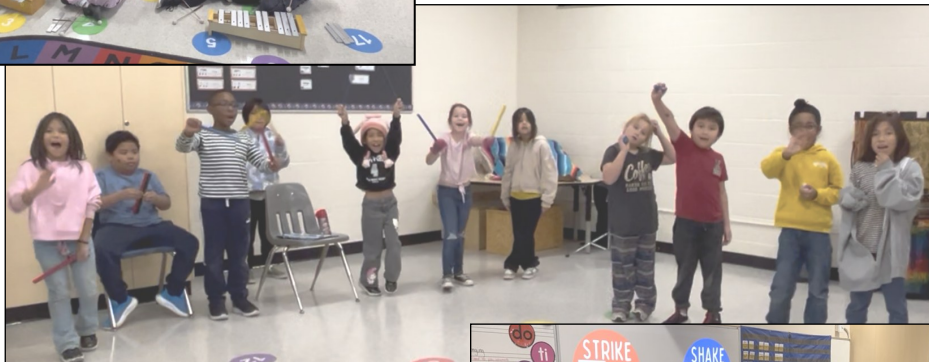
They used play coins and number models to represent different amounts, helping them see how math is useful beyond the classroom. The students communicated their ideas, solved problems together, and supported one another with enthusiasm. It was wonderful to see their confidence, collaboration, and creativity shine as they connected mathematical concepts to real-world experiences!



## Notes from the Music Teacher

We've been having lots of fun learning in Hampstead's Music Room! All grade levels continue to learn music through singing, dancing, acting, and playing. Our younger musicians learned about different instruments we have in the music room, while our older musicians put together a class composition on the barred instruments. Students in Room 3 and Room 5 worked hard singing "In Flanders Fields" for our Remembrance Day assembly that happened on November 7. We are beginning to prepare for our **Winter Concert Series, happening on December 17-18.**

More information will be available as we get closer to the date!





## Notes from the Phys Ed teacher

### Mr. St. G

To kick things off at the start of the school year all the students at Hampstead School reviewed some long-standing recess activities and had the opportunity to learn a new recess activity called **Gaga Ball**. With the Gaga Ball pit competition in mid-June, students are now able participate in a new movement experience with their grade level peers in a fun and low-competitive environment.



Another activity to highlight and celebrate is the River East Transcona School Division **Cross Country** event. Students in grade 3-5 had the opportunity to be a part of the run club at Hampstead School and compete at Birds Hill Provincial Park on Tuesday, September 23 with nearly 900 other students across the school division. Running is a great activity that I promote to the students each year because of its physical and mental health benefits and running is very low cost. Students learned the importance of pacing themselves for longer distances and all competed very well at the divisional event. I would like to invite all grade 3-5 Hampstead students to join us again next school year.





# Mr. Walker's Class

## Growing a Greener Future

This fall, our school community came together in an inspiring act of environmental stewardship—planting over **500 trees** along the fence line near the railroad tracks! Thanks to the support and guidance from **Winnipeg Trails**, students and staff have helped create what will become a vibrant **buffer forest** around our school yard.



The newly planted forest includes a diverse mix of native and fruit-bearing species such as **White Spruce, Paper Birch, Manitoba Maple, Antonovka Apple, Eastern White Cedar, and Canada Plum**. These trees will grow to provide **shade, beauty, biodiversity, and habitat** for birds,





# Growing a Greener Future continued...

But this project is more than just planting trees—it's about **learning, caring, and connecting**. Each tree is a living classroom. Students will have the opportunity to:

- **Identify and learn the names** of trees in English and Indigenous languages like Dakota, Cree, and Ojibwe
  - **Observe seasonal changes** and track growth over time
  - **Care for the trees** by watering them during dry spells, removing weeds, and replacing mulch
  - **Explore ecology and sustainability** through hands-on experiences
  - **Share and transplant trees** with neighboring schools and parks.
- As the trees grow—from saplings to “teenagers” and eventually mature giants—they’ll transform our school yard into a **green oasis**. In time, students may even learn how to **harvest seeds** and grow new trees, continuing the cycle of care and regeneration.

This initiative is just beginning—planting started in **October 2025**, but the impact will last for decades. We invite all teachers and students to take part in this living legacy. Whether it’s a short walk to observe changes, a science lesson outdoors, or a quiet moment under the shade, there’s a place for everyone in our growing forest.

Let’s keep planting, learning, and growing—together.

*Mr. Walker*





# Mrs. Enns' Class

## STEM on Fridays

Every Friday, Myah, Mrs. Enns' daughter comes to our class for STEM. We like building things for STEM! Sometimes we make things like bat caves, fences for pumpkin patches, houses, or spider webs. We even made ghosts fly on Halloween! We like STEM challenges and working with partners. Sometimes, it's hard but also FUN!

Shared write by Mrs. Enns' Class





## EGG-CITING NEWS from Room 3

We're thrilled to share some egg-citing news from our classroom; our chicks have officially hatched! After 21 days of careful watching, learning, and waiting patiently, we were overjoyed to welcome our fluffy new friends into the world, On Monday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

Over the past few weeks, we have been learning all about the life cycle of a chicken. From monitoring the eggs to observing growth. We welcomed classes into our room to share our knowledge and count down the days on our "Hatching" calendar, the students were fully engaged in the process.

### We learned about:

The parts of an egg

Embryo development

The importance of temperature and humidity

The responsibilities of caring for living things

Egg production

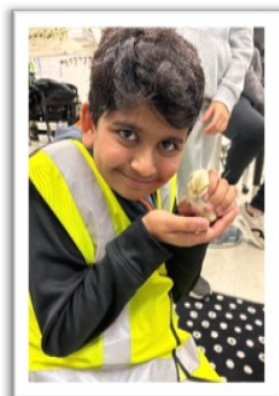
Character traits



The excitement was through the roof when the first tiny peep was heard! The students watched in awe as cracks appeared, and tiny beaks and wings broke through. One by one, our chicks made their way into the world, greeted by a room full of cheers and wonder.

We now have 6 healthy chicks Chill, Chirpy, Sleepy, Knuckles, Nibbles and Snuggles in our classroom, cozy and warm under their heat lamp.

Ms.  
McAuley's  
Class



## Mrs. Valka's Class - Goals

We are learning about many exciting things in Room 4.

We are learning various numeracy and literacy skills as well as developing our critical thinking skills.

One of the many activities we are doing is setting, reviewing and revising goals for ourselves each month.

We are learning how to set a useful and achievable goal for ourselves.

We are learning helpful strategies to achieve our goals.

We are learning how to decide when a strategy is no longer useful and what to do next.

Following review and revision of our goals we think, talk and write about our goals and the work we are doing to achieve our goals.





The page is decorated with various autumn-themed illustrations. In the top-left corner, there are green and yellow leaves. The top-right corner features yellow leaves and a cluster of red berries. The right side is adorned with a large yellow oak leaf and a dark red oak leaf. The bottom-left corner shows a yellow oak leaf and a cluster of red berries. The bottom-right corner has a yellow leaf and a large orange maple leaf. The bottom center features a green leaf and a yellow leaf.

# *Every Child Matters*

*Weak, divided, separated  
Sad, heartbreaking, crying  
Unfair, hungry, suffering  
They were loved  
They are loved*

*By Room 4*

*(Mrs. Valka's Class)*

*This is a free verse poem inspired by the book  
Shin chi's Canoe by Nicola I. Campbell*



# Exploring Fall Through Kindergarten Eyes

Mrs. White's Kinders

This fall, my young explorers have been busy learning about the beauty of the season through observation, storytelling, math, and creativity. Bundled up and full of curiosity, the children ventured outdoors to study all the changes of the season. With clipboards and pencils in hand, my nature detectives carefully looked for and sketched the different signs of fall.

Next, we went on a community walk collecting leaves for some math and art activities. The children took a close look at their leaves, before sorting them by colour and size.

After reading the story "Tree Man", by Lois Ethlert, the children were inspired to use their own leaves to create imaginative art pieces. I was so impressed to see their creativity shine through in their beautiful works of art.

I hope that you enjoy the photos. Their joy and creativity shine through in every image!



## Exploring Fall Continued...



Creativity  
in Action



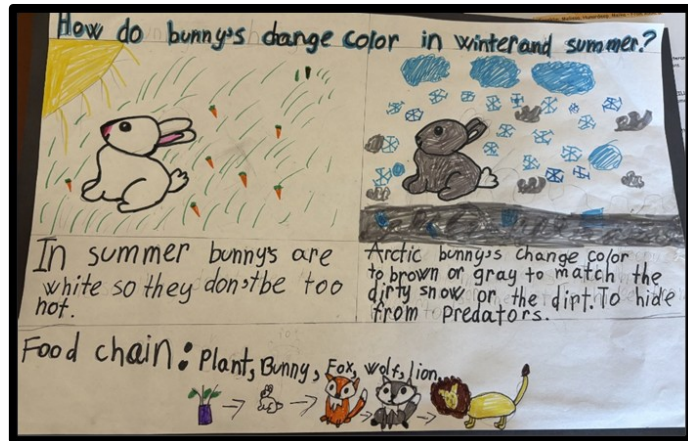
Artwork





# Mrs. Klassen's Class

In Science we have been learning about Habitats and animal adaptations! Here is a final project showing the animals adaptation in two different settings!



We have been working on Pointillism techniques and made pointillism self-portraits!

We helped plant trees in our back field! The students worked hard and got their hands dirty! We are so excited to see the fruits of our labor in the future!



# The Library Learning Commons

## Where Stories Come to Life!

by Mrs. Thomas

There is so much happening in the Library Learning Commons! Book exchange is in full swing!

Since the start of school, I've had the joy of working with our **Mrs. Enns'** and **Mrs. Acheson's** students during literacy time. While we've been practicing reading and writing, some of the most powerful moments have come from simply listening to the stories our students want to tell. Whether it's a tale about a lost tooth, a weekend adventure, or a made-up world full of dragons and cupcakes, these stories are windows into how children see themselves and the world around them. When we take time to hear their voices, we're not just building literacy—we're building confidence, connection, and a love of learning.

I've also been working with **Mr. Walker's** class where literacy learning has been taking exciting new forms. Alongside reading and writing, we've been exploring animal characteristics and life cycles. As students learn about how different animals move, eat, and live, they're also practicing how to express their ideas in writing and share what they've learned through storytelling. It's amazing to see how a child's interest in owls or octopuses can spark a whole story, a drawing, or a thoughtful question. By listening closely to their stories—whether they're real, imagined, or somewhere in between—we're helping students grow as readers, writers, and thinkers. As a celebration of our learning, each student has created their own creature. When you come to our celebration of learning, you'll have to guess if their creature is a mammal, a bird, a reptile, or something else!

The Library Learning Commons continues to be a place where curiosity, creativity, and community come together. Whether students are swapping books, sharing stories, or exploring the world around them, there's always something exciting happening. I look forward to more adventures in learning as we move through the year!





## Mrs. Sran's Kindergarten Class

### Learning, laughing, and growing together!

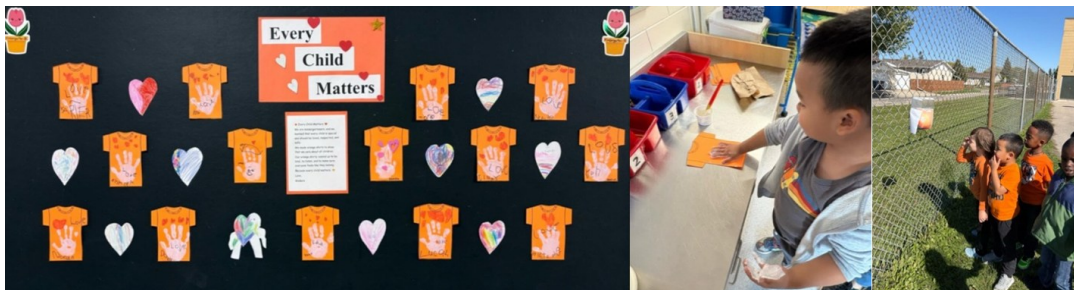
#### Learning Together!

Our kindergarten journey is off to an exciting start! We've been busy playing, reading, writing, and learning how to work together. Every day brings new discoveries and smiles!



#### Every Child Matters

On Truth and Reconciliation Day, we learned about kindness, caring, and respect. We made orange hearts to honour this important day and remember that every child matters.



#### Thankful Hearts!

We celebrated Thanksgiving by sharing stories about gratitude and making colourful crafts to show what we're thankful for.



## Learning, laughing, and growing together continued...

### Spooky & Silly!

Halloween was a blast! We dressed up in costumes, made spooky crafts, and shared lots of laughter with our friends.



### Remembrance Day

We made red poppy flowers to remember and say thank you. We talked about peace, love, and kindness as we learned about this special day.



### Growing Together

It's been a wonderful start to the year, full of learning, creativity, and friendship. We can't wait to see what comes next in kindergarten!





# National Day of Truth and Reconciliation

One way we can reconcile with Canada's Indigenous People is to learn about their culture.

In September's House league activity, we all learned what a Pow Wow is and even learned to do some basic Pow Wow dance steps!

***Check out these photos.*** We all had fun learning something new and learning from the students that had knowledge about Pow Wows.



## Room 5 Leads a Meaningful Remembrance Day Assembly



On November 7th, the students of **Room 5** took the lead in organizing and presenting **Hampstead School's annual Remembrance Day Assembly**. With confidence, teamwork, and a deep sense of respect, the Grade 4 and 5 students guided the school community through a moving ceremony honouring those who served and sacrificed for peace and freedom.

The assembly opened with a warm welcome from **Jamal**, who reminded everyone of the importance of respect during the ceremony. From there, the students engaged the audience with a thoughtful and creative presentation that blended storytelling, poetry, and reflection. **Bella, Seleste, Ainslee, and Collins** opened the program with a conversation about memories and what it means to remember — helping everyone connect the theme of remembrance to their own lives.

Throughout the assembly, the students led readings, introduced videos, and provided historical context about the significance of the poppy, the story of Flanders Fields, and the meaning of November 11th. The class also shared an important tribute to **Indigenous Veterans Day**, acknowledging the courage and contributions of Indigenous peoples in Canada's military history.

One of the most memorable moments came when **Room 3 and Room 5** joined together to perform "*In Flanders Fields*", filling the gym with song and reflection. Students also introduced the "Last Post," led the **moment of silence**, and helped guide the **wreath-laying ceremony**, honouring the fallen with dignity and grace.

Their words, voices, and leadership helped the entire school community reflect on the true meaning of Remembrance Day — not just as a day to remember the past, but as a call to cherish peace in the present.





## Terry FOX Day!

STUDENTS AND STAFF PARTICIPATED IN THE TERRY FOX WALK IN SEPTEMBER. WE RAISED OVER \$250 AS A SCHOOL TO DONATE TO THE TERRY FOX FOUNDATION!

### Way to 80 HAMPSTEAD HAWKS!



### Patrol Training!

With the help of Mrs. Staples, Mr. Kruk and Constable Kaitlyn, our School Safety Patrols are fully trained and supporting a safe walk to and from Hampstead each day.

The Best Support  
Staff Team in town  
on Halloween! →

