



THE COMMUNICATOR



Welcome to the December 2023 edition of The Communicator

December 7, 2023

Grande Prairie Public School Division, Crystal Park School

In This Issue



- **Message from the principal**
- **Remembrance Day November 11th**
- **Volleyball - Parents VS Students**
- **Important dates to remember for December and January**
- **Winter Carnival**
- **Twinkle - Elf on the shelf**
- **FIRSTview Busing app**
- **Crystal Park Spirit Days**
- **Mustache Day**
- **School Calendar**
- **Reminders for Parents**
- **Socktober**
- **School Council**
- **Curriculum Corner**
- **STEM Learning**
- **APEGA Science Night**
- **Indigenous News**
- **The Seven Sacred Teachings**
- **School Assembly - November 30**
- **Nutritional Lunch Program**
- **Citrus Catering**
- **Community Events / Programs**
- **Contact us**

Message From The Principal

Happy Winter Holidays CPS families.

I am so filled with gratitude and pride when I think of all that has been accomplished at Crystal Park School so far this school year. We appreciate the hard work of our instructional and non-instructional staff, and the unwavering support we receive from our parent community. As we look forward to a well-

deserved holiday break, we wish you all joy, laughter and time well spent with friends and family. Take Care Crystal Park family and enjoy your break.

Cindy Clarkson



Remembrance Day November 11th

On November 9th, we honoured and paid tribute to the many brave men and women who served our country. It was an opportunity to reflect and remember the sacrifices that were made for the freedoms we have today. Lest we forget.

[#weremember #remembranceday#lestweforget](#)

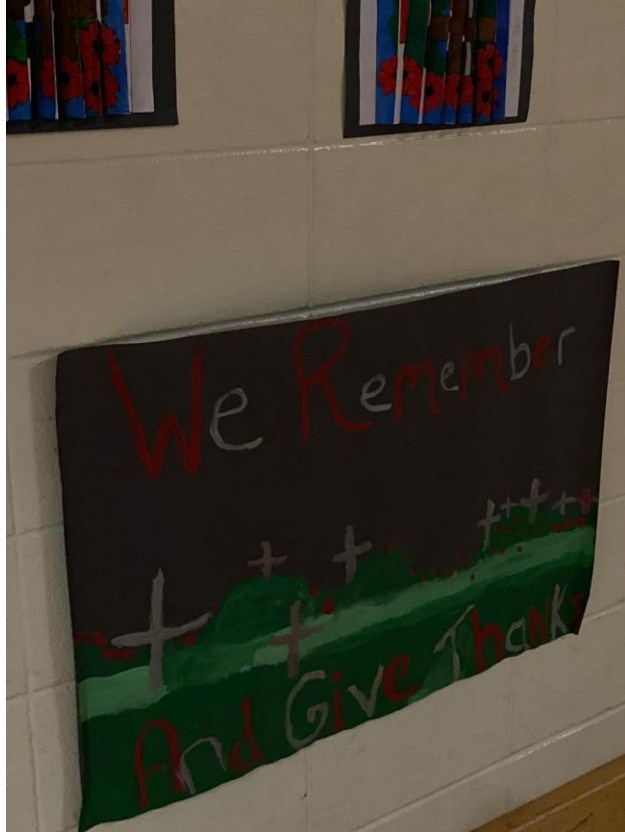






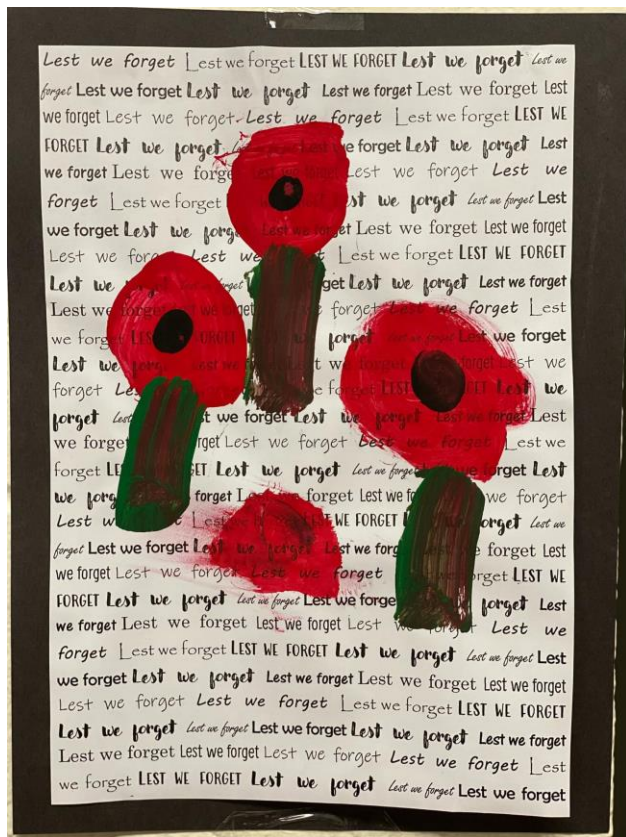


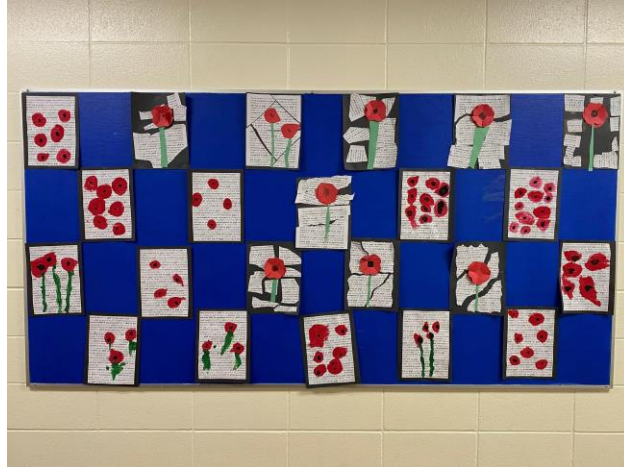












Volleyball - Parents vs Students

We are so proud of the girls Volleyball team this year! To wrap up the season the A and B girls team challenged the parents and coaches to a fun but competitive volleyball game! Thank you to the parents that were able to come and support our girl's team and have a little fun!









Important Dates To Remember

December 1 - Day in Lieu, No School

December 12 - Christmas Carnival

December 15 - PL Day, No School

December 18 - Flannel/Plaid Day

December 19 - Festive Hat Day

December 20 - Festive Shirt Day

December 21 - Ugly Sweater Day

December 22 - Holiday Pajama Day

December 25 - Winter Break Begins, No school

January 8 - Winter Break Ends, Back to School

January 19 - Old Peoples Day

February 2 - PL Day, No School



Winter Carnival

The Winter Carnival committee has been busy planning a fun filled evening for our families. It is going to be great and so much fun for everyone.

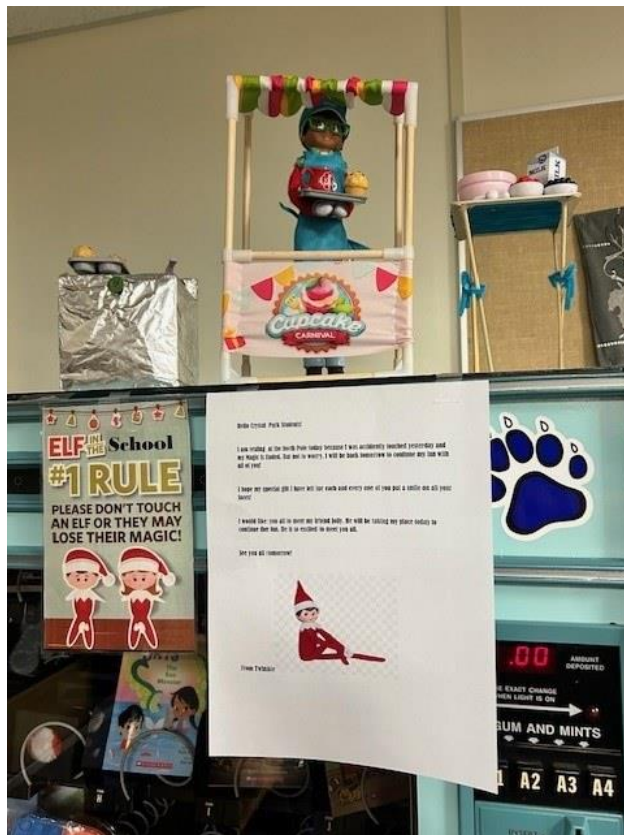
The date is December 12th from 6-7:30 pm.

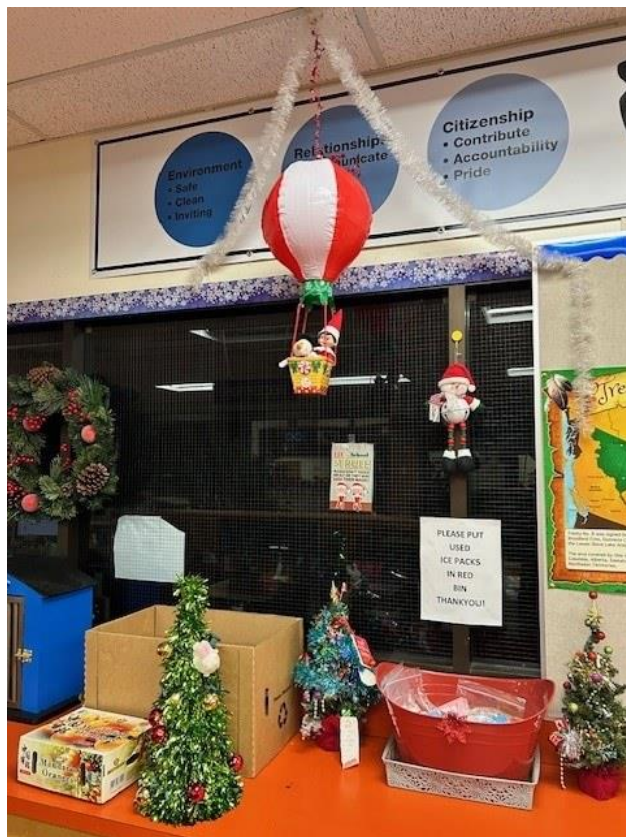
There will be three baskets that anyone can enter to win. It is a Loonie a guess and there will be a jar of candy for each basket to guess on. The closest guess wins the candy and basket. The money will go towards more tech here in the building. These are amazing baskets.



Twinkle - Elf on the shelf

Twinkle our school Elf on the shelf has made her way back to CPS from the North Pole to surprise our students!





FIRSTview Busing App

Parents/Guardians, keep track of your child's school bus by downloading the free FirstView App to stay updated on its location, including any unexpected delays or cancellations:

<https://www.firstviewapp.com/>

Conveniently available on both mobile devices and desktops, the app also offers push notifications on mobile for real-time alerts.

Want more ways to stay in the loop? Check out: <https://bit.ly/3tEp4nV>

[#SchoolBus](#) [#GPPSD](#) [#GPAb](#) [#AbEd](#)



Crystal Park Spirit Days

Along with all the amazing and fun Spirit Days, every Wednesday is Wolverine Wednesday. This is where students and staff either wear anything with school colors (blue and white) or if they have any clothing with Crystal park on it regardless of what color it is.

WOLVERINE SPIRIT DAYS 2023 - 2024

Sept. 29	Orange Shirt Day
Oct. 20	Dress Like a Teacher Day
Oct. 31	Halloween Costume/Crazy Hair Day
Nov. 17	Moustache Day
Dec. 18	Flannel/Plaid Day
Dec. 19	Festive Hat Day
Dec. 20	Festive Shirt Day
Dec. 21	Ugly Sweater Day
Dec. 22	Holiday Pajama Day
Jan. 19	Old People's Day
Feb. 9	Tye Dye Day Day
Feb. 28	Pink Shirt Day
Mar. 14	π Day
Mar. 28	Twin Day
Apr. 12	Jersey Day
May 1	Hat's On for Mental Health Day
May 10	White Out/Black Out Day
May 31	Western Day
Jun. 14	Anything But a Backpack Day
Jun. 26	Sunglasses Day

Crystal Park School is an inclusive community that works together to nurture and develop the whole child

Mustache Day November 17th









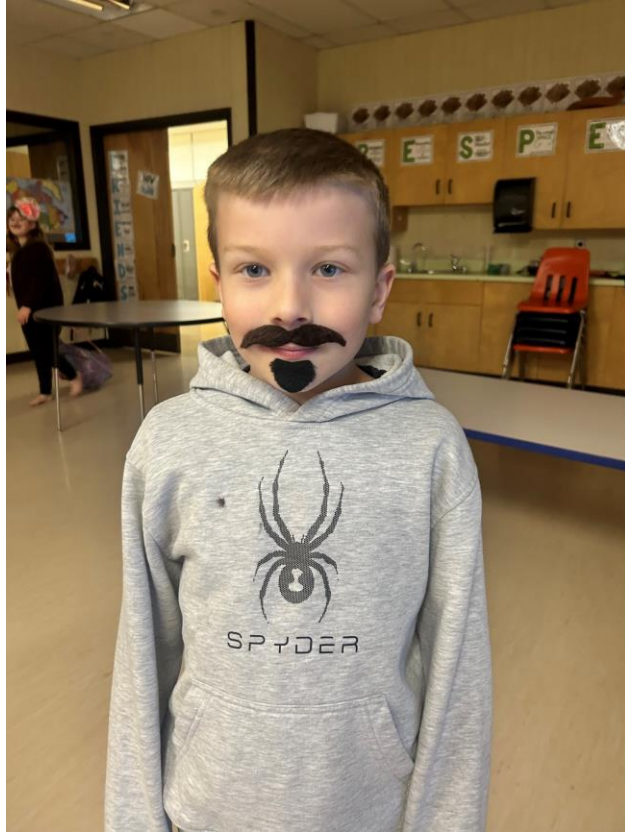












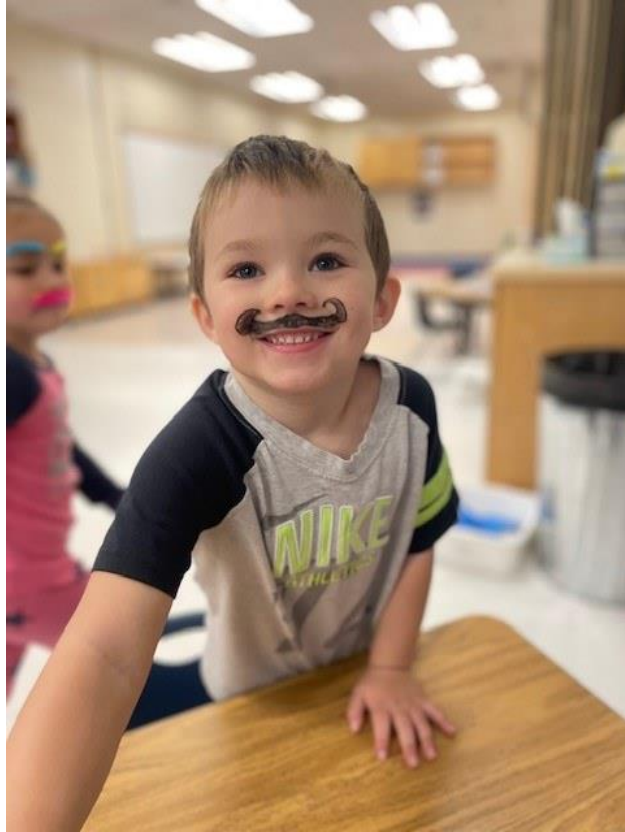
















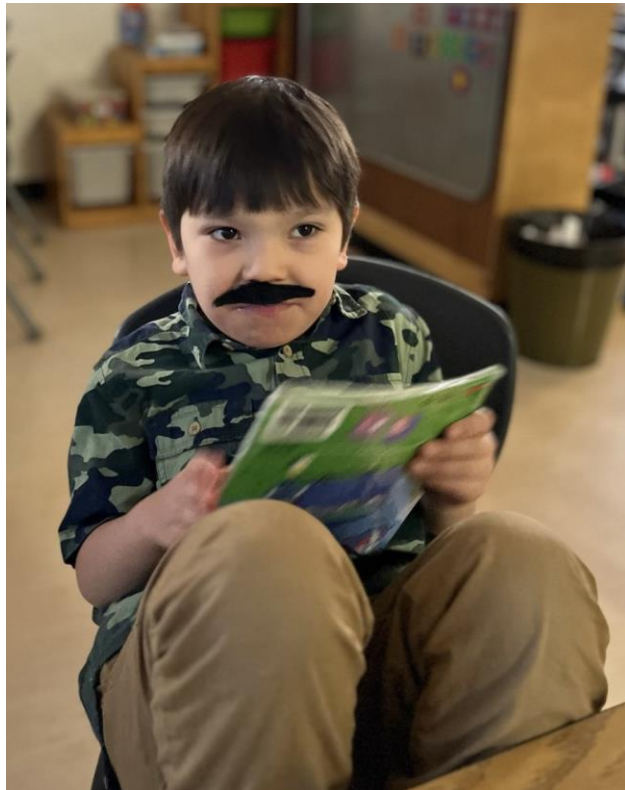




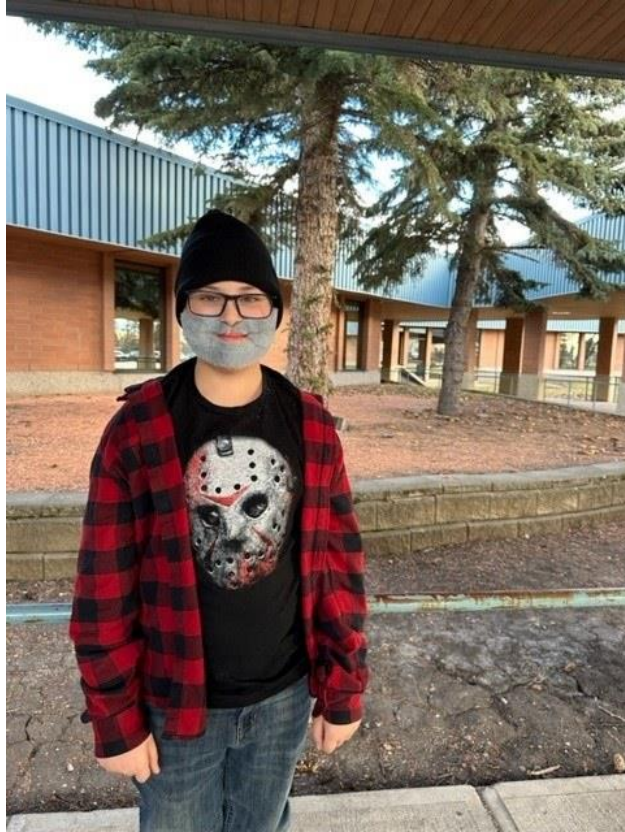


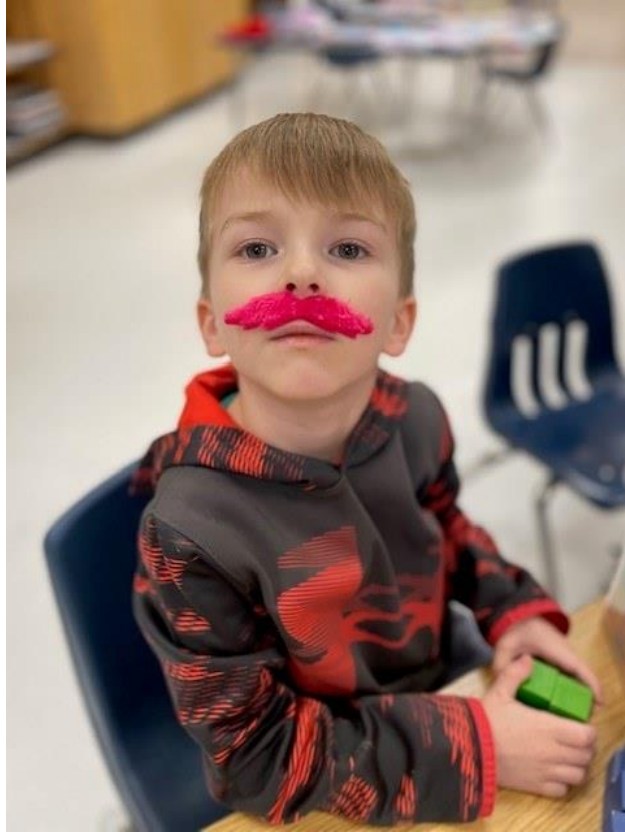






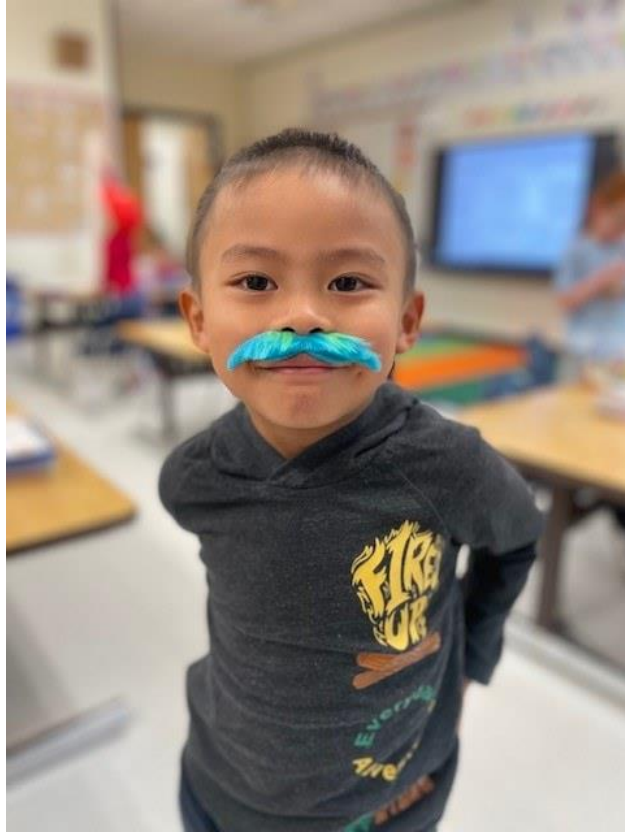














School Calendar

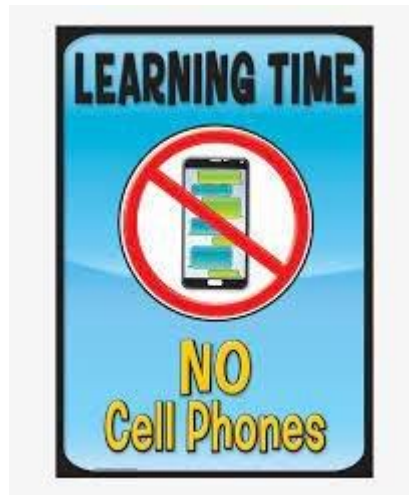
<https://bit.ly/42KXSzw>



Reminders For Parents



The speed limit on the ring road is 15km. We ask all parents who are dropping off or picking up to please slow down as well as, it is a one way road. Please make sure you are going the right way around the school. Thankyou kindly.



Just a friendly reminder to parents, Cell phones are NOT to be used while in class. If you need to get ahold of your child for any reason, please call reception 780-539-0333. Thankyou for your understanding.



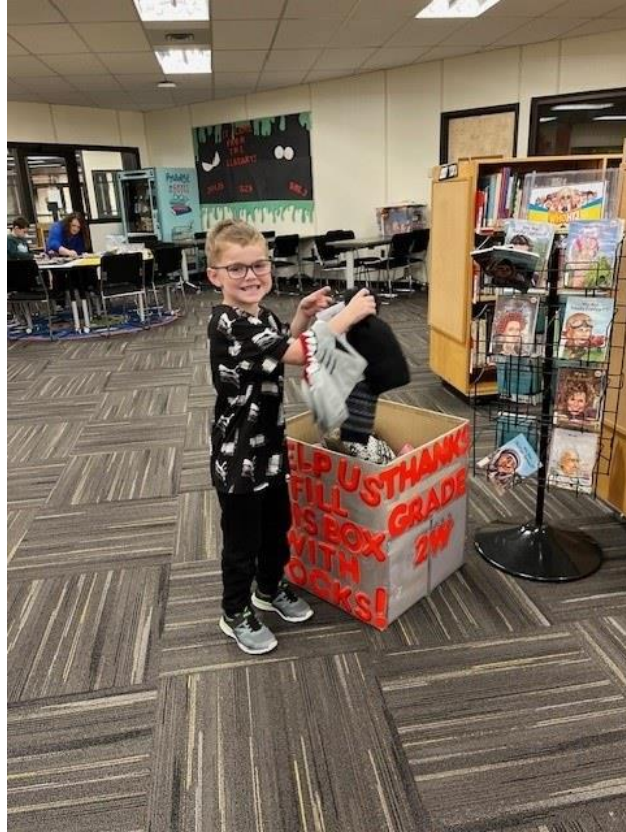
If your child/children are going to be absent, please let the school know through our automated system or talk to reception. 780-539-0333



The colder weather is fast approaching. Please be sure your child/children are wearing appropriate outerwear in order to stay warm as they do go outside for recess and some gym classes. Please ensure that your child/children have indoor foot wear as well so as not to make the hallways full of water and mud.

Socktober

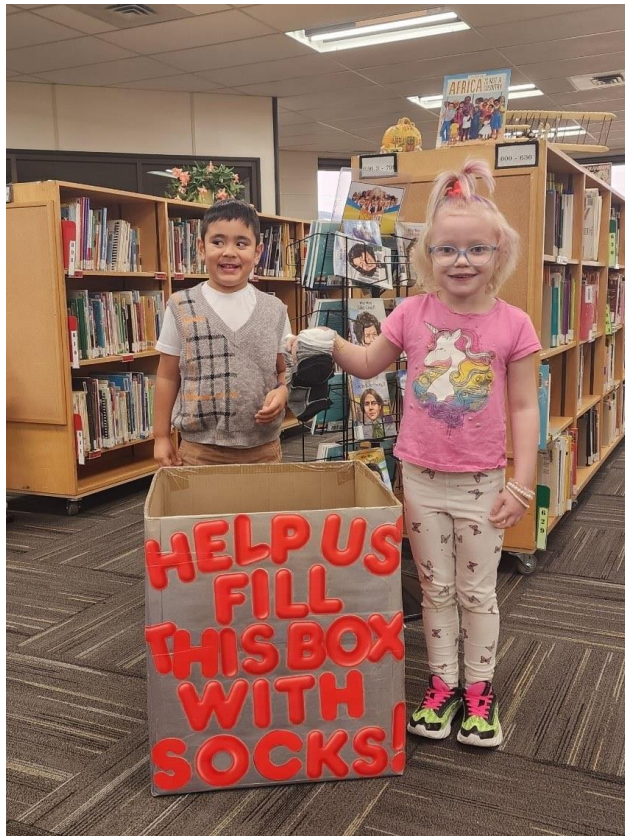
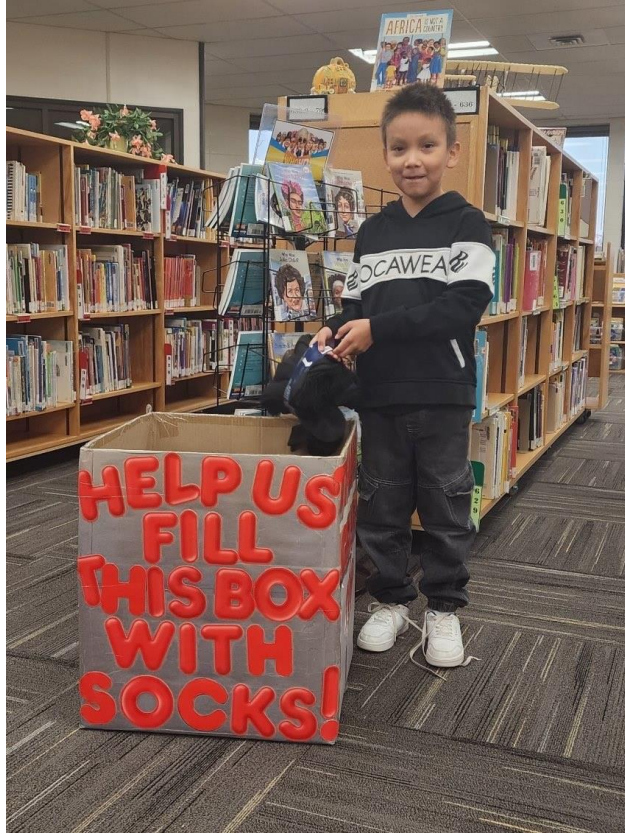
Mrs. Whipple dropped off the Sock Box socks to Helping Hands of Grande Prairie on Friday December 1st. They were very happy to see all the socks and wanted to say Thank You to our students, parents and, staff for their generosity!


















School Council


Thank you to everyone who attended our School Council Meeting on December 4th. We want to give a shout out to our new members who joined us for the first time. Our next meeting is on February 5, 2024 @ 5:30 pm.

CPS SCHOOL COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

December 4, 2023



- Fundraiser**
 - Mom's Pantry Update
- Academics**
 - 2022/23 PAT Interpretations
- School Community Building**
 - Winter Carnival Dec. 12, 2023



*Chair: Terri - Lynn Mailman
Vice Chair: Susan Jeffery
Secretary: Sabrina Fehr
Teacher Rep: Hannah Jenkins*

Crystal Park School is an inclusive community that works together to nurture and develop the whole child

BASKET RAFFLE

Thank you to our School Council for putting together three lovely gift baskets.

The baskets include everything from a fitness gift card to a circular saw! These are not your everyday gift baskets!

Bring a Loonie or more to the Winter Carnival for your chance at winning these baskets.

Each Loonie = One guess (how much candy in a jar) and one entry into the draw.

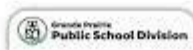
All money raised will go towards more chromebooks for our students.



Curriculum Corner



**Curriculum
Corner**



Here is the link for our Fall Curriculum Corner Newsletter:

<https://www.gppsd.ab.ca/parents/Documents/Curriculum%20Corner/GPPSD%20Curriculum%20Corner%20Fall%20Issue%202023.pdf>

STEM Learning

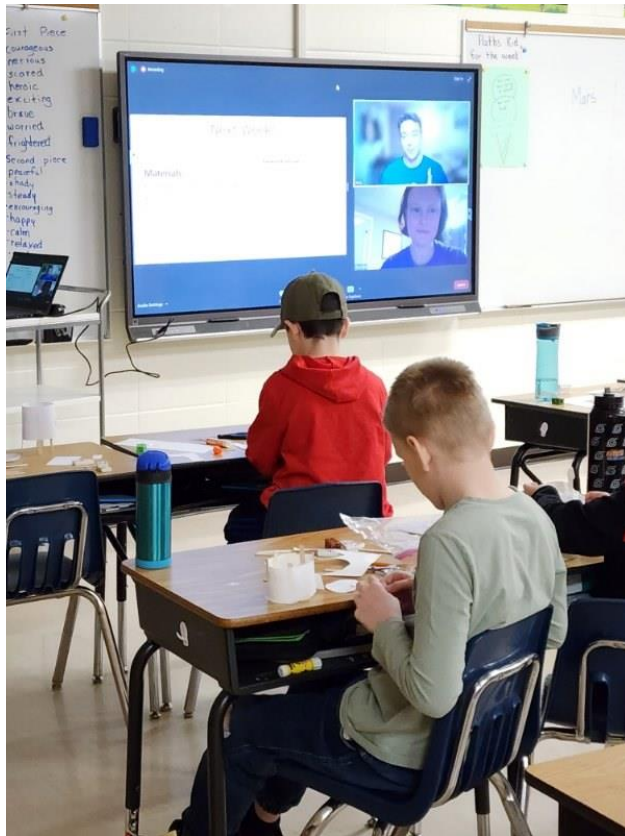
Teaching kids fun STEM facts and interesting science facts is a great way to [get children excited about science](#). This offers them an opportunity to obtain brief and memorable information on how the world works and why things are the way they are – from planets to plants, to animals and the human body!

In our rapidly changing world, STEM holds great potential for the future, and definitely seems like it is here to stay. With the right approach and [activities](#), you can [help your kids engage with STEM learning](#) from young ages.

Interesting Facts About Computer Science & Technology

1. Early Computers: 1940s birthed electronic computers, room-sized; ENIAC, 1945, weighed 27 tons.
2. Ancient Inspiration: Leonardo da Vinci's 1495 sketch: early human-like robot concept.
3. Turing's Vision: Alan Turing's 1936 paper introduced modern computer idea in "On Computable Numbers."
4. Gaming Boost: Moderation in video gaming enhances analytical thinking, memory, and spatial orientation.
5. Internet Insights: Global "network of networks" uses wires and wireless tech to interconnect computers.



































APEGA STEM Family Night

Quality relationships with community partners support student success!

APEGA STEM family night!

What a great evening of learning and fun for the whole family!

[#wolverinepride](#) [#everystudentsucceeds](#) [#gppsd](#)















Indigenous News

Do you know what time it is? Application time!

Applications for the Otipemisiwak Métis Government (OMG), Children and Family Services Department's Festive Family Support Package are now available, while supplies last.

For goodness flakes! Don't miss out!

The Festive Family Support Package will provide Métis families who need a little extra support this holiday season with one support package per eligible family. The Festive Family Support Package will include a resource booklet of family supports and services, a \$200 Walmart gift card, and no-cost ideas to encourage a meaningful Christmas season full of love, connection, and community.

Who qualifies for this program?

- Those currently residing in Alberta;
- Have children ages 0 to 11: AND
- Have at least one child aged 0 to 11 registered as a MNA/OMG citizen

Apply through the link in the bio! <https://forms.gle/DZU5VNCrSptrqaXN8>



The Seven Sacred Teachings



We are running the "**Student of the month**" based on the Seven Sacred Teachings.

This month's seven sacred teaching: Courage

Represented by the Bear

The Bear represents Courage because

Courage will run from November 27 - January 12

At the end of every Sacred Teaching, teachers will send in their "Student of the month" who displayed **Courage** continuously for that month.

The Principal will announce their names on at our monthly assembly.

We will then present them with a certificate and they get ice cream as well.

Each Sacred Teaching runs about 5 weeks to make it to June 26th.

School Assembly - November 30

We recognized our students of the Month, those who most represented the Sacred Teaching of Respect. We also awarded the Golden Garbage Can to the cleanest homeroom classes. Our Wolverine Spirit Students were recognized for being excellent ambassadors of Crystal Park. We ended the assembly with staff versus student challenge, Ms. Allan in a race to the end captured the trophy and brought it back to the staff this month!

[#wolverinepride](#) [#everystudentsucceeds](#) [#gppsd](#)









Nutritional Lunch Program

Nutrition for K-8 Program

If your child needs a lunch, **we can help.**

Thanks to funding from Alberta Education, GPPSD is pleased to offer nutritious lunches to our Kindergarten to Grade 8 students who could use a hand-up.



No questions asked - simply contact our school and your child will be given a healthy, homemade lunch.

Sign your child up for the Nutrition Program by sending an email to:
cpark@gppsd.ab.ca

 Grande Prairie
Public School Division 

Citrus Catering

You can order lunches for your child/children online at www.citruscatering.ca

All of our lunch items must be pre-ordered by 8:30am of the current day.

To Place an order:

1. **Click the tab "school orders"**
2. **Find your school name and click on it**
3. **Choose the school week that you want to order for.**
4. **There are two order options: one lunch or 2-5 lunches**
5. **Fill out the order form and make sure to include your child's name, Classroom # and teacher's name**
6. **Once choosing which day of the week you wish to order and items, you will be directed to payment page**
7. **Once complete, you will receive an e-mail confirmation.**
8. **Any questions or concerns please call 780-933-4360**

Community Events

Good morning education friends,

Mark your calendars. The next Winter Try-It Day is happening on Saturday, January 27.

We have just begun gathering the participating sport organizations, but we already have a number of activities taking place including:

- Artistic Swimming
- Rugby
- Volt Hockey
- Dance
- Gymnastics
- Wheelchair Basketball

Registration is set to open on January 18 at 7am. Keep an eye out to our social media for a chance to win early registration access.

We ask that you please share the information with your networks and help us in spreading the word about this

FREE event for youth.

If you are not familiar with Winter Try-It Day, it is a day of FREE activity exploration for the region's youth. Our last

event has 25 locations, 28 sport orgs, 35+ activities and over 600 registrations. The activities happen across

the region.

See all the details at www.gpsportconnect.ca/events/winter-try-it-day

Please do let me know if you have any questions.

Heather Llewellyn

780-882-7340

Marketing and Communications Coordinator

Grande Prairie Regional Sport Connection

heather@gpsportconnect.ca

TRY-IT DAY

EXPLORE A SPORT FOR FREE

JANUARY 27, 2024

Sponsorship Opportunities

Help us continue to offer Winter Try-It Day FREE for participants by becoming a sport sponsor today.

gpsportconnect.ca/events/winter-try-it-day

TRY-IT DAY

EXPLORE A SPORT FOR FREE

Presented by

Thank You To Our Presenting Sponsor!



Thank You To Our Sport Sponsors!



Media Sponsors!



Registration Sponsor



Save the Date

January 27, 2024

Charity Drive



Contact us



Please call the Crystal Park office if your child will be absent or late. If you have any questions or inquiries, feel free to call us on any school day Monday to Friday 8:00am - 3:30pm.

Crystal Park School

9351 116 ave

Grande Prairie, AB, T8V 6L5

780-539-0333

E-mail: cpark@gppsd.ab.ca

Website: <http://www.gppsd.ab.ca/school/crystalpark/>







1 - Like us on our facebook page.