



June Greeting from Janus Academy

Hello Everyone,

Welcome to Fall. September saw our Janus Education Team members welcoming students, returning and new, to Janus Academy, renewing friendships and starting new ones, as well as setting routines. I hope families also made the transition to their September activities and routines as successfully as we did.

Our first opportunity to come together as families and staff was on September 14 at our Parent Meeting. We reconnected with our returning families and welcomed our new families. At the meeting we took the opportunity to review our focus for the year and outline our financial status. The meeting came to an end with much discussion as well as a chance for families to walk the campus and see the bulletin board displays and learning spaces.

The Student Spirit events for September were Crazy Hair/Crazy Hat Day and Orange Shirt Day/Every Child Matters. These were much looked forward to and successful for all participants.

October will be filled with Student Workshops, Thanksgiving/Friendsgiving activities, School Picture Day, Individualized Program Plans (IPPs) for parent review and finalization, as well as our Student Spirit event for Halloween. For specific details, please see your child’s newsletter and calendar sent by their individual classroom’s Education Team.

As a community of Education Team members, we endeavour to ensure we are fulfilling our Vision of **“To be recognized as a leader in specialized education and the facilitation of lifelong community integration of persons with autism”**.

With gratitude
Stacey Oliver
Principal

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IMPORTANT DATES

Fall 2023

Mark your calendars

- October 2-5 Student Workshops
- October 6 Non-instructional Day (no school)
- October 9 Thanksgiving (no school)
- October 10 Picture Day
- October 13 Healthy Hunger (A&W) - order by Oct 6
- October 27 Healthy Hunger (TacoTime) - order by Oct 20
- October 31 Halloween – Jr/Sr High Dance

- November 9 Parent/Teacher Conferences
- November 10 Non-instructional Day (no school)



Allergy Alert



Please do NOT send any food items that contain NUTS.

DUE TO SEVERE ALLERGIES, PLEASE DO NOT SEND ANY FOOD ITEMS THAT CONTAIN NUTS! Although we are not a nut free school, we want to do our best to ensure our students with allergies are eating in a safe environment.

If your child requires special dietary reinforcements (i.e. sugar-free, gluten or casein free), parents are requested to provide the school with these items.

Parents must send a labeled water bottle with their child each day. As snack and lunch times are busy, please ensure that all food is prepared beforehand (i.e. cut up) and lunch bags and containers are clearly labeled.

October Celebrations

Whether fasting or feasting, dancing or trick-o-treating, October brings us 3 very popular holidays celebrated all over the world.



The tradition of Thanksgiving originated with the harvest festival – an autumnal celebration meant to show appreciation for the bountiful harvest of the season. However, Canadian Thanksgiving was originally less about celebrating the harvest and more about thanking God for keeping early explorers safe as they ventured into the New World.

Navratri is a festival that lasts for nine days and is celebrated with enthusiasm and devotion. It is a festival to honour Goddess Durga. The legend associated with Navratri speaks about the great battle between the powerful demon Mahishasura and Goddess Durga, and the festival celebrates the ultimate victory of Good over Evil.



Halloween is celebrated each year on October 31 the world over. The tradition originated with the ancient Celtic festival Samhain when people would light bonfires and wear costumes to ward off ghosts. Over time, Halloween has evolved into a day of fun activities like trick-or-treating, carving jack-o-lanterns, festive gatherings, donning costumes and eating treats.

Attila has been hoping all summer to be able to attend the Flames season opener. He had a blast singing the goal song 10 times during this exciting opening game. Thanks, KUF for making his wish come true.

Kids Having Fun!

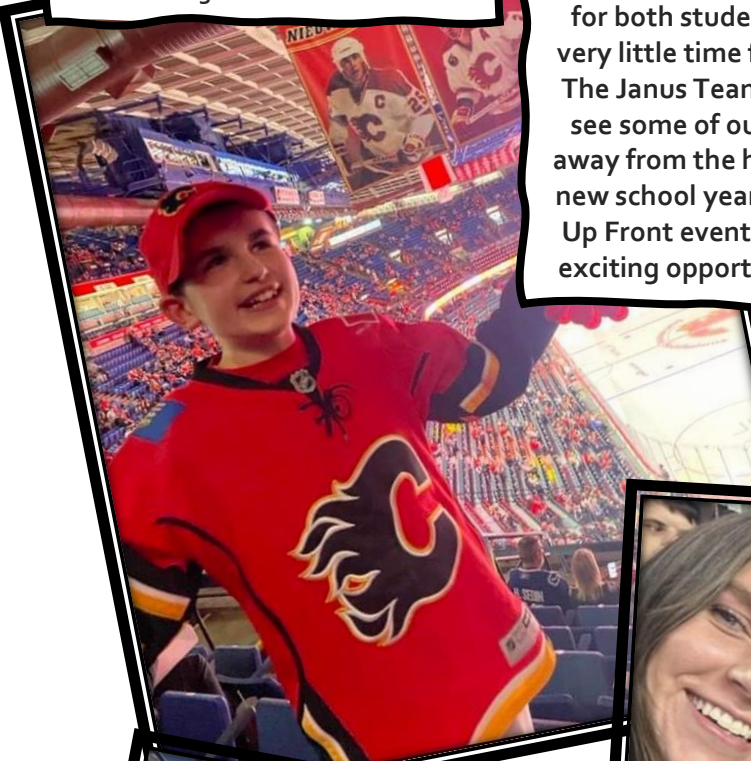
September is always a busy month for both students and staff with very little time for extra activities. The Janus Team was delighted to see some of our families getting away from the hustle and bustle of new school year by attending Kids Up Front events. Watch for more exciting opportunities in October.

ain't too proud



A group of very special children were treated to an amazing tribute performance of The Temptations when last minute tickets were donated to KUF!

BROADWAY  ACROSS CANADA®



Jessica and her family kicked off the hockey season by attending the Calgary Hitmen home opener. Fun times were had by everyone.

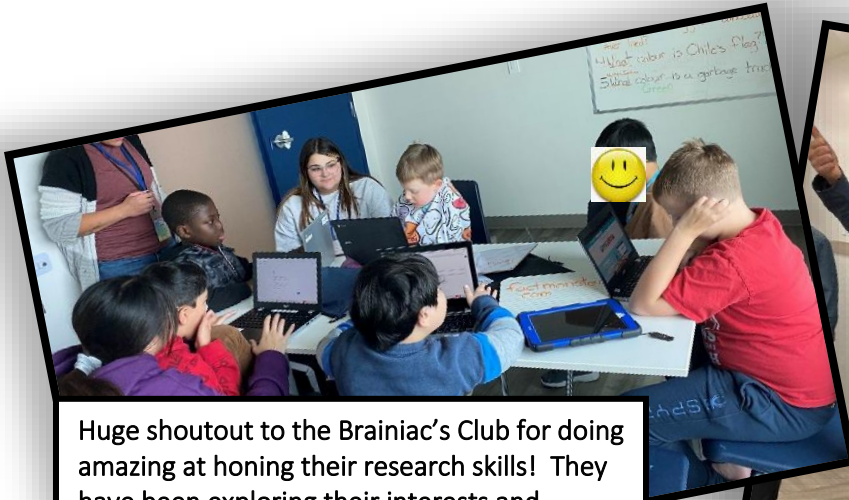


Jordan was able to treat his out-of-town relatives to the Hitmen Home Opener when his family was awarded a suite. Everyone had a great time at the game and truly enjoyed all you can eat popcorn!



Around The School

September saw the return of students and staff to the school year and Janus Academy welcomed several new students and their families to the Janus Community. Here are just a few highlights from an amazing first month of school.



Huge shoutout to the Brainiac's Club for doing amazing at honing their research skills! They have been exploring their interests and learning how to better access the information they want.



Students and staff were excited to see the start of the Coffee Cart, Snazzy Snacks & the Jamboree Store by the Sr. High students. Seeing the smiling faces of our Sr. high students as they sold and delivered snacks around the entire school brightened everyone's day. As part of their Employment Readiness Program, Sr. high students purchase supplies, set up pricing, sell items, accept funds, and provide change. As you can tell from the photo, Snazzy Snacks had a very successful first day.

Crazy Hat / Crazy Hair Day was celebrated with enthusiasm by both staff and students.



Our Jr/Sr High Classrooms took advantage of the warm fall weather to take a few field trips during September and enjoy the sunshine.

CLASSROOM NEEDS

CLASSROOM NEEDS

Puzzles

Room 3 is looking for puzzles in a range of moderate to difficult for ages 8-9 years old and approx. 24+ pieces. Puzzles help students develop fine/gross motor skills, as well as focus and provides a sense of accomplishment when completed.

Bluetooth Wireless Headphones



These headphones will be used to support student learning, for Students who have sensory issues with wires. It will also help with portability of electronics when necessary.

Board Games

If you have any board games that you no longer play, Janus Academy would be happy to give them a new home. Games create opportunities for students to build a variety of skills, such as cooperation, partnership, fine/gross motor skills, expanding interests, language/communication, and social skills.

Play Doh Accessories

Room 2 is looking for Play Doh Accessories to use for Language, Communication and Socialization Development.

Contact

If you or anyone you know has any of the above items that they would be willing to donate to our school, both the staff and the students would really appreciate it.

If you have any questions, or wish to make delivery arrangements for your donation, please contact Tamara at 403-262-3333

Room 6 is seeking old iPods or cell phones with the capability to play music to help with Sensory Regulation for their students.

Old iPods or Cellphones



Our Classrooms Thank You

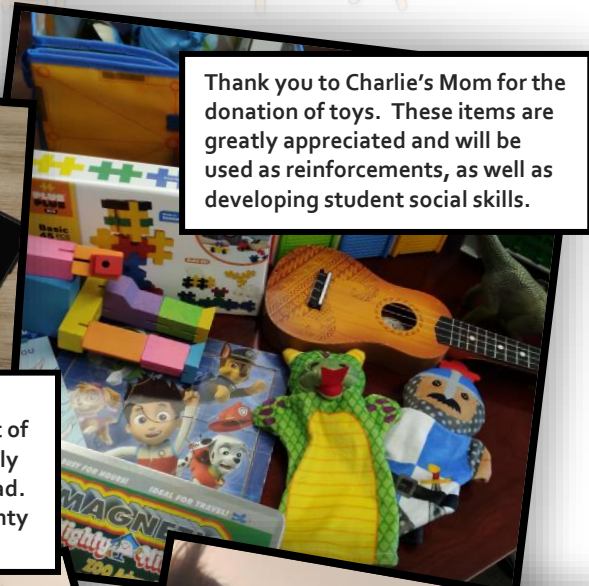
OUR CLASSROOMS THANK YOU



Thank you to Nadia's Mom for donating the Math Manipulative resources. They are greatly appreciated by all our classrooms.



Thank you to David & Sheila-Marie Martin, part of our extended Janus Family for the donation of an iPad. The students will get plenty of use from this device.



Thank you to Charlie's Mom for the donation of toys. These items are greatly appreciated and will be used as reinforcements, as well as developing student social skills.



Thank you to Sully's Mom for donating puzzles and games for our students. These items assist the students in developing motor skills and focus, as well as communication and collaboration with their peers.



Thank you to Afsa' family for their amazing donation of toys to help support language and socialization with the addition of 6 girls in Classrooms 5 and 6. From kids' kitchen sets to dentist toy kits, these items were a huge hit with students.



Thank you to Mel, our music teacher, for donating a toy drum to our school, as well as some teaching resources.



thank you

Orange Shirt Day



Every Child Matters

Both the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day take place on September 30. Orange Shirt Day is an Indigenous-led grassroots commemorative day intended to raise awareness of the individual, family, and community inter-generational impacts of residential schools, and to promote the concept of "Every Child Matters". Due to September 30 being a Saturday, students and staff celebrated on September 29 by wearing orange to honour the thousands of survivors of residential schools.



Playground Update!

Things are moving right along with Janus Academy's goal to build an outdoor playground and green space for our students to enjoy. We have secured the green space from our Landlord, and Peake Design Group, who are designing the playground pro bono, is moving forward with inquires to the City Planning Department. We truly appreciate everyone's participation in this project; however, we are still in need of a fence company who can assist us. 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 see things coming together for this major project. Stay tuned for future updates!

School Project

A big THANK YOU to the families and staff who donated old newspapers and flyers during the month of September, however we need a lot more newsprint. What is newsprint you ask? Newsprint is a low-cost, non-archival paper consisting mainly of wood pulp and most commonly used to print newspapers and other publications, as well as advertising material, such as grocery store flyers. The paper needs to be non-waxy, non-glossy and able to absorb water. Newsprint usually has an off white cast and distinctive feel. If you have any newsprint you would like to donate to Janus Academy, please do not hesitate to drop it off at reception during regular school hours from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday to Friday.





Do you "Know a Guy"?

Janus Academy is asking for contacts or connections for different trades, building contractors or other "handy" people.

If you know someone who may be interested in contributing some of their time and expertise to Janus Academy, please contact Carlene Chrumka at 403-262-3333 or via email at carlene.chrumka@janusacademy.org

Parent Advisory Council

Next meeting will be held on
Monday, Dec 4, 2023
at 5:30 pm

Meetings are held at Janus Academy, and you are welcome to attend. For information and questions about P.A.C., please email janus.pac@janusacademy.org.



By Yolande Daley, Director of Training

INSIGHTS

“Wisdom... comes not from age, but from education and learning.”

— Anton Chekhov



A huge thank you to Kyle Kalloo from Change My Life Coaching, who facilitated Cultural Sensitivity training, highlighting the powerful tools in driving meaningful change within an organization.



Training Highlights: (September /October)

- Cultural Sensitivity Training
- Monthly morning training sessions
- Training Teams Chat (scenario and Q & A)
- Physio In-Service to support gross motor development

SAVE THE DATE

“A Dad’s Journey”

STAY TUNED FOR REGISTRATION coming soon

Wednesday ,October 25th, 2023

12 p.m. -1 p.m Online



Thank You

to the following individuals and corporations:

THANK YOU to **ALBERTA FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS (AFA)** and **FRIENDS OF JANUS ACADEMY ASSOCIATION (FOJAA)** for funding a theatre residency this year with Evergreen Theatre. We are excited to work with them on a show-stopping performance created by the students.

THANK YOU to **CHUBB INSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA** for hosting their annual Chubb Charity Challenge Golf Tournament and to **CJ CAMPBELL INSURANCE** for designating the funds raised by their team to go to Janus Academy! We are grateful for your continued support!

THANK YOU to **FAHEEM & FATIMA BHANJI** for purchasing NEW toys for the elementary to help support language and socialization. They have been a hit with the students and have been put to good use.

THANK YOU to **KENT MCNEILL** for donating a brand new laptop for the educational team!

THANK YOU to **PAT CLENDON** for assisting with blind repairs and some carpentry!

THANK YOU to **DAVID & SHEILA-MARIE MARTIN** for donating a gently used iPad Air to the school!



Board of Directors

Chair	Servejit Massey
Treasurer	Cecilia Chen
Secretary	Jennifer Tinkler-Chirvaiu
Director	Allison Streit
Director	Rosa Twyman
Director	Dr. Julia Jacobs-LeVan
CEO	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.

"Ah, Lovely October, as you usher in the season that awakens my soul, your awesome beauty compels my spirit to soar like a leaf caught in an autumn breeze and my heart to sing like a heavenly choir."

— Peggy Toney Horton



Janus Academy Society

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