



Janus Journal

November
2025

November Greeting from Janus Academy

Hello Families and Staff,

It's hard to believe we're already in November! The past 2 of months have been full of learning, laughter, and connection here at Janus. Students enjoyed exciting field trips that brought classroom lessons to life, along with a variety of in-school activities that helped strengthen friendships and build confidence.

October was especially memorable. Early in the month, we held our first series of student-staff workshops, a long-standing Janus tradition. These workshops play an important role in fostering creativity, celebrating student achievements, enhancing staff learning, and setting goals for the year ahead.

Many classes also took time to celebrate Friendsgiving, where students shared food, friendship, and gratitude. These meaningful moments of connection help students practice kindness, inclusion, and appreciation for others, which are part of the Janus core values we strive to model each day. Elementary students also had a blast rotating through fun Halloween stations, while our Junior/Senior High students celebrated with the first school dance of the year on October 31 — a huge success filled with music, energy, and lots of smiles!

Looking ahead, November gives us a chance to pause and reflect. Remembrance Day will be observed on Tuesday, November 11, and the school will be closed as we honor those who have served and continue to serve our country.

We're also hosting a Flu Vaccine Clinic on Thursday, November 7 at 1:00 p.m. for interested students and staff. Consent forms and more information will be sent home soon.

Our Parent-Teacher Conferences are coming up on Monday, November 10, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. These meetings are a wonderful opportunity to connect with your child's teaching team, celebrate growth, and discuss goals for the months ahead. Conferences can be held in-person or virtually, and there will be no classes for students that day. The school will be closed on Wednesday, November 12 for a non-instructional day as staff take part in professional development and planning.

As we move through November, we're grateful for your ongoing support and partnership. Thank you for sharing your incredible children with us and for helping to make Janus Academy a place where belonging, growth, and joyful learning continue to thrive.

Wishing you and your family a cozy and reflective month ahead,

Koren Trnka

Program Director – Jr./Sr. High

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"As we set today aside to honor and thank our veterans, let us be mindful that we should do this every day of the year and not just one."

BETH PENNINGTON



IMPORTANT DATES

Fall 2025



Mark your calendars

- November 5 Picture Retake Day
- November 6 Remembrance Event – school wide
- November 7 Flu Clinic
- November 10 Parent Teacher Conferences (no school)
- November 11 Remembrance Day (no school)
- November 12 Non-instructional Day (no school)
- November 14 Healthy Hunger (A&W)
- November 28 Healthy Hunger (TacoTime)

- December 10 Santa Claus Visit
- December 11 Elementary Winter Performance
- December 12 Healthy Hunger (Edo Japan)
- December 12 JHHS Dance
- December 17 Ugly Shirt/Sweater Day
- December 18 Healthy Hunger (McDonalds)
- December 18 Winter Hat/Fun Day
- December 19 Pajama Day & Early Dismissal (12:00pm)



Santa Claus is Coming to Janus Academy!

To respect the diversity in beliefs, parental/guardian consent is required for your child to visit with Santa. Please click the link below and complete the consent form.



<https://forms.gle/4N7x2eVSbvpffMy57>

SAVE THE DATE “DANCING FEET”

Thursday December 11th, 2025

Time: 1:15 - 2:15

Location: Loose Moose theatre



STAY TUNE FOR MORE DETAILS TO COME

SHOP OUR HOLIDAY

And support the Jr/Sr High Social Enterprise Project



WINTER WONDERLAND ENTERTAINING SET \$30

Coasters & Wine Charms



WINTER WARMTH APPLE CIDER SET \$20

Apple Cider Mix & Mugs



SWEET HOLIDAY TREAT BUNDLE \$25

Brownie Mix & Hot Chocolate Mix



LET LIFE SIMMER BUNDLE \$20

Soup Mix & Bread Mix



PEPPERMINT BLISS GIFT SET \$18

Candle & Bath Salts

<https://janus-academy-society.square.site/>



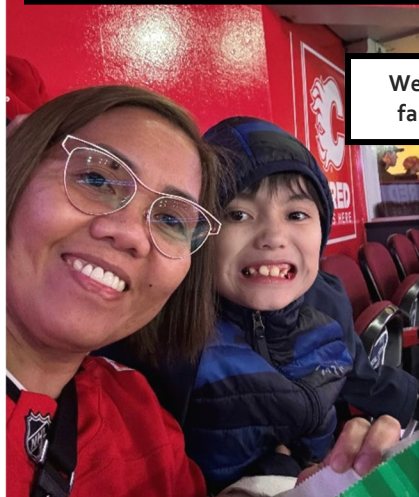
Use this link or QR code to shop

Order deadline: Nov.14
Order pickup: Dec.12

Kids Having Fun!

October was a busy month for Kids Up Front. Our Janus families enjoyed many free events throughout the month. From hockey to concerts and everything in between. Smiles and good times were had by everyone. Watch for more exciting opportunities in November.

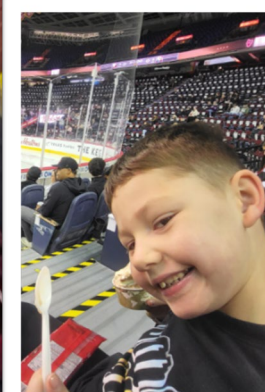
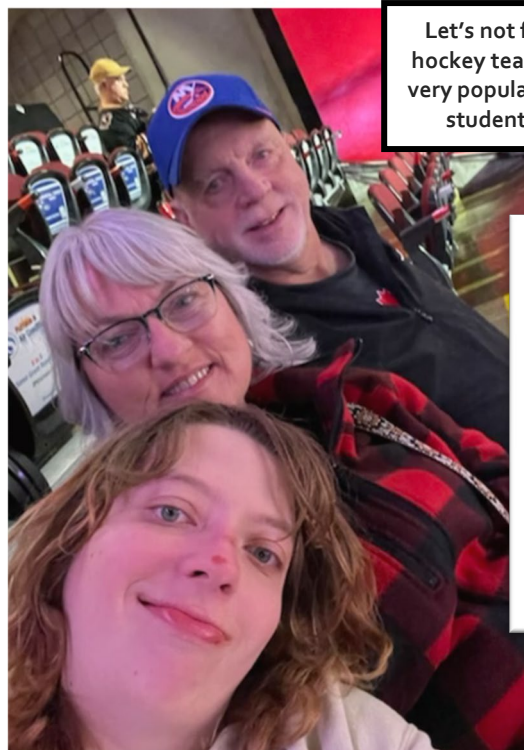
We have many students who are Flames fans. Check out these fabulous smiles.



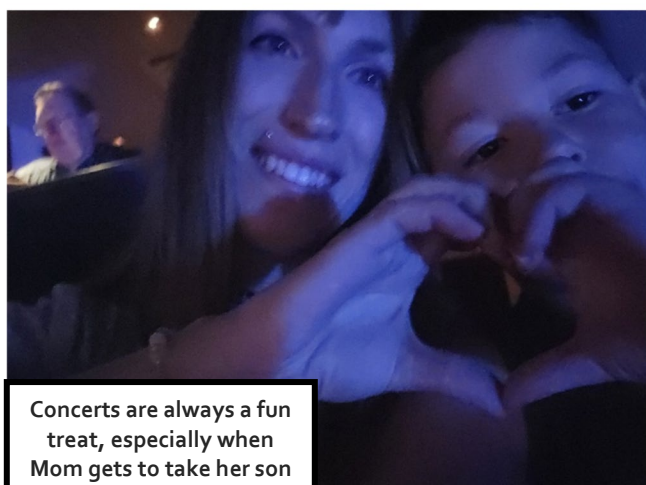
This fan is more interested in the action than getting his picture



Let's not forget Calgary's junior hockey team, the Hitmen. Also, a very popular hockey team with our students and their families.



Concerts are always a fun treat, especially when Mom gets to take her son to his very first one.

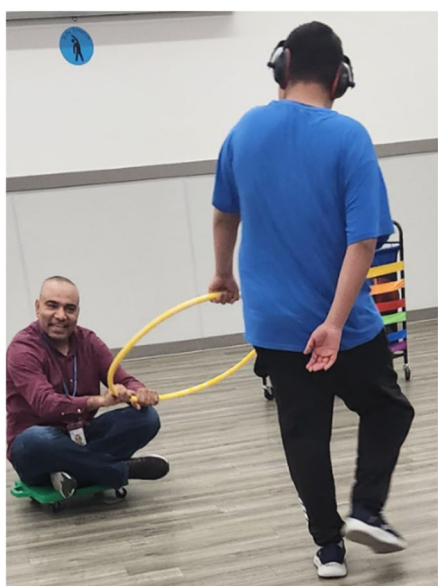


Around The School

October saw everyone more comfortable with their new routines and allowed students and staff to excel in their academic and social environments. Here are just a few highlights from a very busy second month of school.

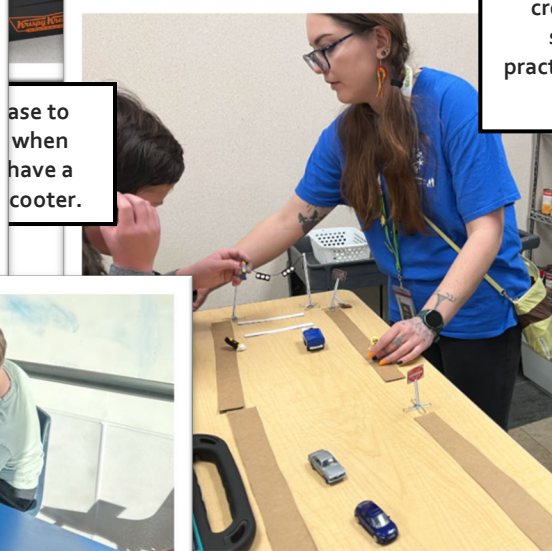
A BIG Thank You to P.A.C. for the tasty treats they brought for the staff on PD Day.

Workshop Week gave students and staff great one on one learning opportunities.



Big shoutout to Sumati for such a creative way to make street safety fun! The students practiced real-life skills and had a blast doing it.

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have a
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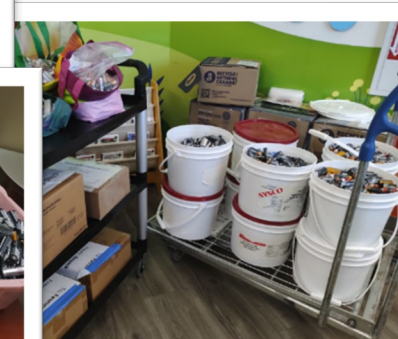
Janus Academy was kept safe this Halloween with our very own Ghostbusters! A Big shoutout to Gio for his DJ debut at the JHHS Halloween Dance. It was an amazing day, full of fun festivities and many great costumes.



Our first Lucky 8 Diner of the school year was a huge success. Students practiced their serving skills, while staff enjoyed the wonderful food served.



Some amazing battery donations came in during October. These are just two of them and we are still sorting and shipping! The context has been extended to Nov 28, 2025. Keep those batteries coming!



Classroom 9 Newsletter

November
2025

Life Skills

In Life Skills, students have been hard at work practicing their employment readiness skills both in our Employment Readiness Room and throughout the school. They're learning these important tasks in a supported teaching setting while gaining hands-on experience, from sorting and organizing to helping collect the school's garbage to assist our custodial team!

By introducing and practicing these skills within the school environment first, students are able to build confidence, independence, and routine before taking their learning out into the community. This step-by-step approach helps ensure they're well prepared to apply their skills in real-world settings and future work experiences.



Volunteering

Room 9 has been busy this month! Students have been out in the community, volunteering at McDougall United Church and the Sportsplex, where they've been gaining hands-on experience with custodial cleaning and teamwork. They've also taken on the important responsibility of collecting and washing the school's laundry at the laundromat!

These experiences are such valuable opportunities for our students to build functional life skills that prepare them for adulthood and greater independence. Through community volunteering, students are learning about responsibility, communication, and the importance of contributing to their community, all while having fun and taking pride in their work!

Our Classrooms Thank You

Attila's family donated a wonderful assortment of craft supplies that the classrooms were delighted to received.

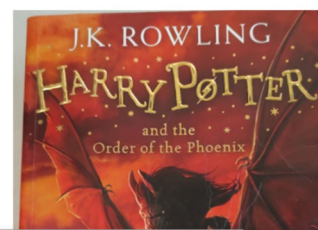


Peppa Pig fans at Janus Academy are enjoying the great donation from Charlie.

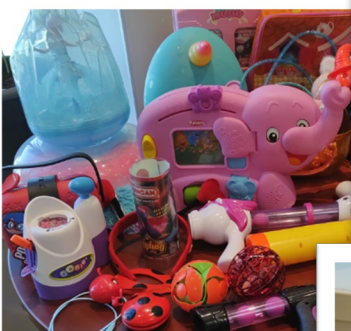


Cole brought in books, basketballs and Halloween buckets. These were snapped up quickly.

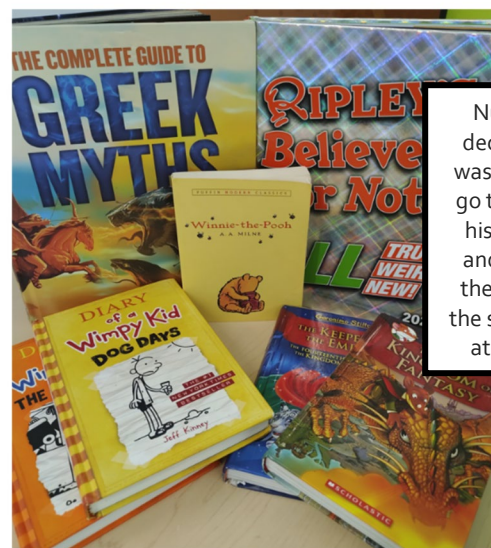
Robert Valaroso, part of our extended Janus family, donated an amazing collection of figures and toys. Thank you for your generosity.



Nurasyi decided it was time to go through his books and share them with the students at Janus



Arisa's family donated an amazing collection of books, games & toys that our students immediately put to good use.



YOLANDE DALEY, DIRECTOR OF TRAINING

THE LEARNING CORNER

Save
the Date

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 5th, 2025

* Puberty and Growing Up

Topics: Public and private information, body safety, boundaries, consent, puberty changes and looking after body and mind.

Click the link to register:

<https://forms.gle/Fq56m2G GU3wQQ9nU8>

November 12th 2025

* Sibling Art Vibes

Siblings will enjoy an art session facilitated by Clay for Kids and social interacting activities.

Click link to register:

<https://forms.gle/f1rJFWNf eLUkqx839>



From left to right Yancy Zhen, Ying Chen, Gavin Graham, Cecilia Chen, and Andy Wang

Learning Together, Growing Stronger

Thank-you to Board Member Cecilia Chen and her team from **Spire Wealth Management** for their informative presentation, "Practical Tax & Investment Strategies for Families Today and Tomorrow," held on October 15, 2025. Their time, expertise, and financial insights provided valuable tools and long-term planning strategies for families.

If you missed the session and would like to learn more, please contact: **Cecilia Chen, CP, CA Co-Founder**
Email: cchen@spirewealthmanagement.ca
Tel: 587-324-2672

Parents Feedback

- "Real advice that applies to families like us" – **Juvanie**
- "Helpful information at the present and future and gives us advice for financial support" – **Cora**



October Professional Development and Wellness Day



I truly love what I do, and that passion continues to motivate me to find ways to expand our team's knowledge and foster wellness opportunities. This month, our staff enjoyed a half-day wellness session where they could choose to participate in activities such as Zumba, Sound Bath, Yoga, or Art — a refreshing and unique experience to support their mental health.

A huge shout-out goes to our incredible education team, who continue to give their all from the moment they step into the school until the end of the day. October proved to be even busier than September, filled with IPP deadlines, workshops, daily meetings, weekly training, and classroom preparations.

Through teamwork, dedication, and collaboration, we've truly shown that together we are a powerhouse!

Did you know?

On average, new staff receives an average of 80 hours of training within their first year of employment.

November Professional Development Day

Beyond training our team in the teaching philosophy of ABA and effective engagement strategies with students, our senior-level team also receives ongoing professional development focused on leadership and growth.

Our upcoming session will be facilitated by Kyle Kalloo from Strategic Leader Coaching, and will focus on:

- Working styles
- Supervisory skills
- Leadership skills
- Conflict resolution



Occupational Therapist – Alan Osioviich

Fine Motor Development

This month, Alan hosted a series of mini workshops for the education team focused on supporting students' fine motor skill development. The sessions provided valuable insight into:

- The development of an efficient grip
- The sequence of drawing and printing
- Hand dominance preferences
- Cutting skill progression

These workshops equipped our team with practical strategies to better support students in building strong foundational motor skills essential for learning and independence.

“Learning is a journey without end, where each step opens a new door of possibility.” - unknown

FUNDRAISING UPDATE



Get ready to rewind the clock and relive the glory days at **Throwback Thursday: Party Like It's 1997!**

Join us as we celebrate the vibrant spirit of the decade that brought us dial-up tones, blockbuster hits, and the very beginning of Janus Academy.

Tickets go on sale January, 2026.

Silent Auction Items Needed

A big thank you to all the parents who've been working hard to secure donations — your efforts truly make a difference! We're still looking for high-demand items to help make our auction shine:

- **Tech & Electronics**
Apple, Samsung, Dyson, Garmin
- **Home & Kitchen**
Cuisinart, KitchenAid, Smeg, Breville
- **Food, Drink & Experiences**
- **Events & Getaways**
- **Gift Baskets**

For the full list of donations already collected click here:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1w3GgMT937xjKlOZDdABDWBvLwqCF8QLLPdE0_dZwvxY/edit?gid=0#gid=0

FUNDRAISING UPDATE



The **FoJAA Holiday Campaign** (featuring Purdy's Chocolates!) kicks off the first week of November. Orders are due by November 17, with delivery scheduled for December 3 — just in time for the holidays!

What you'll need to order:

1. Our campaign number: 78588
2. Go to our fundraising website: <https://fundraising.purdys.com/2002736-131238>
3. Click "Join Campaign"

Help Us Decorate our Gift of Education Tree This Holiday! Nov.17 – Dec.31



- Our year end campaign will launch mid November in partnership with Crowdfunding Alberta.
- **This year, gifts made through this platform will be eligible for a 50% match* from the Government of Alberta.**
 - **If you are eligible for the match, this will also be credited to your fundraising commitment.
- Charities are eligible for a maximum of \$5,000 in matching funds (the first \$10,000 raised will be eligible).
- Keep an eye out for an email for the donation link closer to the launch date.

THANK YOU

A heartfelt thank you to Colliers for choosing Janus Academy as the beneficiary of their annual golf tournament and for their incredible gift of \$45,000 in support of our students!

Colliers

Special thanks to the Sportsplex and CDI college for their extra efforts with collection to make our Earth Rangers / Recycle Your Batteries Canada contest such a success!

We thank the Redmond Family Fund at Calgary Foundation for granting \$2,500!



Thank you to Tim Cranston, part of our extended Janus Family, for filling in as our volunteer driver!

With gratitude, we thank the Prosser Charitable Foundation for their generous bursary support, helping 13 Janus families access the specialized education their children need this year.

Thank you to Betsy Valaroso for creating Key Chain Coins for the life Skills Group. No more scrambling for loonies!!

Thank you to the PAC for hosting a wonderful Halloween Potluck!



The Prosser
Charitable Foundation

Board of Directors

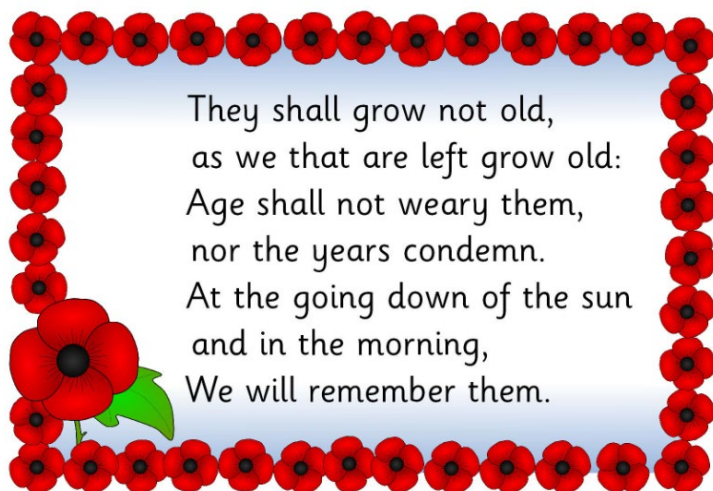
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Director	Dr. Ying Wu
Director	Jeff Meidinger
Director	Riley Dearden
Director	Jake Surrey
CEO	Carlene Chrumka

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.



Janus Academy Society

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