

## *June Greeting from Janus Academy*

Hello Families and Staff,

It is hard for me to believe we are coming to the end of another school year. Looking back on the last 9 months, I am very proud of all the achievements we have made as a community. I am grateful to all the families, students and staff for your continued support and willingness to work together.

One of the achievements that stands out for me is the forming of our Parent Advisory Council (PAC). This group is a vital part of our community, and it helps to ensure that there is support for the school from our families.

It was wonderful to have so many opportunities to gather together and celebrate the many achievements of our students. The Winter Festival was a great success, as was the Science Fair. Our Spring Gala, "Mission: POSSIBLE" exceeded our expectations for fundraising thanks to all the efforts of our families and our many Janus Academy supporters. The student performance was, of course, the highlight of the evening.

Our last community event for this school year is Sports Day. We are once again having this at Rotary Challenge Park. You should all have received the information for the Pledge-A-Thon and how to set up your own page. I hope you can join us for this day filled with fun activities and a BBQ.

June is also a time of transition and change for some of our families and students who are graduating or moving to different educational settings. I would like to extend our best wishes to all these students and their families. We wish you all continued growth and learning as you move to a new chapter in your lives.

I look forward to welcoming returning and new families in September and wish all of you a safe and fun summer.

*Carlene Chrumka*  
Chief Executive Officer



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# IMPORTANT DATES

Summer/Fall 2023

## Mark your calendars

- June 6 Graduation Celebration
- June 8 Healthy Hunger (Edo)
- June 9 Sports Day and Pledge-a-thon
- June 6 Graduation Celebration
- June 16 **Non-instructional Day (no school)**
- June 23 Healthy Hunger (Subway)
- June 29 Early Dismissal (12:00 pm) Last Day of School
  
- Sept 5 Jr/Sr. High students return to school
- Sept 6 Elementary students return to school



We acknowledge that together we live, work and play on the traditional territories of the peoples of Treaty 7 region, which includes the Blackfoot First Nation tribes of Siksika, Kainai and Piikani, the Tsuut'ina, the Iyarde Nakoda First Nation tribes of Bearspaw, Chiniki and Wesley and the Region 3 Métis Nation of Alberta.

# SUMMERCAMP

Reminder – June 23, 2023, is the payment deadline for Summer Camp programs at Janus Academy.

For more information, please contact Clare Murphy via email at [clare.murphy@janusacademy.org](mailto:clare.murphy@janusacademy.org).

We look forward to seeing you this summer.



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](mailto:carlene.chrumka@janusacademy.org). We are very excited to start this process!!



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.



**WE DID IT!** Thanks to the support of our Janus Families, Janus Friends, Janus Students and Janus Staff we surpassed our C.O.R.E. Fundraiser goal and raised a final total of \$5,065!!! We received a total of 976 views on YouTube for all the videos posted with Room 4 garnishing 170 views alone for the first video on Initiative. Also, BIG shout out to Room 10 for being our top fundraiser with an impressive \$1,050. THANK YOU to our students and staff for putting such creativity, heart and passion into the videos, dances, songs, poems, posters, and photo collages for each C.O.R.E Value! Not only did we raise money for the school, we raised awareness in our community! THANK YOU for joining us in celebrating and supporting the students of Janus Academy!

# Volunteer Needed

Janus Academy is looking for a welder who is willing to volunteer some of their free time to do minor spot welds on various items around our school. On occasion things like desks, tables, frames, etc. get broken and rather than replace the item we do our best to fix them and put them back in service. Our current volunteer welder is moving on and we are looking for someone to replace them. If you are a welder, or know someone who is, and would be willing to volunteer for Janus Academy, please contact Stacey Oliver, Principal at Janus Academy, at 403-2662-3333.



# CLASSROOM NEEDS

## CLASSROOM NEEDS



### Child Headphones that plug into a Chromebook

These headphones are ideal for those learning situations when ambient noise needs to be blocked for the student to be able to succeed in the lesson.

**Puzzles – Open Ended & Close Ended** We are looking for open ended & close ended puzzles. Open ended puzzles can be played in different ways with no definite end and allow our students to explore their imagination and creative ability testing what is possible with each piece. Close ended puzzles have a beginning and an end. They help students to pay attention and work towards a goal.



**Thank you to Parker's Mom, Shannon,** for donating the prizes for our Elementary Yearbook Cover Contest! See page 7 for the winners.



**Thank you to Sully's Mom, Cara,** for donating a large bin of requested Playmobil Toys. WOW, all our student classrooms benefited from this donation.



**Thank you to Cole's family,** for donating a Space/Star projector. This is very popular with our science lessons.



**Thank you to an anonymous donation** of Lego left in our STEM box. It is greatly appreciated.



**Thank you to Afsa's Family,** for donating requested fidget toys & art paint. The Elementary students were very excited when they saw them.



**Thank you to Edward's family,** for donating a weighted blanket, a valuable tool for student regulation.



# Around the School

The nice weather in May brought us many off campus trips students were quite excited and looking forward to a month packed with learning and special events.



Rm 3 had a great visit at the Little Red Reading House

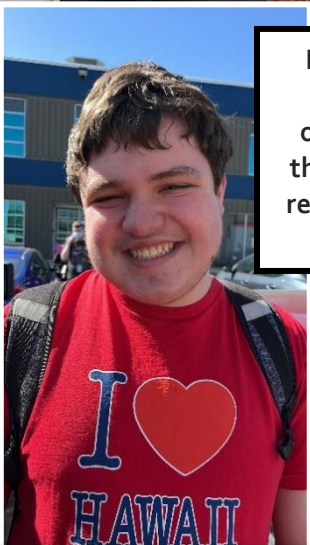


Nature Walk was great fun for Rm 5, especially when they found a bird and left a feeder for it.



Rm 8's Noah truly enjoys taking our outgoing letters to the mailbox, and we really appreciate him doing that.

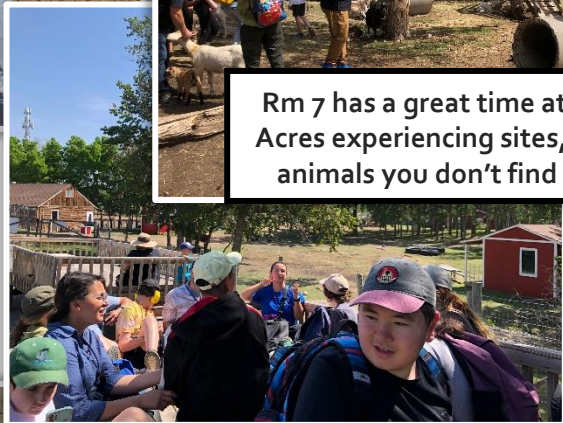
Rm 8 Students at Boston Pizza, where they got to practice their hosting skills. We are so proud of them using their skills they had been practicing in our mock restaurants and the 8Niner Diner.



Rm 7 has a great time at Butterfield Acres experiencing sites, sounds and animals you don't find in the city.



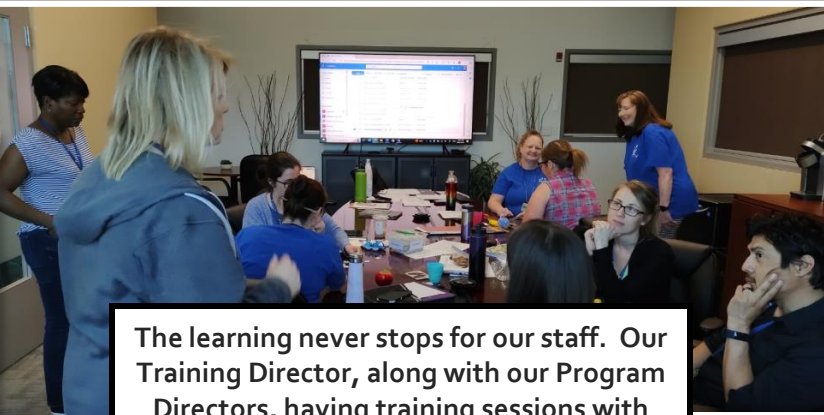
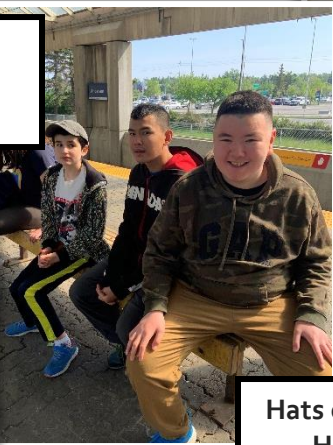
Rm 2 experienced an amazing variety of activities at the Altadore Gymnastics Club.



Staff received a refreshing morning treat from our Program Coordinators in celebration of Cinco de Mayo day!

# Around the School cont.....

Rm 7 had nice weather for their Transit training, and a very pleasant C-Train trip.



The learning never stops for our staff. Our Training Director, along with our Program Directors, having training sessions with our Program Coordinators on PD Day.

Hats on for Mental Health Day



Our students have been practicing hard for Sports Day, and our Training Director checked out the field to make sure everything is ready for a successful day.



Rm 10 got to splash around at the Village Square Leisure Centre. Nothing beats a cool dip on a pool on a hot day.



Rm 3 & 4 Students gave the staff quite the workout during their field trip to North Glenmore Park.



Our Principal, Stacey, celebrated Teacher Appreciation Day by treating our Certified Teachers and Classroom Coordinators to lunch!



Career Day saw Rm 4 welcome Constable Blied of the Calgary Police Service



Clay  
for Kids®



"It was my privilege to be invited into the Janus Academy environment on numerous occasions, to conduct art classes – specifically pottery (clay building and the pottery wheel), and fused glass art. From time to time, I've met people with autism, but my time has been limited, and I hadn't really learned a lot about the personal care and attention that goes into helping autistic people learn. Not only am I amazed and awed at the tender care and patience that each of the aides shows each of the individuals that attend the Janus Academy, but they also had the time and patience to help ME to understand how to make our classes a success, on an individual level – for each and every participant. I learned that an important thing that I can do, is to not rush and to be prepared to wait until the person is comfortable. With that in my mindset, it was amazing to see the surprising successes that came from the students' activities. One of my favorite moments was watching a student, who found the moving pottery wheel "unnerving", slowly reach out and touch the clay, and then relax, and touch it again, and then again. It's been a very beautiful experience for me. I greatly admire the work that each of the teachers and aides put into helping every student individually. Thank you, Janus Academy."

Rachel Boschman



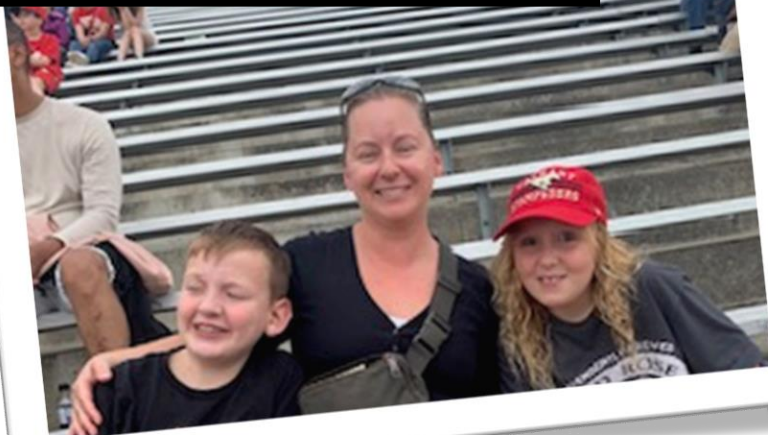
## Thank you, Stephen & George Our Amazing Volunteer Drivers

The Students and Staff send a BIG JANUS THANK YOU to Stephen Sparrow and George Ames, our caring, dedicated, and hardworking volunteer drivers. Without George and Stephen's kindness and dedication our many field trips would not be possible. Everyone at Janus Academy is extremely grateful for the generosity of their time, and their wonderful smiles too!





Pre-season football games are just as fun and exciting as regular season games, and it shows as Harrison & his family have a fantastic time at Stampeder's Game.



Some call it football, but we call it Soccer. Sully's Family & Friends had a great time at the Cavalry soccer game.

## Kids Having Fun

Our Janus Families have been enjoying our wonderful Spring weather attending recent Stampeder & Cavalry games, as well as spectacular performances at the Calgary Philharmonic. We the school year ending, Janus Academy extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to Kids Up Front for their commitment and dedication to providing event opportunities for our Janus Families.



Jordan is a music lover and he and his family had a great time Black Panther in Convert.

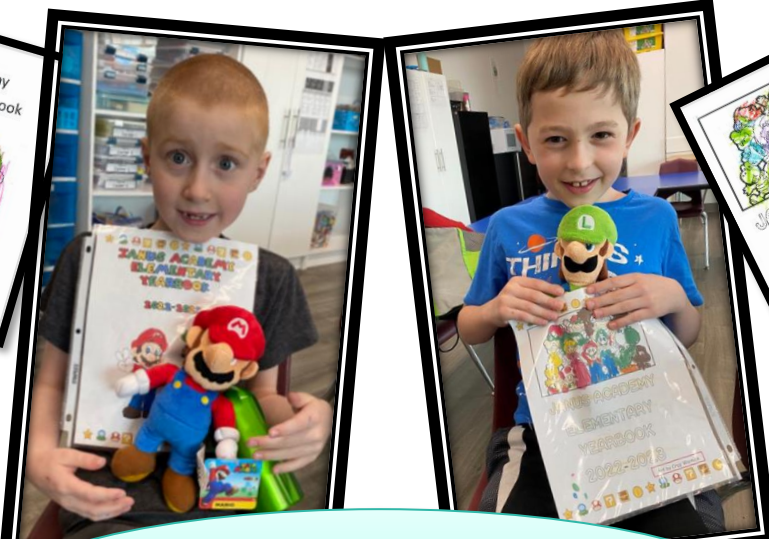
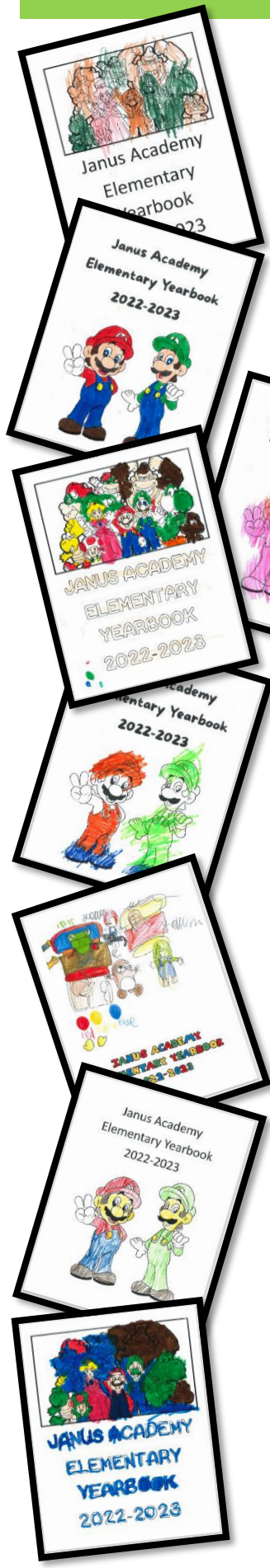
CALGARY  
PHILHARMONIC  
ORCHESTRA

BLACK  
PANTHER  
IN CONCERT

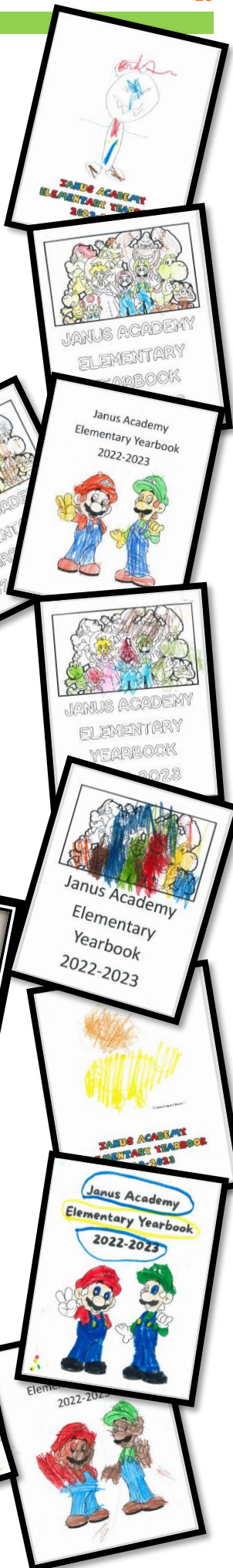
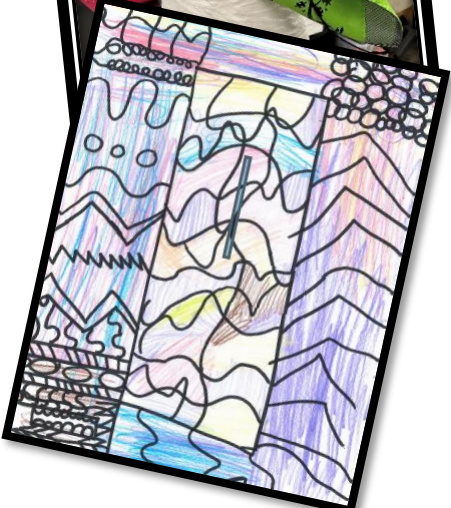
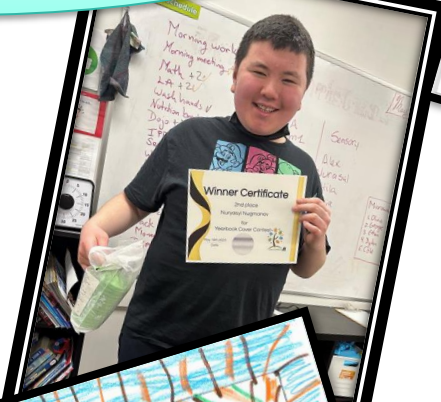


# Annual Yearbook Cover Contest

It is that time of year again! Janus Academy's Annual Yearbook Cover Contest! This year the Students decided there was so many photos and memories from the current school year that they decided to do two Yearbooks. One for Elementary and one for JR/SR High. Our Students have been working incredibly hard on these yearbooks and look forward to sharing the books with their friends and families. Students participated in a Yearbook Cover Contest and this year the Elementary's theme is Mario Brothers and Jr./Sr. High used the Yearbook as a platform to showcase their creativity. Congratulations to our 4 winners!



Elementary Winners! Matthew & Cruz  
Jr./Sr. High Winners! Jessica & Nurasyil





Raising Autism Awareness

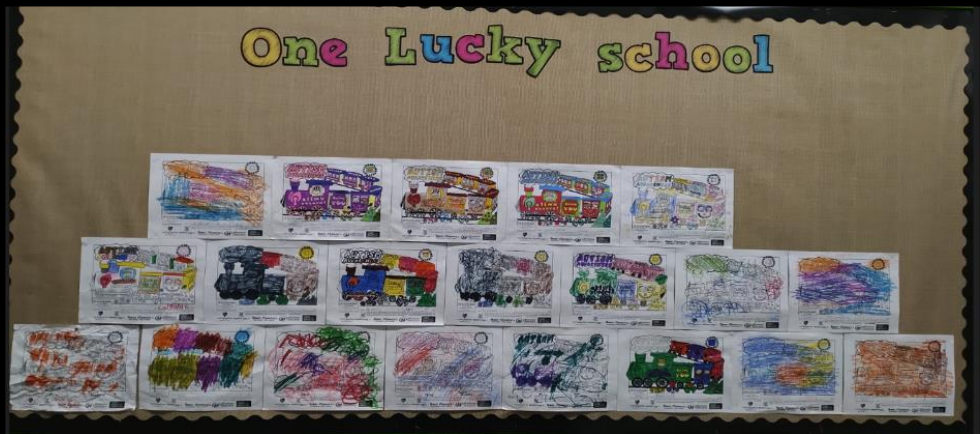
# COLOURING CONTEST

March 25th - April 30th 2023

Congratulations to our Janus winners!

Betsy-Edward's Mom, Arielle-Rm 5, Jana-Rm 8/9, Tamara-Reception!

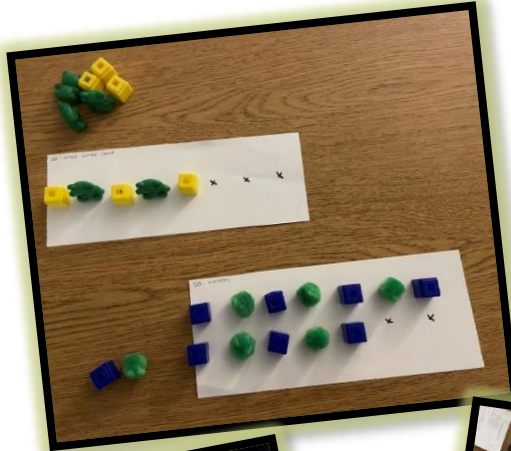
Special SOUT OT to Betsy and her family for over 100 entries!



# Classroom 6

## Language Arts

This term in Language Arts the students have been working on sound blends such as; th, sh, & oo during their table top learning times, as well as throughout their day. They have been working to identify these blends both receptively and expressively, while working on combinations of additional two-letter blends.



## Math

Over this past month in Math, students have been learning about different 'ABAB' patterns and then practicing these skills. Each student has shown great progress when demonstrating their skills firsthand. The students practiced copying a pattern from a model, and then extending the pattern when given the beginning from a model. Each student did well when identifying the given color or object that was to come next in the pattern, as well as scanning and finding the appropriate piece that came next in the sequence.



## Socialization through Creativity

In April, students were given creative freedom in making their own artwork with Rachel, from Clay for Kids. Each student was encouraged in creating their own work as they chose, using a variety of different mediums. The students got the opportunity to choose their own-coloured glass to create a unique name badge of their very own to keep and take home. A few of other mediums the students got a chance to explore included paint and clay. The students seemed to LOVE getting messy, and exploring the different aspects of art.

## Phys Ed

During May students have been practicing for the different events taking place at Janus Academy's annual Sports Day on June 9<sup>th</sup>! This year's events include Basketball, Soccer, Shot Put, Long Jump, Hurdles, and finally a Relay Race. Students have been practicing their hearts out within Phys Ed times over these last few weeks, and they cannot wait until the big day comes so they can show off all their hard work!

# GRADUATION - CLASS OF 23

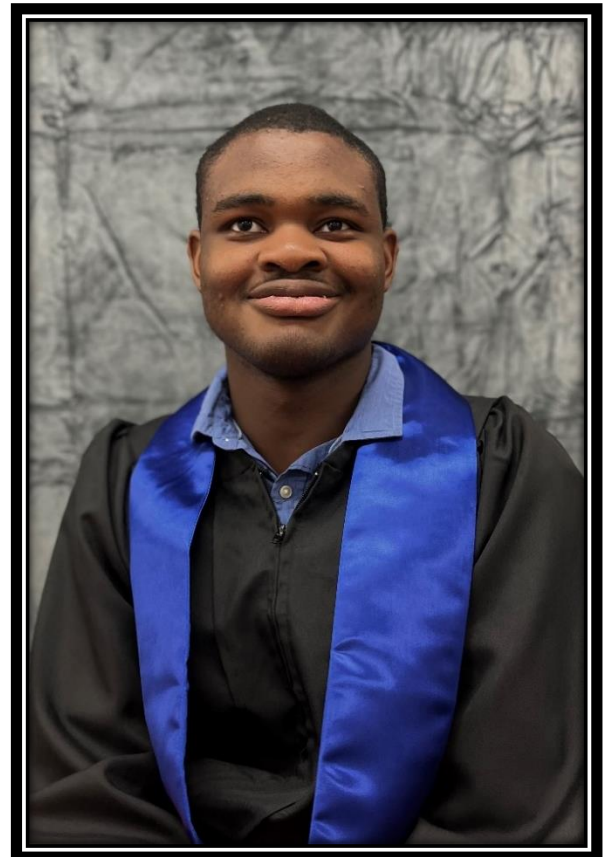
This year Janus Academy is proud to celebrate the Graduation of two very special students. Zachary and Joshua. It has been a wonderful experience to watch Zach and Joshua grow into confident, inspiring young adults and we wish them all the best as they move onto many more marvelous experiences.

Congratulations Zach and Joshua!



Zach joined Janus Academy in 2018 when he started grade 7. At the beginning, Zach was so shy, but day by day he let us in and let his personality shine! Zach is funny, kind and so considerate of others, and he is always willing to lend a helping hand. He consistently works hard at his academics and his life skills program which was highlighted during our 8Niner Diner pop up restaurant. He is also an integral part of our Janus Jamboree, Snazzy Snacks and Coffee Cart. Zach's confidence and independence grows everyday, and we are excited to hear all about the new adventures he will have! Zach will truly be missed by all his instructors and friends!

Josh started at Janus Academy in 2020 as he started his grade 10 year. Josh was quiet and reserved during his first months but with the help from his teachers and peers Josh slowly started to come out of his shell. By the middle of his first year, Josh really started to show his personality. Josh is a smart, independent young man with a passion for cooking and organizing. As Josh continued his years at Janus he worked hard on his independent living and his presents in the community. Josh always tried his best at school and came in ready to learn. Josh will always hold a special place in classroom 8/9. His booming laugh will be missed throughout the school next year.



# GoodLife KiDS FOUNDATION®

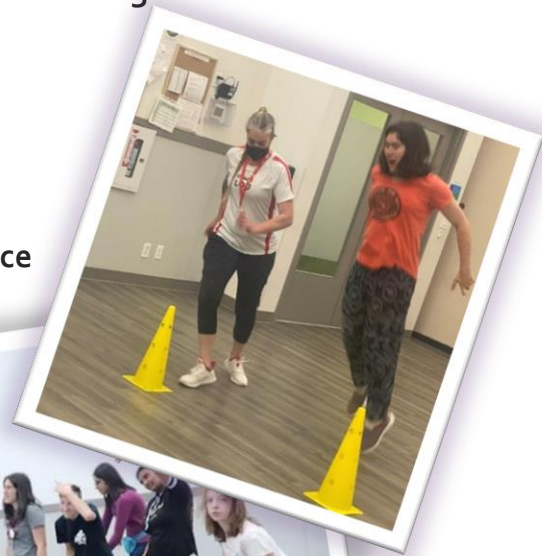
In recognition of National Health and Fitness Day on June 3, 2023

Janus Academy would like to acknowledge GoodLife Kids Foundation for choosing Janus Academy for the MOVE by GoodLife Kids Program. It is an honor to be one of three schools that benefits from an in-person physical activity and fitness program that was designed exclusively to get youth with autism and intellectual disabilities active.

We are thankful for the partnership, collaboration, and generosity.

Some of the benefits of the MOVE by GoodLife Kids Program:

- ✓ A trained fitness instructor
- ✓ A focus on motor fitness
- ✓ Expanding a healthy lifestyle
- ✓ Integrating a community experience
- ✓ No cost to the school



# Insights

by Yolande Daley,  
Training Director



In the area of organization training the supervisory team had several professional development supports throughout the year to expand classroom programming such as physiotherapy, occupation therapy, supervision training, Precision X data collections training and more. I am excited for the 2023- 2024 school year as we expand Janus Academy training program to re-introduce before and after school training, monthly training topics and new training initiatives. Cheers to the summer and I look forward to connecting with you all in September.



As I reflect on the past school year, I have gained new perspectives and insights to find new and innovative ways to continue to support the staff, students, and families. The parent lunch and learn sessions were a success this year and with this in mind, the 2023-2024 school year will expand to offer a dad and a sibling session, and more.

Watch for details on our 2023-2024 Parent Lunch & Learns in our September 2023 newsletter.

The whole purpose of education is to turn mirrors into windows.

Sydney J. Harris



## 11th ANNUAL SPORTS DAY & PLEDGEATHON



We are grateful for all of the community support to make Sports Day possible, and recognize the following supporters

### Family BBQ Cooks

Greg Stahl and the team at New West Truck Centres

### Sport Event Volunteers

Coach Lou from MOVE by GoodLife Kids - shotput/longjump

CJ Campbell volunteers - relay

Girvan Smith - basketball

Coach John and Adam from Clubb Sports - soccer and hurdles

### Medals Sponsor

Coach Lou and MOVE by GoodLife Kids



**over \$24,000 has been raised in  
support of student success!!!**

And don't forget that every dollar donated\* to Janus in June  
is an entry for a chance to  
**WIN \$20,000 in the Great Canadian Giving Challenge!**

\*gifts must be made on through CanadaHelps



# Thank You

June

to this caring community of supporters:



THANK YOU to **4imprint and their one by one grant program** for awarding Janus with \$500 in promotional products to help us further our mission. We were able to get a banner and summer camp t-shirts for staff.

**TOTEM  
CHARITABLE  
FOUNDATION**



THANK YOU to **Totem Charitable Foundation** for awarding us a grant in the amount of \$13,000 for a Safe and Caring Environment for Children with Autism. This grant will be used to install fiberglass reinforced plastic wall panels in classrooms and enhance exterior door safety mechanisms.

THANK YOU to **Greg Stahl, New West Truck Centres**, for generously repairing our Janus logo on our school bus and for a paid ad in the June edition of Business in Calgary as one of their chosen charities. Congratulations on 15 years of success!

THANK YOU to **Friends of Janus Academy Association** for funding the purchase of audio visual equipment which will be used for student presentations, performances, and events.

AND

THANK YOU to **Long & McQuade** for providing us with a discount on all our audio visual equipment purchases.

THANK YOU to **CDI College** for being wonderful neighbours. They allow us to use their meeting rooms free of charge and set up another massage clinic at Janus to provide practicum hours for their students and a wellness experience for Janus staff. Win win!

THANK YOU to our **Parents** who volunteered throughout the year for the casino, gala, PAC, and FOJAA! Your time and input is deeply appreciated.

THANK YOU to our amazing **STAFF** for a year filled with student successes! Your dedication to teaching never goes unnoticed and YOU are all enhancing the lives of our students and their families!



## 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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