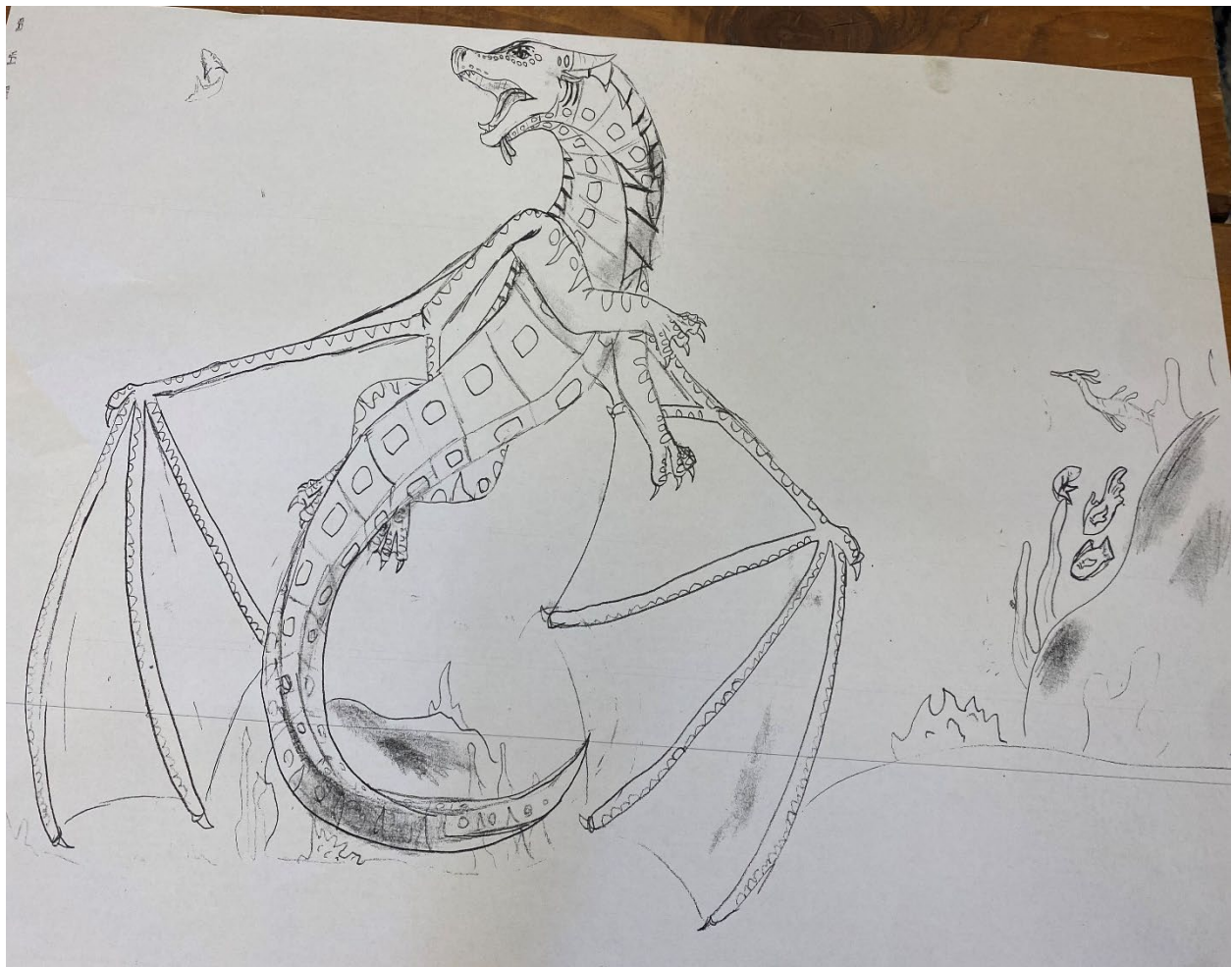


Morning families,

Despite rolling attendance, learning has continued. As you can imagine, it is difficult for the teachers to get all caught up when students are away, due to sickness (inclusive of their own need to stay home as well) – we are in this together. I want to first offer up a huge thank you to the school staff who has persevered during this time (caring for self and others), providing routine for those well enough to be here and care and attention to all as they return.

For many of you last week, you may have seen this image brought home (as well as some others). This was generously gifted to the students to color from another talented Wildflower student artist. This was a great activity for many to explore when people transitioned back from sickness at home when energy was not yet at its peak.



Metis Awareness Month continues:

Students were awed by the musical stylings of this Metis icon who performed on hand made wooden spoons ('Old Town Road' and 'Dance Monkey' were hits). Afterwards each class learned about the history of the Metis people, got a chance to try out a pair of spoons (which are connected). The best part was the kids learning how to jig! One class was so hot after their trial getting them to put on their jackets while first outside was a real trial... Their flushed and excited faces told the full story of their time with Naomi - rich. Check it out.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x8MeU9FOcw4>



Episode of what can we get up to today:

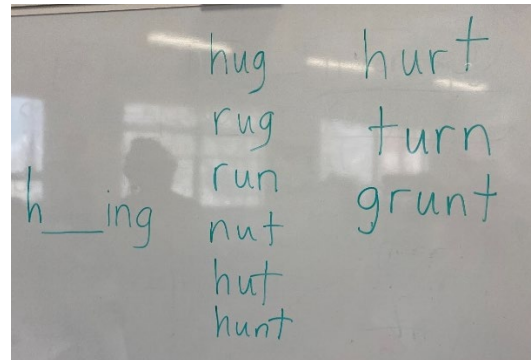
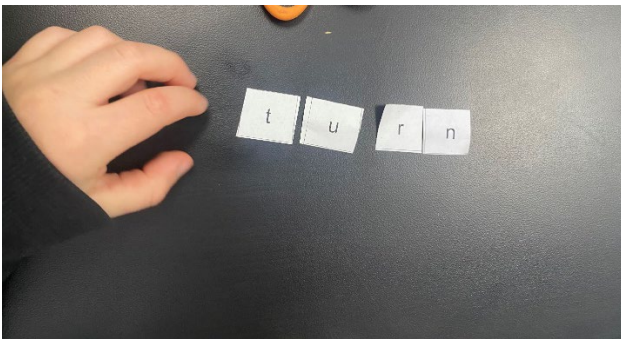
Snuggle with friends.



Look at what I found?!

Turning the tide:

Primary Literacy in a team effort at Wildflower school. This was a fun class game where each child received their own group of letters to cut up and then manipulate to spell the word from hearing it auditorily. After a student spelled it aloud it was then written on the board.



This hands-on sound/word recognition activity ends with a 'secret' word that uses each letter that the child was given. They each had to remember themes / sounds then raise their hands to see if they got it (after maybe a hint or two). Thank you, Emily / Anna's primary crew, for sharing your learning with me.

Multi-age schooling – a gift!



Humility



Generosity

Leadership, play, learning – we got it all! Throughout any given day, there are opportunities for students to bring one another up. From conflict resolution support from an older peer, to remembering when you were there – having someone to look up to. Here are a couple of snapshots to remind you of how special our school community really is!

Principal pursuits:

Each member of the Kootenay Lake Principal / Vice Principal Association (KLPVPA) is asked to take a seat in one or sometimes more, committees to represent our association. My committee that I am representing our association is at the Aboriginal Committee on Education (A.C.E.), as another Indigenous school leader at the table. This opportunity is dear to my heart and one that my family is also very proud (inclusive of my ancestors). At this Thursday's annual general meeting it was an honor to hear the presentations given by the West Kootenay Metis Association, the Secwepemc, and sharing our districts path towards reconciliation - action.

Friday was a short additional commute, additional staircase for the win. It is a requirement of a school Principal to help in the marking of the Foundational Skills Assessments (FSA's). The marking session at the School Board Office, despite being several people short due to illness and TTOC staffing shortages went very well. I have marked many grade 11 Social Studies provincials as well as grade 10 English provincials, but this was the first time assessing the FSA's. My group was composed with two teachers and one other school Principal where we dug into the grade four numeracy section for each school in the district. It was good learning to see the thought processes of how each student showed their learning, numeracy strengths, and where to go next (school specific / district wide).

A true community event:





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Nelson hosted a couple of great events this weekend! My family had the pleasure of being at the ice rinks. It was a great opportunity to watch Aston and Makai play some great hockey and to connect with the families (one anyways). It was also fun to be out and about in Nelson for the day, in getting to see some students, teachers, and friends out in their own habitats. Loving the friendly cool vibe – thanks all.

Other events that some of our students took part in was the Taekwondo tournament hosted at St. Joe's. Poppy and Henry were a glow first thing this morning in sharing their accomplishments. Well done athletes!

Sincerely,

Misty Terpstra

she/her/hers
Principal

Wildflower School

Email: misty.terpstra@sd8.bc.ca



I gratefully acknowledge, respect and honour the First Nations in whose traditional territories the Kootenay Lake School District operates and all Aboriginal people residing within the boundaries of School District No.8 (Kootenay Lake).

