



April Greeting from Janus Academy

Hello Everyone,

I trust you all had a relaxing and enjoyable spring break, cherishing moments of family bonding. I am sure many of you are happy to bid farewell to winter and welcome the blossoms and sunshine. As we return to the school routine, there are several upcoming events and initiatives that I'd like to bring to your attention.

Please mark your calendars for the Science and Art Fair scheduled for April 19th. Our students have poured their efforts into their science projects and we extend an invitation for you to join us in the classrooms for the science fair presentations. Following that, venture down to the learning commons to witness the remarkable artwork crafted by our talented students.

April is designated as World Autism Acceptance Month, a time to honor and recognize autistic individuals, their families, and the broader community. Let's unite in creating an environment of acceptance and celebration. I encourage you and your family to partake in local events, such as the collaborative effort by Autism Asperger's Friendship Society and Autism Calgary at the Calgary Stampede Youth Campus (1302 6th Street SE) from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to everyone who attended or supported our annual Spring Gala, themed "All You Need is Love and Janus." Your unwavering support has once again ensured a highly successful evening, contributing essential funds to maintain educational excellence at our school. Special recognition is due to the students whose memorable musical performance undoubtedly stole the spotlight.

Your ongoing support and involvement in our school community make a significant impact, and we are grateful for your commitment to education and celebration. Looking forward to continued collaboration and success throughout the upcoming events.

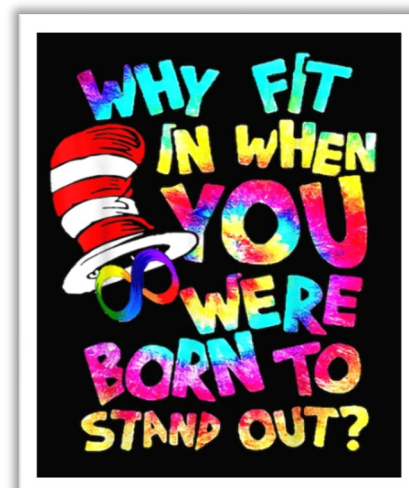
Warm Regards,
Paige McNeill

Program Director, Elementary



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IMPORTANT DATES

Spring 2024



Mark your calendars

- April 2 Non-instructional Day (no school)
- April 3 Classes Resume
- April 11 Autism Awareness Celebration Day (see page 3)
- April 19 Science & Art Fair
- April 19 Healthy Hunger - Subway

- May 1 Hats on for Mental Health Day
- May 3 Healthy Hunger – Coco Brooks
- May 15 Healthy Hunger – A&W
- May 16 Parent/Teacher Conferences
- May 17 Non-instructional Day (no school)
- May 20 Victoria Day (no school)
- May 22 School Wide Photo
- May 31 Healthy Hunger – Taco Time



Save the Date

Save the Date

June 13th is Janus Academy's
12th Annual Sports Day & Pledge-a-thon

Watch for further details in upcoming newsletters.

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**JANUS
ACADEMY**

ACTIVITIES:

- **AM:** school wide activity rotations
- **PM:** Movie in the studio. *make sure to order popcorn from kernels via healthy hunger by April 5. (you can order extra if you would like some to be sent home for the family.

*All money raised from popcorn bought goes towards Staff fundraising Committee ventures.

**AUTISM AWARENESS
CELEBRATION DAY**



**A day to celebrate
all our students**
hosted by the Staff
fundraising Committee

**THURSDAY
11 APRIL**

School Project

A big THANK YOU to the families and staff who donated newspapers & flyers since the beginning of the School Year, however we need a lot more newsprint. If you have any old newspapers or grocery store flyers, we will be happy to take them off your hands.

Please do not hesitate to drop it off at reception during regular school hour or send in your child's backpack.

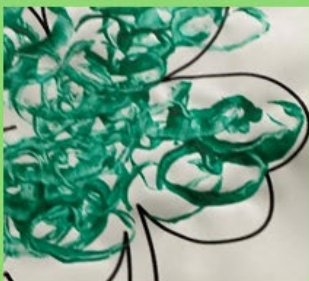


Fun Lunch Fundraising New Lunch Dates Added			
Lunch Date		Restaurant	Order Deadline
Thursday	Apr. 11, 2024	Kernels Popcorn	Thurs. Apr 4, 2024 at 11:50 pm
Friday	Apr. 19, 2024	Subway	Fri. Apr. 12, 2024 at 11:59 pm
Friday	May 3, 2024	Coco Brooks	Fri. Apr 26, 2024 at 11:59 pm
Wednesday	May. 15, 2024	A & W	Wed. May 8, 2024 at 11:59 pm
Friday	May 31, 2024	Taco Time	Fri. May 24, 2024 at 11:59 pm
Friday	June 7, 2024	Edo	Fri. May 31, 2024 at 11:59 pm
Tuesday	June 25, 2024	Subway	Tues. Jun. 18, 2024 at 11:59 pm

Janus Journal

Welcome to the JHHS Media & Photography Club!

We celebrated St. Patrick's Day by wearing and finding green around the school.



We created a monochromatic collage.
Monochromatic means 1 color.



Alliance

Autism Alberta's Alliance Event Connecting Communities

Day 1

Sharing Possibilities

Day 2

Braiding Indigenous
Connections in Autism

June 13 -14, 2024

Ross Glen Hall, Mount Royal University
Calgary, AB
Live Stream Option

Autism Alberta's Alliance, an initiative of Autism Society Alberta, invites you to join us to shape and influence Alberta's future for our community to enhance the lives of Autistic persons and their loved ones.

Our two day event addressing opportunities to improve experiences, services and care within and for the autism community, will be held June 13-14, 2024, at Ross Glen Hall, Mount Royal University in Calgary.

Day 1: June 13, 2024 - Sharing Possibilities

Learn more about Autism Alberta's Alliance's Communities of Practice.

Day 2: June 14, 2024 - Braiding Indigenous Connections in Autism

Autism Alberta's Alliance Indigenous Relations Circle will be hosting this day.

Resource Fair

Mini-resource fairs will be held both days of the event. Day one will focus on employment supports for autistic individuals. Day two will focus on Indigenous resources and feature Indigenous entrepreneurs.

To find out more and to register, go to our website page at:

<https://autismalberta.ca/connecting-communities-event/>

Save the Date

Class of 
2024!

*Come and Celebrate
Janus Academy's 2024 Graduation*

Tuesday
June 11, 2024 | 1:30 pm

Evergreen Theater
1709 8 Ave NE
Calgary



Raising Autism Awareness

COLOURING CONTEST

April 1st - April 30th 2024

Raising Awareness for Autism Colouring Contest.

Our goal is to raise awareness for Autism by spending 20 minutes to colour. Today 1 in 59 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, link on the link below:

<https://mortgagetree.ca/mt/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Autism-Colouring-Contest-2024-Final.pdf>

Amazing things happen



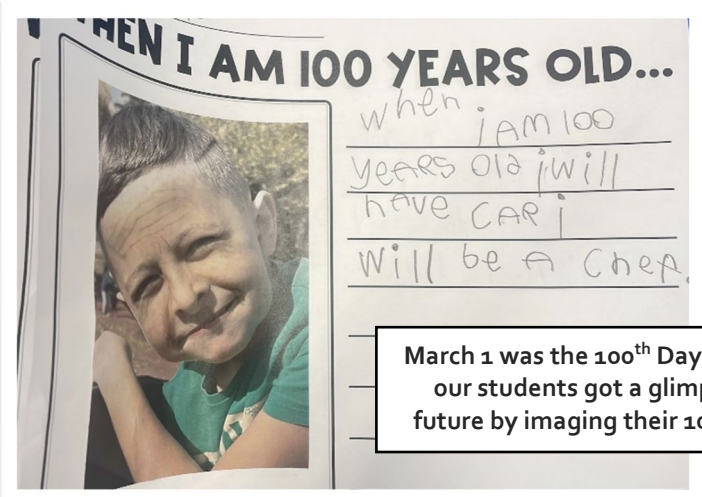
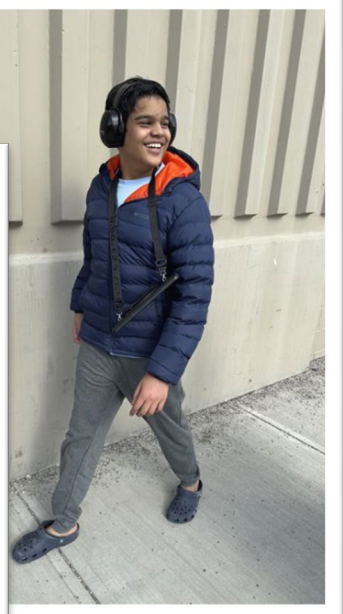
An introduction to autism that aims to raise awareness among young non-autistic audiences, to stimulate understanding and acceptance in future generations. Click the link below and check out the 5 minute video.

<https://youtu.be/Ezv85LMFx2E?feature=shared>

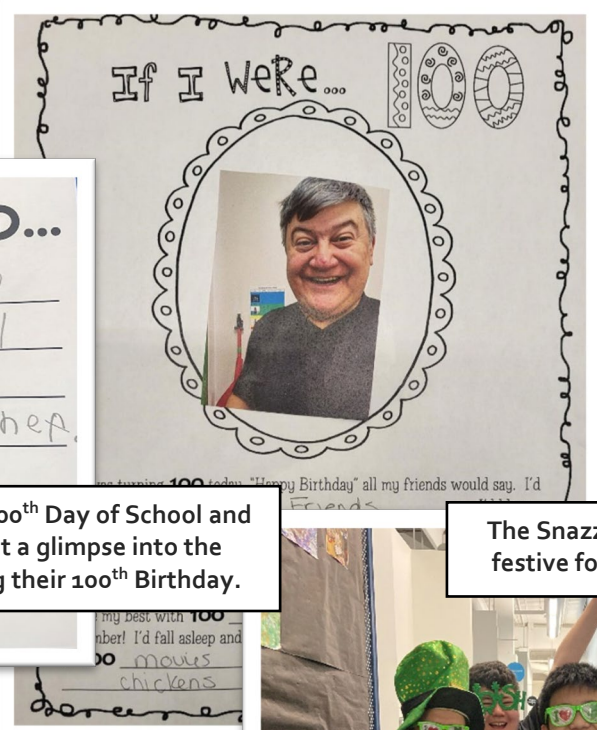
Around the School

From Daylight Savings to the Spring Equinox, March is a month that transitions the seasons winter to spring. It is also a time when everyone wants to start getting outdoors to enjoy the coming of nice weather.

Students enjoyed outdoor walks on the nicer days in March.



March 1 was the 100th Day of School and our students got a glimpse into the future by imaging their 100th Birthday.



The Snazzy Snack crew looking extra festive for an early St. Patrick's Day.



Our Sr. High students worked hard to create the "Student Projects" for our Spring Gala. They did a fantastic job, helping to raise funds for the school!



Rm 2 did process art using paint & shaving cream. They had a blast and brought smiles to the faces of the Janus staff.





ROOM 2



SOCIAL SKILLS

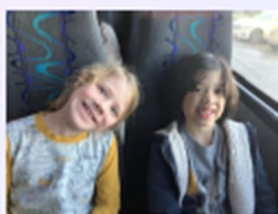
Since September we have been working on various programming designed to teach social skills our students need for their everyday interactions. It has been so amazing watching our students expand from primarily having social relationships with our classroom staff, into building genuine friendships with each other. Our students are very interested in their peers, and in developing relationships with them that may even extend beyond the classroom. When a student is away in Room 2, it is guaranteed that at least 2-3 students will comment on a student's absence, and ask if they're okay. We love seeing our students show kindness, compassion and empathy for each other, while also developing critical play skills.



LITERACY

It has been so exciting seeing Room 2 students taking a strong interest in books, as well as growing their literacy skills and confidence. In Room 2 we aim to make literacy as engaging as possible for our early learners, utilizing dynamic read-alouds, tools such as whisper phones, and lots of tactile engagement with literacy.

In this early stage, it is critical we not only foster the skills needed to read, but also a lifelong love of reading and literature. We have also been working hard on printing and beginning spelling skills in tandem with reading. Our students have been very interested in manipulating words, exploring different sounds, and making connections between what we're working on in literacy and their everyday lives.



LANGUAGE

In our classroom we have a wide range of language ability in our student, which has created a fantastic language learning environment. Students with more language often act as models for other students, while also learning to respond to and accept different ways other students may communicate with them. This has led to a large increase in student language use across all language levels, as students learn new ways to engage with both each other and classroom staff. Students also participate in targeted language learning programs designed to work on each student's individual language goals.

CLASSROOM THANK YOUS

CLASSROOM THANK YOUS

Animal books, number books, story books, puzzle books, the list is endless. Thank you to Attila's family for the amazing book donation. The photo doesn't do it justice.



Rm 3 sends a HUGE Thank you to Anders W and Cole's family for Dog Man and Cat Kid graphic novels. As soon as these books reached the classroom several students paired off and started reading them together.



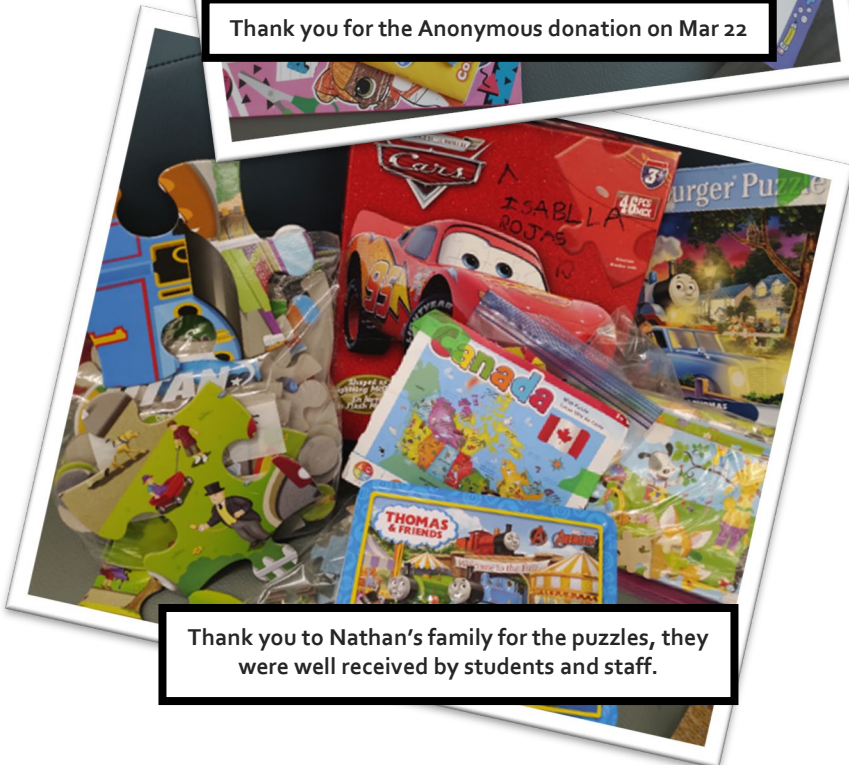
Thank you for the Anonymous donation on Mar 22



Thank you Kids Up Front, who also donated puzzles to the school.



Thank you to Nathan's family for the puzzles, they were well received by students and staff.



Kids up front

Through the generosity of donors, Kids Up Front was able to award Janus Families a total of 459 tickets in the year 2023. These tickets were for various events throughout the city of Calgary, and included everything from theatre plays, musical events, holiday parties and festivals to all kinds of sporting events, from hockey to soccer, lacrosse to basketball. The total value for these tickets was \$26,660! Thank you to the donors and the team at Kids Up Front for providing these great opportunities to our students and their families.



The Musical by QUEEN at the **Edmonton**

WE WILL ROCK YOU

CALGARY, ALBERTA | DECEMBER 27TH 2019
SOUTHERN ALBERTA JUBILEE AUDITORIUM

Special Edition

FUNDRAISING NEWS

Janus Academy has been approved as a participating charity for the 2024 Birdies for Kids program



This is our inaugural year with the Shaw Charity Classic and we are excited for this matching opportunity, which will pair perfectly with our upcoming Sports Day Pledgeathon. More info to come in early May!



Janus Academy staff are putting together a social media campaign to honour our students this month. Please keep your eye out on Facebook and Instagram and please SHARE!

- April 5 - Room 2
- April 9 - Room 3
- April 12 - Room 4
- April 16 - Room 5
- April 18 - Room 6
- April 23 - Room 7
- April 26 - Room 8/9
- April 30 - Room 10





27TH ANNUAL JANUS ACADEMY SPRING GALA
**ALL YOU NEED IS
LOVE & janus**

WHAT A CELEBRATION!

It is with great pleasure to share that the 27th Annual Gala raised over \$120,000!!!

A HUGE THANK YOU to our families, staff, board of directors, the gala committee and supporters for another unforgettable gala in support of specialized education!

Here are some fundraising highlights:

- Sponsorships more than doubled this year totaling \$29,500
- Fundraising games including centerpieces raised over \$11,000
- With 144 items, the silent auction raised approx. \$25,800
- Fund A Need raised over \$27,000

The feedback from parents and guests were all very positive and some even said "it was the best one yet!" That gives us great joy to hear and we look forward to creating another magical and successful gala next year.

It takes an enormous amount of volunteer time and support from Janus families to make the gala a success. This support is vital as it has a huge impact on being able to provide a quality education for each child at Janus Academy.

If you are interested in joining the gala committee to offer your time and talents, please email me at teresa.reynolds@janusacademy.org. We are always looking for helping hands.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Board of Directors

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



Janus Academy Society

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