



January Greeting from Janus Academy

Hello Everyone and Happy New Year,

I hope all of you were able to enjoy the wonderful weather and that you had a happy and restful time during the school break. Before we left on break, we had the amazing Winter Performance that was put on by the students, staff, and the team from Evergreen Theatre. Everyone put so much effort into the performances resulting in an amazing Winter Performance. Thanks to everyone for all their hard work and commitment.

As we ring in the New Year, the preparations for our Spring Gala move into high gear. Tickets sales are now open so let your family and friends know how they can purchase tickets. This will be a fun evening with our tribute to the Beatles. I can't wait.

With the weather now turning to normal Calgary winter temperatures, I thought it timely to reiterate our policies for school closures and outside activities for the students. The only reason we would close the school is if the Province or the City of Calgary declared emergency conditions, if there are extreme poor road conditions that make it unsafe for students and staff to drive to the school, or if there were maintenance/mechanical problems in the physical facilities. This could include lack of power, unsafe conditions due to water damage etc. The cold weather does impact student outings. If the temperature is -20 degrees or below, this can be including wind chill factors, there will be no outdoor activities or travel to external activities for students.

All transportation to and from school for students is arranged by parents, so it is therefore important that you contact your transportation provider to see when they would suspend services due to weather conditions. We respect the right of parents to make their own decisions about sending their child to school. If you child will not be attending classes, please ensure you contact us to let us know.

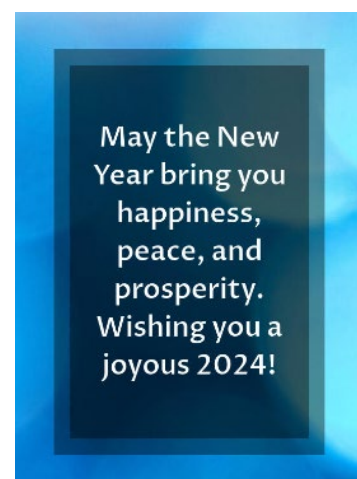
I hope you all have a safe and healthy 2024.

Carlene Chrumka
Chief Executive Officer



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IMPORTANT DATES

Winter 2024



Mark your calendars

- January 8 Non-instructional Day (no school)
- January 9 Classes resume
- January 26 Beach Day & Healthy Hunger (CocoBrooks)

- February 5 to 8 **Student Workshops** (*see schedule on next page*)
- February 9 Non-instructional Day (no school)
- February 14 JHHS Dance / Valentine's Day
- February 16 Teachers Convention/Staff Professional Development (no school)
- February 19 Family Day (no school)
- February 23 Healthy Hunger – Subway
- February 28 Pink Shirt Day

IMPORTANT NOTICE

We are asking Parents to regularly check their SPAM/JUNK folders for emails from Janus Academy. Or to accept Janus Academy as authorized sender in their email settings.

This is to ensure that Parents receive all communications from Janus Academy.



SECOND STUDENT WORKSHOPS

February 5 – 8, 2024

In February, we will be conducting our second set of student workshops. Student workshops give your child’s educational team the opportunity to discuss student progress, review goals and expectations and practice therapy techniques. Workshops are split into 2 sets: Monday/Tuesday and Wednesday/Thursday.

Please refer to the schedule below for workshop attendance. If your child is NOT listed on a specific day, they are to stay home.

<p>February 5 & 6</p>	<p><u>Elementary Students to attend school</u> Anders H., Jacob, Oliver, Prim, Jared, Sam, Cruz, Charlie, Nathan A, Zoha, Parker, Denzel, Luke Y, Matthew, Nathan T, Luke C, Humayl, Edward, Harrison, Parsa, Sully, Marcus, Maro, Anahita, Ekene, Eden, Siddhan, Zoe</p>
<p>February 5 & 6</p>	<p><u>Jr/Sr. High Students to attend school</u> George, Sam, Attila, Josua, Noah H, Henry, Yuvan, Jack, Ayo, Noah C, Felix, Sebastian, Adi, Mett, Alex, Tegh</p>
<p>February 7 & 8</p>	<p><u>Elementary Students to attend school</u> Anders W, Mila, Isaac, Anay, Ethan, Eashan, Connie, Petros, Zeehan, Liam, Sinmi, William, Jordan, Arisa, Jayden, Noah, Rimshaa, Stella, Cory, Enzo, Yalinee, Viaan, Afsa</p>
<p>February 7 & 8</p>	<p><u>Jr/Sr. High Students to attend school</u> Andy, Nurasyl, Kiana, Olivia, Cole, Dylan, Jessica, Jackson, Cesar, Annika, Ethan, Keira, Nadia, Jana, Alanna, Chloe, Megan, Sharlene</p>

If you have any questions regarding workshops, please feel free to contact the school.

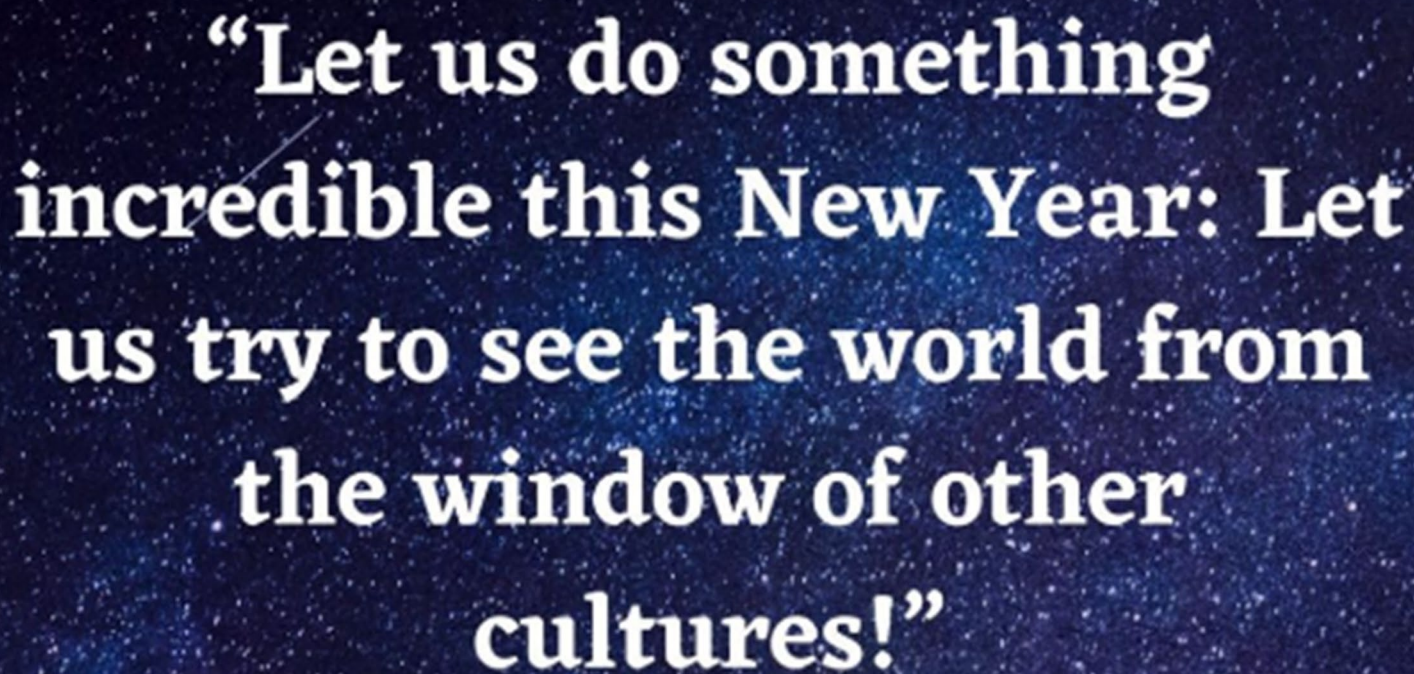
Please note, we are unable to change your child’s workshop dates due to scheduling difficulty. We hope by providing advance notice, that you will be able to accommodate these dates.

Thank you for your understanding.





JANUARY IS MULTICULTURAL AWARENESS MONTH



**“Let us do something
incredible this New Year: Let
us try to see the world from
the window of other
cultures!”**



Fun Lunch Fundraising Upcoming Lunch Dates

Lunch Date		Restaurant	Order Deadline
Friday	Jan. 26, 2024	Coco Brooks	Fri. Jan 19, 2024 at 11:59 pm
Thursday	Feb. 15, 2024	Taco Time	Thurs. Feb. 8, 2024 at 11:59 pm
Friday	Feb. 23, 2024	Subway	Fri. Feb. 16, 2024 at 11:59 pm
Thursday	Mar. 21, 2024	A & W	Thurs. Mar. 14, 2024 at 11:59 pm
Friday	Apr. 19, 2024	Subway	Fri. Apr. 12, 2024 at 11:59 pm
Wednesday	May. 15, 2024	A & W	Wed. May 8, 2024 at 11:59 pm
Tuesday	June 25, 2024	Subway	Tues. Jun. 18, 2024 at 11:59 pm

Worried about missing a lunch date?

Did you know? Parents may order their child's Healthy Hunger lunches well in advance of the deadline date. This will ensure that you are not having to scabble at the last minute to ensure your child's lunch has been ordered.



Around the School - December Flashback

December is a short month for everyone but it was time well spent for our Students and Staff making the holiday season extra special. From fun Spirit Days to our Annual Winter Performance, December 2023 created many wonderful and lasting memories for everyone at Janus Academy



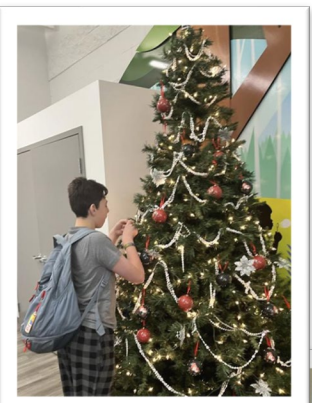
Rm 4



Congratulations Room 5! The winner of our Annual Door decorating contest. We had a lot of great doors this year, so it was extra challenging for the student to select their favourite. Well done Room 5!



Program Directors



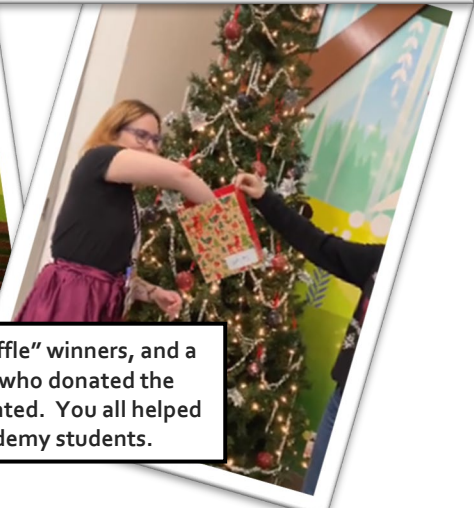
Our Janus Students did a great job decorating our tree in Reception. All our visitors said the "tree looks amazing". Well done Janus Students.



Ugly Sweater Day was a huge hit for both Students and Staff.



Congratulations to our "Gift Raffle" winners, and a BIG "Thank You" to the staff who donated the gifts, and to those who participated. You all helped to raise \$280 for Janus Academy students.

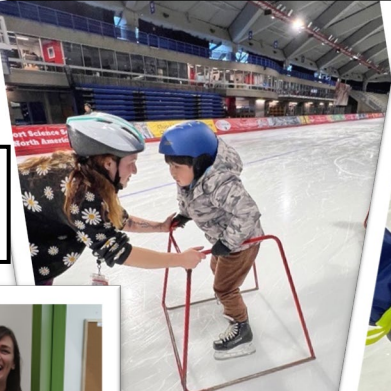


Around the School cont....

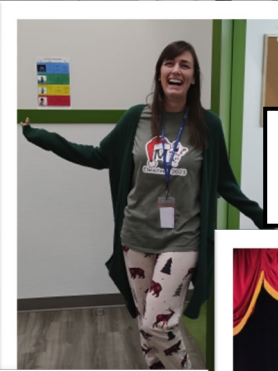


Santa made a special appearance at Janus Academy, and it was difficult to tell who had more fun Santa, or the Students!

Pajama Day was a huge success! Leadership took over the day and treated the students to a Bouncy House, as well as Popcorn & a Movie for everyone.



Rm 2 Students got to experience skating for the first time at the Olympic Oval. They had such a great time; we wonder how many asked Santa for skates.



Our Janus Students are very dedicated and put in a lot of rehearsal time for this year's Annual Winter Performance. It was time well spent; the performance was exceptional!



Students and Staff love December Spirit Days so much, it is hard to pick a favourite. Winter Hat day is definitely one of them.



Kids Having Fun

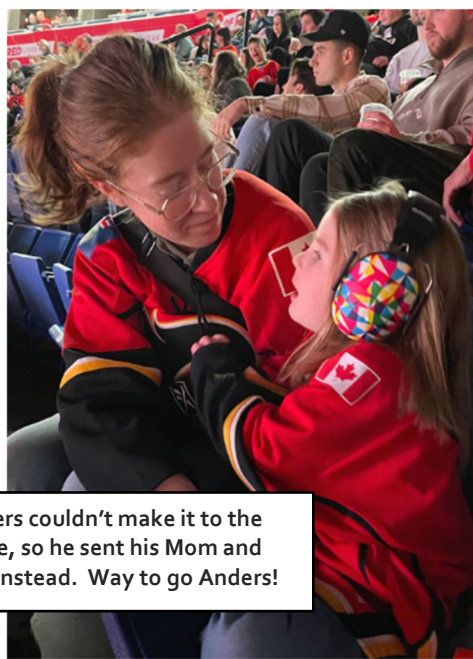
December is always a busy month and 2023 was no different. Kids Up Front gave us many fun event opportunities during the holiday the season, from hockey to wrestling as well as the Kids Up Front Annual Holiday Party. Thank you KUF!



Nurasy had a great time at the Flames vs Dallas Stars game. I wonder, do you think he is trying to talk Mom & Dad into getting him a jersey?



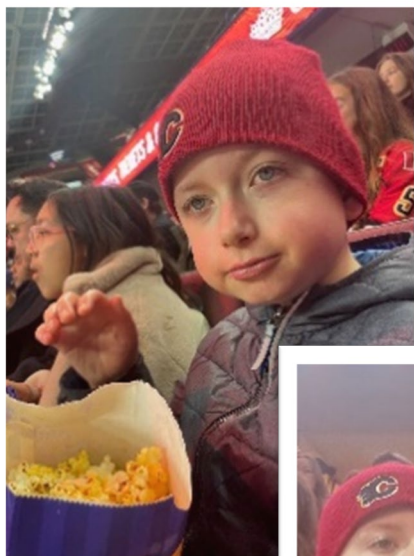
Prim had loads of fun at Dungeon Wrestling. He and his parents got to enjoy some pretty awesome seats.



Anders couldn't make it to the game, so he sent his Mom and sister instead. Way to go Anders!



Nurasy was one of our many students who got the opportunity to attend the Kids Up Front Annual Holiday Party in November. It must have been a great time! Check out that smile!



Even though the Flames lost, Sully & his Dad had a fantastic time at the game! Thank you KUF.



Jessica was treated to a very special birthday by getting to celebrate it with her friends in a suite at the Hitmen game. Way to go KUF!

Classroom 5

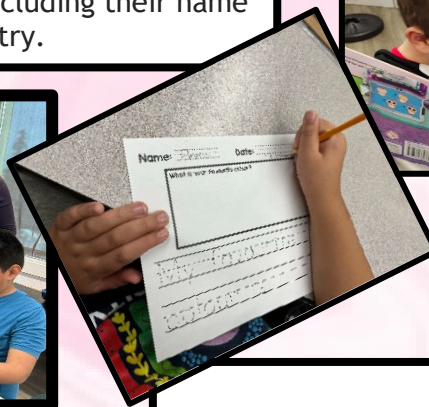


Group Skills

In Group Skills, students started the year working on coming to the table when called and sitting at the table. The students have worked hard and are now very skilled at this. Recently the students have been working on looking at the whiteboard. They have been following along to activities that the instructor has been completing on board. The students have been doing a great job in Group Skills class this year!

Language Arts

Room 5 students have been participating in Language Arts lessons that target phonemic awareness, letter recognition and letter sound production. To make learning letters more fun, we use the Lively Letters program which gives letters a story and song to make each sound more memorable. In addition, students have been practicing their sentence writing skills by completing journal entries. With each journal entry, students are asked to identify the capital letter at the start of the sentence and the period at the end of the sentence. There is always an element of choice within each journal entry as students practice writing key words. They also practice including their name and the date on each entry.



Field Trips

This term students in Room 5 have enjoyed going on a few field trips! For example, in November we went swimming with our Room 6 friends at Southland Leisure Centre. Students enjoyed some fun on the waterslides and in the wave pool! At the beginning of December, we went to the Central Library. Each student practiced browsing for a book and chose one to bring back to read at school. It was also very fun to hangout in the Kids Zone which included a play structure, Lego building stations, and other cool games. Finally, to enjoy some fun before the Winter Break, we visited Flying Squirrel Trampoline Park. Students strengthened their gross motor skills while having big smiles on their faces! It was fun to jump for an afternoon!



Living the Core Values as a Classroom 5 Team



Sarah

I see our Room 5 team living the Core Value of **Collaboration**. Each person on our team is approachable and willing to help each other. Whenever a staff member is sick and needs to stay home, the team is always flexible and willing to do whatever is needed to make sure that students are still supported. I am encouraged by how often I hear great conversations of problem solving as each team member's opinions are valued!



Linsey

I see our Room 5 team living up to **Individual Growth**. As a newer staff member, I have learned so much from my peers. I have been able to grow as a person and as an Educational Assistant to help the kids in Room 5 to be more independent and to develop their skills!



Harpreet

I see **Passion** in our Room 5 team members. Miss Sarah is always bringing new ideas to the classroom for the students. All Teammates, Classroom Teacher and Program Coordinator show passion daily which helps to make our students more successful and independent.



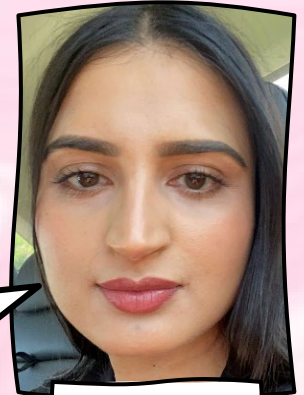
Shaley

I see our Room 5 team living up to **Passion** everyday. Every member of our team is so happy to be here each day and it is apparent that they truly care about the learning, growth, and wellbeing of every student in the classroom. Everyone comes to work with a smile and goes the extra mile to gain a learning opportunity from every situation! It is so fulfilling working with a team of people who love what they do.



Claire

I see **Collaboration** in our Room 5 team. Everyone is always ready to share ideas and work together to make our classroom great! Our team works well to brainstorm solutions together to make sure we are doing our best for the students!



Guntash

We, as team, always focus on the **Individual Growth** of students and staff. We are always working on increasing the independence of our students so that they can grow as individuals. As staff, we all get different opportunities to lead activities and work on different programs with the support of other staff members, which help us to grow professionally in our role. I am proud of our team. Everyone is so supportive and ready to help each other.



Sumati

Creativity: Everyone at Janus Academy works hard together to come up with solutions and create a welcoming environment for staff and students alike. The team works hard thinking of new ways to provide students with experiences and stimuli to help learn and play. I am so grateful to be a part of this team and for all the opportunities I am given to unleash my creativity!



Shannon

I see our Room 5 team living up to all the Janus Academy Core Values. Their **Creativity**, **Passion**, and **Collaboration** all contribute to constant novelty and excitement in the room, which also allows us to stay within budget, supporting that **Financial Stability** aspect. Their ability to build **Relationships** has meant they are able to switch on the go to support one another throughout the day, adjust to the needs of others, and share their unique **Wisdom** to further **Individual Growth** - for both them and others. They are each open to **Challenging** themselves new experiences and do it all with laughter and empathy.

CLASSROOM NEEDS

CLASSROOM NEEDS



Meditation Drum

Room 6 is looking for a Meditation Drum to aid in regulation. One was loaned to the school for a day and the students loved it! We hope to make this instrument a permanent part of Janus Academy's instrument inventory.

Cameras Needed!

We are looking for gently used Digital Point & Shoot Cameras, or Cell Phones with cameras in working condition for our Yearbook Club and our Photography Club. Many of our current cameras are well loved and no longer charge properly.



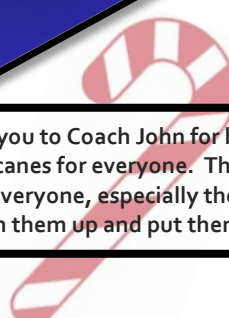
Our Classrooms Thank You

OUR CLASSROOMS THANK YOU

Thank you to Megan, part of our extended Janus Family, for the wonder donation of two glow-in-the-dark stuffed toys. These look amazing on our Sensory Room wall and all our students were delighted with the new additions!



Thank you to Coach John for bringing in the classic candy canes for everyone. They were very popular with everyone, especially those of us who like to crush them up and put them in hot chocolate.



Thank you to Meghan, a friend of Jack's family, for the amazingly large donation of Playmobil toys & a great selection of reinforcer items. ALL our classrooms were able to share in the distribution of these items and greatly appreciate your generosity.



Parent Lunch & Learn

Topic: The Benefits of Physiotherapy for Autistic Individuals

Date: Wednesday, January 24, 2024

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

Location: Online

Presenter: Kajal Patel

Owner & Director at Peak Kids

[Click the link below to register](#)

Session Details:

1. What is the difference between OT and PT, and how can PT help your child?
2. If you have FSCD support or are looking to what can this mean and what can you access.
3. Easy ways to incorporate gross motor skill development into your child's day to day activities.

<https://forms.gle/XAdyfPK7AehWXMjMA>



Physiotherapist
KAJAL PATEL

Peak Kids is a pediatric focused physiotherapy clinic focused on the needs of children with an emphasis on making therapy fun in a welcoming environment. Kajal graduated with her Masters of Physiotherapy from the University of Queensland in Australia. Prior to this she earned a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology from the University of Alberta. Kajal has always had a passion for working with kids and has spent over 12 years gaining knowledge and expertise in this niche. She has had the opportunity to work with sporting organizations around Calgary treating acute injuries and providing injury prevention programs, as well as working with multidisciplinary PUF and FSCD teams. Kajal has completed numerous continuing education courses in areas including pediatric vestibular rehabilitation, toe walking, torticollis, plagiocephaly, cerebral palsy and has also completed orthopedic courses. Kajal's passion for physiotherapy comes from a belief that people of all ages and abilities should have the opportunity to participate fully in any activity they wish to pursue. She continually strives to help her patients reach and surpass their goals no matter what they might be and always focuses on making physio FUN!

Especial Edition

FUNDRAISING NEWS

Get your tickets before EARLY BIRD SAVINGS ends on Jan.31!



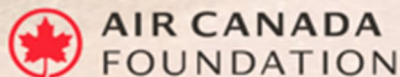
Tickets are \$160 each (eligible for a \$85 tax receipt).

Tickets go up to \$175 on February 1 (eligible for a \$100 tax receipt). Deadline to purchase tickets is February 29.

Here is the link:

trellis.org/allyouneedisloveandjanus

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



AUCTION WISHLIST

We are still in need of silent auction items for our gala!

- Experiences (hotel accommodations, concert tickets, hockey tickets, beer/wine tours, restaurant gift card)
- Tech (Apple products, tablets, Amazon gadgets, gaming systems, projectors)
- Home decor (furniture, kitchen appliances, security cameras, landscaping services, etc.)
- Liquor (craft beer, wine, whiskey, scotch, tastings, bar cart, glasses, etc.)
- Travel (hotel, tickets to a show, car rental, ski passes, etc.)

Questions:

Teresa.Reynolds@janusacademy.org

Especial Edition

FUNDRAISING NEWS



Thanks to YOUR remarkable generosity and that of many other compassionate individuals like yourself, our holiday campaign has not only met but exceeded our second goal of \$30,000!

OUR CAMPAIGN HAS ENDED AND ELIGIBILITY FOR THE 30% MATCH IS UNDER REVIEW.

This year, organizations have a match funding limit of **\$15,000 per annum** and because of your generosity, we are eligible for **\$14,703** in matched funding.

Thank YOU for your contribution and making this year truly count!

I will keep you all posted as soon as I hear from the Government of Alberta about our eligibility.

FOLLOW US ON:



Especial Edition

FUNDRAISING NEWS

JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS' HOLIDAY ENTERPRISE



SUCCESSFULLY MADE \$1093.52 IN NET PROFITS!

Thank YOU to everyone who supported this project with purchases.

The students always look forward to this project, which allows them to be creative, to get hands on experience, and to be a part of the enterprise from sales and marketing to production and distribution.

A special thank you to Lisa G., Kenndra, Lenzei and Lisa A. for coordinating this project to ensure its success.

FOLLOW US ON:





Thank You

to the following individuals and corporations:

Thank you to **ELS FOR AUTISM CANADA** for awarding Janus Academy \$12,500 in grant funds for the Music Therapy Program for students from all grades. Your unwavering support has provided critical funding for this program.

Thank you to **SANTA** for visiting with Janus Academy students and bringing toys from a special donor along for everyone! And treats for staff!

Thank you to the **BLANCO-OROZCO FAMILY** and the **KHODDAMINAZAR FAMILY** for volunteering to record the winter performances for the elementary and junior/senior high. We are grateful for these memories!

Thank you to the **MIRSHAHI FAMILY** for arranging a pizza party for Janus students and staff on December 20! We are deeply grateful for your generosity and kindness!

Thank you to **JANUS ACADEMY STAFF** for raising over \$1,000 through their fun and creative initiatives at work. They planned fun games, prizes and a candygram before the holidays. Your commitment to the students is truly appreciated.

Thank you to **PAT CLENDON** for doing some light carpentry work at the school and to **FARMER GREGG** for doing some metal work. These acts of kindness help save the school with repair costs.



Virtual
LUNCH & LEARN
 for parents and caregivers
“ADVOCATING FOR YOUR CHILD”

Christina, owner of Peerspectives, is a certified Peer Support Worker, Flourishing Educator, Wellness and Relationship Coach. She is also the mom of 27-year-old twin boys. Her son Taylor has cerebral palsy and has been her greatest teacher of empathy and compassion. She shares her story and skills to create authentic learning experiences.



January 17, 2024



12PM

Zoom link to be sent after registration



“The quickest way for a parent to get a child’s attention is to sit down and look comfortable”
 – Lane Olinghouse”



'Me N U' Time Calgary
 For Parents & Caregivers

This unique program is tailor-made to guide you through the rollercoaster ride of your child’s early disability diagnosis or potential diagnosis. Dive into our educational wonderland where you can rub shoulders with other parents/caregivers, health wizards, knowledge ninjas, and inspiring folks who’ve walked in your shoes. From exploring the magical world of therapies, to nurturing your mental garden, and unlocking resources – we’ve got you covered! And the cherry on top? We’ve lined up a fun squad to keep your little munchkins entertained, letting you soak up every bit of information without distractions. All are welcome.

There is no fee for this program thanks to sponsorship from:



Location:

CPAA Abilities Centre
 12001 44 ST SE, Calgary
 Saturdays 10:00AM - 11:00AM
 Starting January 20, 2024

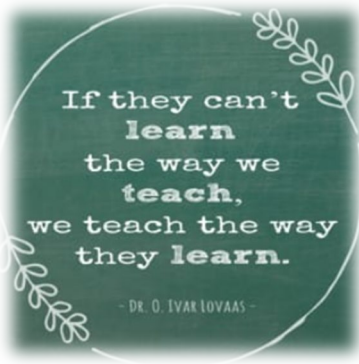
Contact:

Email: supportservices@cpalberta.com



For more information and to learn how you can support a Life Without Limits, please visit us online:

www.cpalberta.com



Board of Directors

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Director	Allison Streit
Director	Dr. Julia Jacobs-LeVan
Director	Ying Wu
Director	Jeff Meidinger
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.

ADAPTING OUR OWN PERCEPTION, FOLLOWING RATHER THAN LEADING AND BUILDING BRIDGES ARE ALL KEYS TO HELPING THE CHILD WITH AUTISM LEARN.

ADELE DEVINE



Janus Academy Society

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