



April Greeting from Janus Academy

As we all wish for the snow to melt and the green grass to return, I am mindful that time goes by far too quickly and it is important to slow down and appreciate the little things. I am so proud of the Educational Team here at Janus Academy, for taking time each and everyday to celebrate our students' successes, however big or small, through sharing stories, pictures, graphs, and highlights. I admire how positive, and success driven our team is.

As we move into our final term for the 2022-2023 school year you will be receiving your child's March Individual Program Plan this week. Our students have worked tirelessly on their learning objectives as this can be a great deal of effort for them. It can be easy to forget to acknowledge the energy it takes to learn all the new skills and curriculum required in school. With this in mind, we do our best to create opportunities for our students to discover personal interests and find ways to motivate the learning process. I am pleased to see these initiatives when I visit the classrooms and when I take part in the extra curriculum programming.

April is Autism Awareness Month, where we recognize those who are autistic, their families and the community. It takes each and every one of us to create a world of not only acceptance but of celebration. It is so encouraging to see autism being embraced in our day to day lives. It is encouraging to see autism friendly events popping up more and more, hearing about autism in the media regularly, and the growing support in our own community. I hope you and your family can join some of the amazing events around Calgary on April 2!

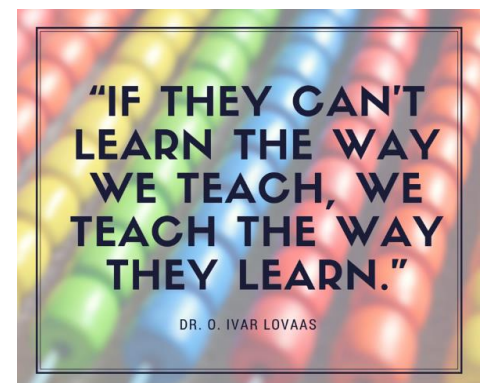
A huge thanks to all of you who joined us at our annual Spring Gala, "MISSION: POSSIBLE" fundraiser. It was once again a successful evening in support of our school to help raise the funds needed to continue providing excellence in education. We couldn't have done it without your support. A shout out to all those students who put on a memorable musical performance, it was once again the highlight of the night!

Wishing you all a wonderful Spring season and hoping you find opportunities to get outdoors and enjoy time together.

Paige McNeill
Program Director Elementary

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IMPORTANT DATES

Spring 2023

Mark your calendars:

- April 2 World Autism Awareness Day (Sunday)
- April 3 Non-Instructional Day (no school)
- April 4 Classes Resume
- April 7 Good Friday (no school)
- April 14 Healthy Hunger (Taco Time)
- April 21 Science Fair
- April 28 Healthy Hunger (Hot Dog Day)

- May 18 Parent/Teacher Conferences (no school)
- May 19 Non-Instructional Day (no school)
- May 22 Victoria Day (no school)



IMPORTANT NOTICE

Single Use Plastics!

In response to the City of Calgary's phasing out of single use plastics within our city, please be advised that Janus Academy **will no longer** be supplying/purchasing single use plastic cutlery to be used at the school.

Moving forward, if a student requires eating utensils (cutlery) with their lunch, we are asking that parents supply these items in their child's lunch kit. We will do our best to teach the children to put their utensils back in their lunch kits while cleaning up. If possible, please label the containers with your child's initials, as this will help the lunch staff sort through any misplaced cutlery.

There are many local merchants around the city that sell individual portable cutlery sets such as IKEA, Superstore, Walmart, Bed, Bath & Beyond, Lee Valley, Mountain Equipment Co-op, or you can purchase these sets online from a large selection of retailers with prices starting as low as \$3.99. Portable Cutlery Sets usually come with their own carrying case, just type in "portable cutlery sets" in your browser search field to review the options available.





Save the Date!

The students of Janus Academy are excited to host you at our school wide

Science Fair on

April 21st, 2023.

More information about this in-person event will be sent out in the upcoming weeks.

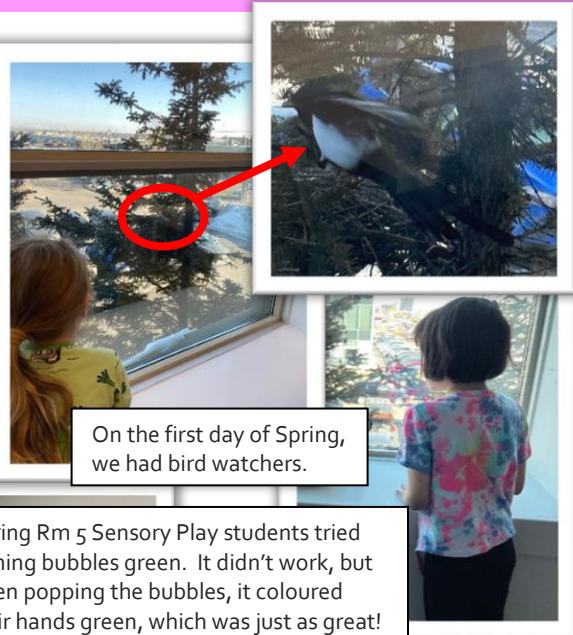


Coming Soon!

Janus Academy recognizes the importance of an outdoor play space for our students. We have secured the green space with our landlord and now we need support with securing the area for our students. If you have any contacts with companies who supply fencing, please contact Carlene at 403-262-3333 or via email at carlene.chrumka@janusacademy.org. We are very excited to start this process!!

Around the School

Although Old Man Winter hung around for awhile, March brought us the first day of Spring and saw classrooms gearing up for some great activities.



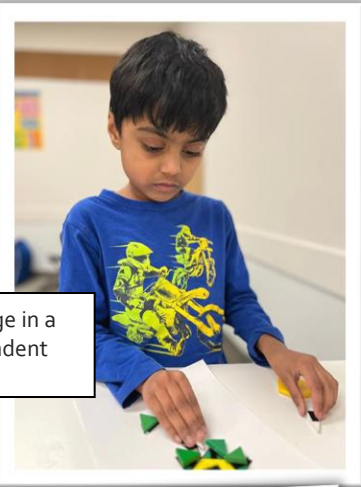
On the first day of Spring, we had bird watchers.

The race was on as students teamed up and were challenged to find the needed letters to complete their St. Patrick's Day words. We saw great teamwork and sportsmanship!



During Rm 5 Sensory Play students tried turning bubbles green. It didn't work, but when popping the bubbles, it coloured their hands green, which was just as great!

St. Patrick's Day Energy was felt throughout the school, especially in Rm 4.



Learning to engage in a variety of independent activities.

Rm 4 at the Hanger Flight Museum



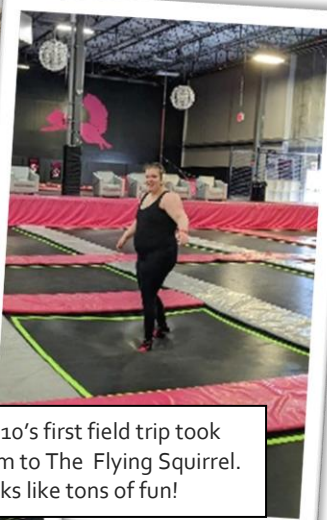
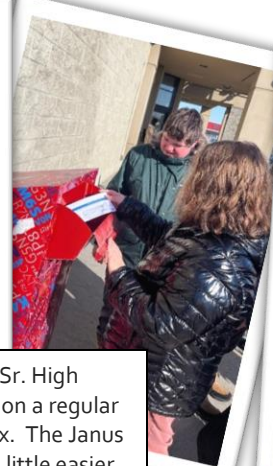
Rm 3 at Altadore Gymnastic Facility.



Matching Friends! One of our staff was confused when a Rm 6 student wanted to change their shirt upon arrival at school. She soon figured out why when they walked into the classroom.



When you enter this **CLASSROOM**,
 You are **readers**.
 You are **explorers**.
 You are **scientists**.
 You are **mathematicians**.
 You are **creators**.
 You are **authors**.
 You are **thinkers**.
 You are **artists**.
 You are **a friend**.
 You are **important**.
 You are **loved**.
 You are the **REASON** we're here.



A BIG shout out to say Thank you to our Sr. High students. Come rain or shine, they head out on a regular basis to take our outgoing mail to the mailbox. The Janus admin team thanks you for making our day a little easier.

Rm 10's first field trip took them to The Flying Squirrel. Looks like tons of fun!



Rm 8/9 started their second partnership with McDougall United Church helping in their food pantry.



Rm 7 inspires Students and Staff with this banner hanging just outside their classroom door.



Rm 7 at soccer practicing sportsmanship and teamwork.

Rm 8/9 – Swimming at Village Square Leisure Centre – just look at those smiles!



Kids Having Fun

March gave us a final burst of Winter, but that didn't stop our Janus Families from partaking in the fun events from Kids Up Front. Thank you KUF!



Save the Date

June 9th is Janus Academy's
11th Annual Sports Day & Pledge-a-thon.

Watch for further details in upcoming newsletters.

Classroom 7

Social Studies:

Rm 7 Students are learning about the medieval period of Japan. They have been learning about the cultural and geographical conditions that were responsible for the isolation of the island nation from 1603 to 1868. Each week we focus on a key aspect of the time period. Currently we are studying the Samurai and their lasting impact on Japanese culture.



Language Arts:

Each week our students are learning eight new spelling words. In addition, they have started moving from writing complete sentences to creating short paragraphs. We are also continuing with our independent reading program where Students take home books based on their assessed reading level and read them at their own pace.



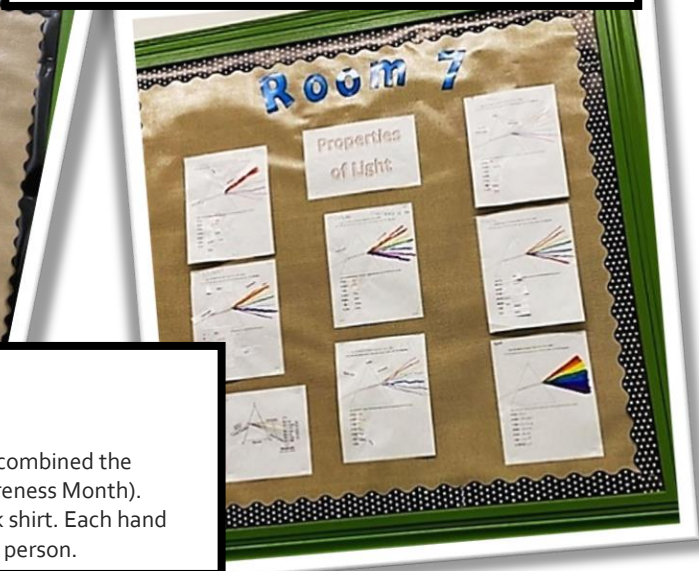
Independent Living:

Rm 7 Students are currently learning about online safety and cyberbullying. This unit explains the dangers that can occur online and knowing the difference between friendly appropriate conversation compared to inappropriate conversation. We are also identifying different types of online bullying.



Science:

Students of Rm 7 have been learning about the properties of light. Learning about sources of light, both natural and artificial, as well as how light can be reflected, refracted, and absorbed. They demonstrated how different lens shapes affect the focus and dispersal of light.



In February:

Rm 7 Students were responsible for the Learning Commons bulletin board and combined the school Core Value of Relationships with anti-bullying (February is Bullying Awareness Month). Students created an art project that consisted of a hand over a heart over a pink shirt. Each hand had different written expressions of what makes a good, caring, and supportive person.

Our Classrooms

Thank you!

Oliver's Mom for donating a wonderful stack of books and games that our Elementary student are enjoying.

Annika's Mom donated a Wii console with games that will be used in the Junior/Senior High Life skills program as well as some Legos for our Elementary classroom.

Sully's Mom for donating colouring books and activity books our Elementary students were excited to see.

Thank you to Jessica's Dad, Terry, for is ongoing help with desk repairs.

Kiera's Mom for donating games and scrapbooking items for the entire school.

Morgan, one of our amazing Practicum Students donated Minecraft Toys that are big hit with all our students.

The Visions Electronics on Macleod Trail for donating a needed power cord for our Jr/Sr High Life Skills room.

May the Holy Spirit of the Month of Ramadan Spark in Your Heart Always and Guide You to Walk Through Your Life.

Ramadan Mubarak





A School for Children with Autism

C.O.R.E. Fundraiser

COMING TOGETHER 4 OUR STUDENTS

In honor of Autism Awareness Month, Janus Academy employees are launching a peer-to-peer campaign to raise funds for our school.



In honor of Autism Awareness Month, Janus Academy employees are launching a campaign to raise funds for our school.

This year's campaign is centered around the 5 C.O.R.E Values of Janus Academy and how we come together to best support our students. Each team will be participating in the **C.O.R.E. Fundraiser: "Coming tOgether 4 ouR studEnts"** for the month of April with the goal of raising \$5,000! The 5 C.O.R.E Values are:

1. Relationships
2. Initiative
3. Creativity
4. Accountability
5. Challenges

Teams will create a video, dance, song, poem, poster, or photo collage for each C.O.R.E Value! We hope you will join us in celebrating and supporting the students of Janus Academy! Thank you!



Our 50/50 Winner is

Congratulations to Gladys of Janus Academy, who won a total of \$4,000 in our Spring Gala 50/50 draw. Not only did Abosede bring in treats for the Janus Staff on the following Monday, but she also very generously donated \$2,000 back to Janus Academy.

Thank you Gladys! You are an amazing part of our Janus Team, and we are very lucky to have you!

SUMMERCAMP

A few spots have opened in Janus Academy's Summer Camps. For more information, please contact Clare Murphy via email at

clare.murphy@janusacademy.org.

We look forward to seeing you this summer.



Raising Autism Awareness

COLOURING CONTEST

March 25th - April 30th 2023

Raising Awareness for Autism Colouring Contest.

Our goal is to raise awareness for Autism by spending 20 minutes to colour. Today 1 in 57 children are diagnosed with Autism and it is the fastest growing disorder in the world. The spectrum is vast and the lifelong journey requires significant support and understanding from our community. Autistic children and their families become overwhelmed with finding and accessing the required therapeutic and educational services they need. You can help get the word out by sharing and getting your friends, family, colleagues, and community colouring! So let's colour, upload to your [Facebook](#) and remember to #colouringconteststyc to enter. Do not forget to share!!! We are excited to see your creativity.

To download the coloring page, go to:

<https://mortgagetree.ca/autism-awareness-colouring-contest-homepage/>

All Hands On Deck for our Spring Gala!

We couldn't have done it without some amazing volunteers who helped out during the day to make the evening extra special.



At Janus Academy, we are on a MISSION!
A mission to be the best versions of ourselves.
Sometimes the best versions of ourselves,
is hiding and we have to work hard to find it.
We can be friendly
We can be brave
We can be super
We can be helpful
We can be smart
We can be thoughtful
We can be teachers and our





 **SKIP THE DEPOT**

Did you know that you recycle your bottles, electronics and clothing and raise money for Janus Academy?

Download the app and start donating to us today!

<https://app.skipthedepot.com/janus>

Use the promo code **JANUS100** and we will get 100% of the refunds!



Parent Lunch & Learn

SAVE THE DATE

Topic: Benefits of chiropractic treatment for individuals on the autism spectrum

Date: TBA – May 2023

Time: 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Location: Online

Presenter: Dr. Timothy Saltys, D.C., D.A.C.N.B.

Watch your email to register!

Pediatric Rehabilitation Caregiver Connection

 Free advice line and webinar series



You may have questions about your child as they grow, develop skills, and connect with others. Our team of AHS health professionals is here to support you.

- **The Pediatric Rehabilitation Advice Line** can help you navigate concerns about your child's development and well-being. Call Health Link at 811 between 9 am and 5 pm, Monday to Friday.
- **AHS' free webinar series** covers a range of developmental topics, from toilet training and tummy time to emotional regulation and speech development, as well as many others. Caregivers will build skills and gain confidence by learning practical ways to help children improve their skills while supporting development.



ARE YOU PARTICIPATING IN THIS YEARS PARENT'S SURVIVAL RESOURCE & CONNECTION SOCIETY

SILENT-A-THON

WHAT IS SILENT-A-THON

Happening from March 25, 2023 to April 15, 2023.

We will be raising funds in honor of those who are affected by disabilities such as but not limited to PTSD, hearing, speech, memory, seeing, and learning. All proceeds will go to support the work Parent's Survival Resource & Connection Society provides.

Disabilities like these affect communication skills and the ability to advocate for themselves.

Did you know?

Statistics show 1 in 5 individuals in Canada live with a form of disability.

Estimated at more than 6.2 million Canadians—close to 22% of the population—that are aged 15 years and over are living with some form of disability that affects their ability to have freedom, independence or quality of life. (Statistics Canada 2017)

Information provided on statistics are located at:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/.../89-654-x2021003-eng.htm>



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

www.parentsurvival.ca
www.facebook.com/Survivalforparents



A Smile Can Change the World!



Smiling is Infectious – Spike Milligan

Smiling is infectious, you catch it like the flu, when someone smiled at me today, I started smiling too.

I passed around the corner and someone saw my grin, when he smiled, I realized I'd pass it on to him.

I thought about that smile, then I realized its worth. A single smile just like mine could travel round the earth.

So, if you feel a smile begin, don't leave it undetected. Let's start an epidemic quick and get the world infected.



Association of Independent Schools & Colleges in Alberta



Learn More:



educatedchoices.ca

In addition, we are running a social media campaign that features videos of parents who share why they picked an independent school and what it means to them, plus facts about Alberta's independent school system.

We need your help to spread the word. We encourage you to share the news about #EducatedChoices with your parent network and to participate in this advocacy campaign.

With your help we can showcase the importance of school choice to Albertans, and the good work and positive partnerships and programs that we are engaged in. If you have any questions, please contact: trish.filevich@aisca.ab.ca

Together with your help, we can ensure that independent schools are an educated choice for parents in our province.

Let's keep the dialogue going! If you have ideas about on content, you'd like to see on AISCA's social media platforms and our website, email them to: trish.filevich@aisca.ab.ca

AISCA represents over 150 independent schools and 85 community ECS operators; collectively our sector of the educational system delivers educational programming to around 46,000 students. Independent schools and ECS programs are an integrated part of the educational landscape across Alberta and are found in many electoral districts across the province.

What we do

Alberta has an education system that is the envy of many other jurisdictions.

Choice in education is a great value and benefit to Alberta families. As the Association for Independent Schools and Colleges of Alberta (AISCA), we believe that independent schools serve as one of the key partners in maintaining and improving Alberta's educational system.

AISCA and all our member schools are the voice for choice in our province. Our member schools deliver a great impact and benefit parents, children, and young adult students across the province.

This month, AISCA is excited to launch #EducatedChoices - a new advocacy campaign that highlights the importance of school choice to parents and their children.

The campaign will run to the end of June 2023. We've launched a new website: www.educatedchoices.ca where parents can explore the many offerings and benefits available at Alberta's independent schools and get the facts on the breath of school and program options available to students of all ages. Make sure to check out the Find a School search engine where you can see your school featured.



Follow us on:



association-of-independent-schools-colleges-in-alberta



@AISCA_AB



@aisca_ab



@ab.aisca





MISSION: POSSIBLE
OPERATION TRANSFORMATION

DRUMROLL PLEASE...

.....the gala raised apx
\$160,000!!!

This is because.....

- Sponsorships raised \$13,500
- Fundraising games raised \$10,315
- Ticket sales were \$52,420
- Silent auction raised \$31,084
- Live auction raised \$8,200
- Fund-A-Need raised \$34,200
- Donations received prior to Gala were \$77,000
- 35% of parents contributed auction items
- 52% of parents bought tickets
- 51% of parents fulfilled all or part of their fundraising commitment through pre-gala donations or Fund-A-Need

THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS!



MISSION: POSSIBLE
OPERATION TRANSFORMATION

Special THANK YOUs to:

The gala preparation begins months in advance and it's success is the work of many hands. We would like to thank:

Gala Committee Parents

Cara R., Sussy C., Eleni V., Jane M., Julie F., Farrell D.

Families in the video

Hansen Family, Cerros Family, and Olson Family

Janus Families

Student Art Projects

Yolande D., Kenndra B., Lenzei P., and Pat Clendon (Janus dad)

Staff and Parent Event Volunteers

Stacey O., Frejya E., Tamara S., Kent M., Paul and Nadia M., Alecia and Eric S, Violet C., Lisa and Jane M., Tibisay O., Gamontip C., Shannon K., Audrey and Terry B., Melanie B., Betsy A., Melodee L., Jana E., and Maame D.

Student Performers

Nurasyl, Jessica, Jana, Annika, Cesar, Luke, Charlie, Connie, William and Seher

TOGETHER, WE ARE MAKING OUR MISSION POSSIBLE!

Board of Directors

Chair	Maxine Jones-Sine
Vice Chair	Servejit Massey
Treasurer	Cecilia Chen
Secretary	Jennifer Tinkler-Chirvaiu
Director	Allison Streit
Director	Rahim Bhatia
Director	Rosa Twyman
Director	Dr. Julia Jacobs-LeVan

Chief Executive
Officer Carlene Chrumka

Our Vision

To be recognized as a leader in specialized education and the facilitation of lifelong community integration of persons with autism

Our Mission

To empower and support persons with autism and their families, maximizing their quality of life by providing the model learning environment that meets their academic, social, and emotional needs.



Janus Academy Society

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