

Update from Wildflower Nelson for November.

Some highlights include:

- After an exciting and eventful Halloween which involved all classes doing pumpkin activities (weighing, measuring, carving, predicting, writing etc. and parading through the district office



(thanks for the candies), all classes have settled into serious learning.

- All staff and students have met the incoming Principal Nick Graves and he has spent a full day and a shorter time on another day. We look forward to having him join the school and provide the support and leadership the school requires.
- Several classes have been involved with Johnathon Brooks and working on Math initiatives.
- Sarah Finder, Librarian, has arranged for the school to have a salmon egg hatching, growing fish for the school.
- An ArtStarts program which focuses on film making is currently underway is clearly demonstrating that this is something that can be learned successfully by even younger students. They are quickly building skills. There is potential for further development of the project through Art Starts to a point that older students will be able to build multimedia presentations and short films in the future.

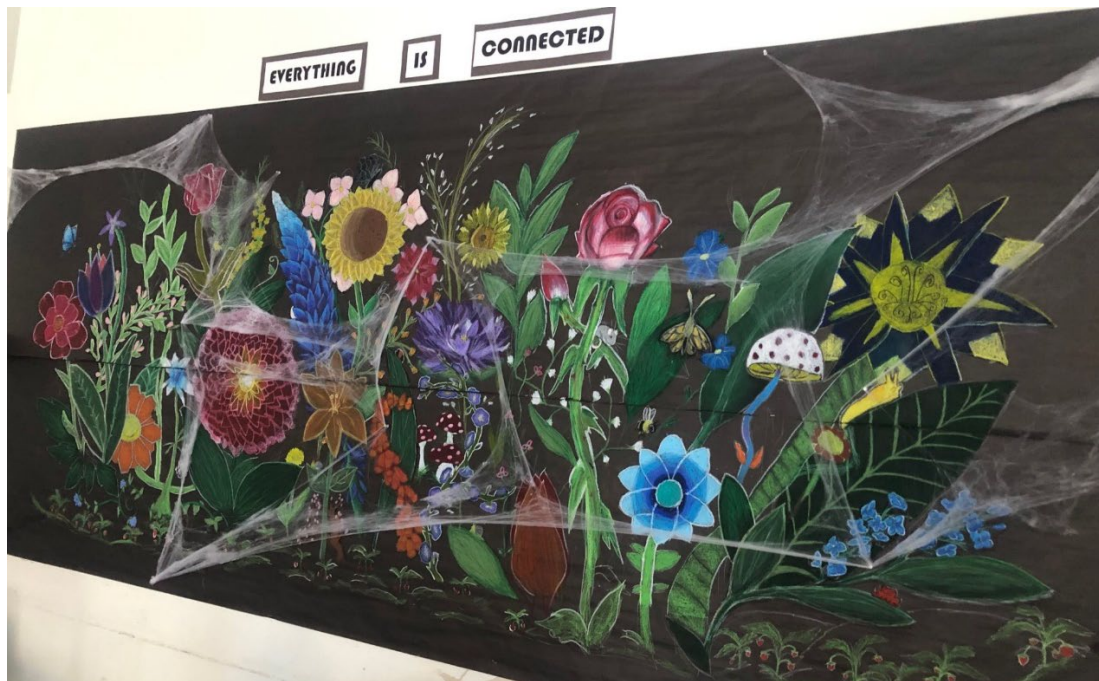
We have:

- In the Middle school, one class is doing a large environmental project involving outside guest speakers talking about different aspects of the environment. Living alongside species, use of fire, forest management and so on. Students are being asked to take on the role of an element of the environment and advocate, speak and write from it's point of view. See Poem by Izzy attached.
- There is ongoing dedication to meeting with all families to plan, support, assess at home learning, and continue to keep parents informed regarding their child's progress.

- There has been ongoing education using Mind Up throughout all classrooms as well as Body Awareness. Students have shown great interest in this, and it has inspired considerable writing interest.



- Student writing is being shared and celebrated and posted on bulletin boards around the school. I took time to read and respond on sticky notes to the writers which was well received.
- Students attended the symposium at Salmo and there is ongoing support for the Green Committee in the school under the direction of one of the teachers. This is a long-term project, and one I would follow keenly over time.



- Another highlight is the ongoing progress in our school library and we feel extremely lucky to have the staff we do in this regard. Parent volunteers are continuing to help process hundreds of books and place them in the new space. At the same time, students are continuing to use the library to sign books out and return. The future of the library is to team teach, and support teachers with suitable resources. The library and the librarian is growing and developing into a most valuable resource.



- Administering the FSA was a unique experience for the Principal as we drew students from all classes. The library space was wonderful and with a few cookies to help them along their way, I believe our students did their best.
- School Plan for Learning has been reviewed for a second time since completion. Work continues in this regard.
- We are grateful for the amazing and caring Inclusive Education staff and the support they have offered for students with diverse abilities, and our Safe Schools staff.
- We are grateful for the clerical relief staff support o backfill any clerical absences while supporting all our staff to fulfill their roles within the school and any roles they may have with our union partners.
- Space: Having available space for itinerant specialists such as SLP and others continues to be a challenge. We're grateful for itinerant staff using upstairs space for some of this specialist work.
- Foods program continues to be a work in progress. We are grateful for Kelly and the work and support she provides. While students are not going hungry, we know our feeding futures program will evolve further.

Summary:

Wildflower school continues to be a happy and vibrant place of learning. The commitment of the staff is great as is the support of families. Students appear to be happy, learning and proud of being part of the Wildflower community.

I Am Engelmann Spruce

*I am long- standing and wise
I wonder if I will be the next of my kin to be killed with an ax
I hear the sound of my kin crashing to the earth
I see a barren land with no life
I yearn for the time before, when all life was respected
I am long- standing and wise
I seem majestic and old
I wish to die at my own time
I feel the minds of my kin as they live life
I worry that there will no longer be the mother tree to give knowledge to the saplings
I weep when the voices of my kin cry out as their lives are ended by blade
I am long- standing and wise
I understand that life will come to an end but it must happen at it's own time
I believe that someday I will again hear the voices of my elders giving me wisdom
I dream for the snow not to melt so fast
I try to give knowledge to my kin
I hope that the land will return to how it was before
I am long- standing and wise*

Issy

Gr: 8