



What's Happening
At
Clayton Park Junior High
November & December
Information from teachers on outcomes and
lessons they are teaching in the classroom

Clayton Park Families,

November and December have been busy months at CPJH. We held a New Comers Night in November in partnership with the YMCA. This was the first night of four that we will be held at CPJH in the New Year. Our school held a Remembrance Day Ceremony on November 19th. This ceremony was student lead and I could not have been more proud of the student's involvement and the level of respect that was shown throughout the ceremony. We are transforming some rooms in the school to establish Learning Commons within CPJH to enrich teaching practices. More information on the progress of this will be communicated in the coming months. I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday and am I looking forward to the New Year with the students and staff of CPJH - Trina Canavan - Principal

Follow us on our new twitter feed @CPJHWildcats
Check our school website for updates!

English Language Arts

Ms MacLean's ELA students have been busy presenting their Independent Reading Studies. Students picked books (non-fiction or fiction) they were interesting in reading. Over the course of first term, they created a product that allowed them to show their understanding of the book they were reading. Grade 7 students were able to create poetry, collages, letter exchanges, awards, vacation itineraries, complaint letters or photo albums. Grade 8 students were able to create new book jackets, write biographies for either the author or a character of their book, make a travel brochure, design an advertising campaign to promote the sale of their book. They could also have created a board game, a newspaper front page or a pictorial timeline. Students created great products and it was wonderful to see them sharing their learning with others in small groups. – Ms. MacLean

Mrs. Bonin's ELA 7 classes have had a busy term 1. We have spent time writing 'Where I'm From' poems, reading Mi'kmaq short stories, spent time discussing how to select a "just right" novel and looked at the importance of Remembrance Day. Students are very excited about the unit we have just started discussing children's

rights and issues involving child labour as we prepare to read *Iqbal* written by Francesco D'Adamo which tells the true story of Iqbal Masih, a young children's rights activist who escaped the bonds of child labour and was sadly killed before his fourteenth birthday. Iqbal's story is what motivated a group of grade 7 students to form the Free the Children (We Act) movement in 1995. – Ms. Bonin

The Grade 9s have started an exciting short story unit! We are going to spend the next month reading stories by iconic authors such as Edgar Allan Poe and Roald Dahl while exploring literary devices such as irony, symbolism, allusion and suspense. – Ms. Cossett and Ms. Learning



Congratulations and Thank you to Ms. Learning who won the First Book Canada grant for CPJH! Our school was awarded with many boxes of books that were distributed to students. A wonderful way to prompt and influence the importance of reading.

Mathematics

The grades 7s are currently working on Fractions, Decimals, and Percentages (Unit 3). Similarly, the grade 8's are working on Operations with Fractions (Unit 3). Fractions and decimals can be challenging for a lot of students. Students should be practicing addition, subtraction, multiplication and division at home, if they are finding these concepts difficult. The grades 9s are finishing the Number Sense strand. They have been creating and designing cardboard cakes in December with a focus on surface area formulas. Please encourage your child to attend extra help, if they are having difficulty and need more support achieving the outcomes.



Social Studies



Grade 7 Social Studies is all about empowerment and disempowerment. Recently, we have been looking at economic empowerment, specifically how economies can empower and disempower people. We have studied historical aspects of economic empowerment by looking at First Nations economies and the impact contact with Europeans had on First Nations people. We are now continuing to study economic empowerment and how people are currently experiencing empowerment and disempowerment both in Canada and abroad. – Ms. Bonin

Ms. Theriault and Ms. Cossett grade 8 Social Studies classes have spent the past few weeks learning about Canadian landscape regions, climate, and weather. We have talked about the different landform regions across Canada and how they influence the appearance of our country. We have also looked at global and regional climate factors. Next, students will be applying their graphing skills to climate graphs for various locations across the country. – Ms. Theriault and Ms. Cossett

Grade 9 Citizenship Education students are currently learning about how to identify what changes need to happen in our country and world, and how they can go about making a change. They have recently learned about power and privilege and how they can lead to injustices. Furthermore they will be learning about the consequences of inaction and the importance of activism. This is closely tied to the service-learning project that they will be starting shortly. – Ms. Theriault

Core French

Bonjour!

In Core French this month we have been investigating different topics. Grade seven students have been working on their hobbies and pastimes through class discussion, games and a research project on someone they look up to. Grade 8s and 9s have been practicing common phrases to do with dates, weather, and their interests. We have started a unit on our favourite films after watching a classic French Film in class. We recently enjoyed student presentations about all about themselves! Students happily welcome our student teacher, Mme Owens who is with us from St. FX. Bienvenue Mme Owens!

- Mme. MacPherson et Mme. McCarther

Visual Arts

This term in Visual Art, students were exploring image development techniques, such as, fragmentation, distraction and metamorphosis. While using some of these techniques, students created nature art inspired by NS Mi'kmaq artists; David Brooks, Loretta Gould and Alan Syliboy.

Students have also created some beautiful art work for our Remembrance Day Ceremony which really brighten up the gym.

Currently, students are exploring the role of visual images that influence their daily lives, through mass media and popular culture. Grade 7 and 8 students will then sculp pop culture items out of LEGO and modelling clay.

Grade9 students will be creating pop culture memes, using technology and the art of collage.

- Ms. Myette



Healthy Living

Ms. Cossett's grade 8 Healthy Living classes have been learning about body image and how the media impacts the body image of teens. We have looked at examples of how the media manipulates images that we see and the unrealistic ideals that are often presented. We have had discussions about why the media does this and how ideas of beauty may differ in other places around the world. We will finish our discussion of body image by learning about eating disorders and reflect upon ways to promote positive body image and healthy eating habits. – Ms. Cossett

Mrs. Bonin's Healthy Living 8 classes have been studying the impact of cyberbullying and what it means to be a good cyber citizen. We have analyzed behaviours that can lead to cyberbullying and the impact that cyberbullying can have on one's mental health. We will be completing this unit with an independent learning study of an aspect of cyberbullying and ways that students can prevent these issues by researching something that is of personal interest to the students.

- Ms. Bonin

Physical Education

What's happening in Physical Education!!

It's been a busy time for Clayton Park Physical Education Classes! The Grade 7's and 8's have worked with the Fine Arts Specialist on the fundamentals of dance. This included the concepts of space, time, movement, body and dynamics. The grades 7-8-9 are now working on a Stuntastics unit which will incorporate dance, music, balances, pyramids, and rolls. They will be presenting their group routines the weeks of December 10 - 20 to their classmates. The students are working hard in their groups to come up with a creative routine putting all the skills in one coordinated piece. – Ms. Buckle and Mr. Norris

Band

The band students have been busy throughout this past term! The grade 8 & 9 band performed very well at the Remembrance Day Ceremony and the concert held on Wednesday December 12th! We also went on a trip to the Dartmouth Music Centre that was well-received by all! After getting some feedback from the students, plus hearing from the clinicians, the overall opinion says that the band clinic day was a success!



You can reach at the school or via email (thuskins@gnspe.ca) - Mr. Huskins

Students of the Month for November

Congratulations to the following students for being Students Of The Month

November

Grade 7 – Jane Elliott
Grade 8 – Jack Plandowski
Grade 9 – Josh O'Connor

December

*Will be announced in the New Year



**Stay tuned for many more great educational news that is taking place at CPJH
in the New Year!**

Happy Holiday from all of us at Clayton Park Junior High