



# inside look

DECEMBER 2021



## From the Principal's Desk

Since the 20th century, "Joy to the World" has been the most-published Christmas hymn in North America. Some of my earliest memories are of singing that Christmas carol in church, with an organist belting out strong (and loud) chords, and a beautiful, older Dutch lady singing with all her might, while pronouncing the words just a little bit differently than me. Some of my favourite parts were when the lines repeated and the congregation would start singing quietly and then reach a full crescendo on the very last line. Who wouldn't get swept away in that powerful moment?

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;  
Let Earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare him room,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Collectively we were reminded that "heaven and nature sing," and that we

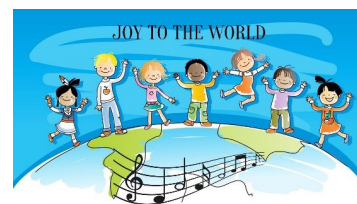
should "repeat the sounding joy," and focus on "the wonders of His love."

The song is still one of my Christmas favourites, but I think this year it is especially meaningful. In the midst of COVID protocols and COVID exhaustion and the recent flooding, it is even more appropriate that I focus on finding ways to continually prepare my heart for the coming of the King and that I listen to heaven and nature sing all around me. It is important that every day, and many times during a day, I find glimpses of joy. To renew my mind and my spirit, it is imperative that I seek to focus on the wonders of His love, especially when the realities of the day-to-day seem to take center stage.

So in the spirit of repeated joy and wonder, here is my list of some of the little things that bring me joy:

- An unfinished puzzle on my dining room table, giving me the opportunity to sit and relax

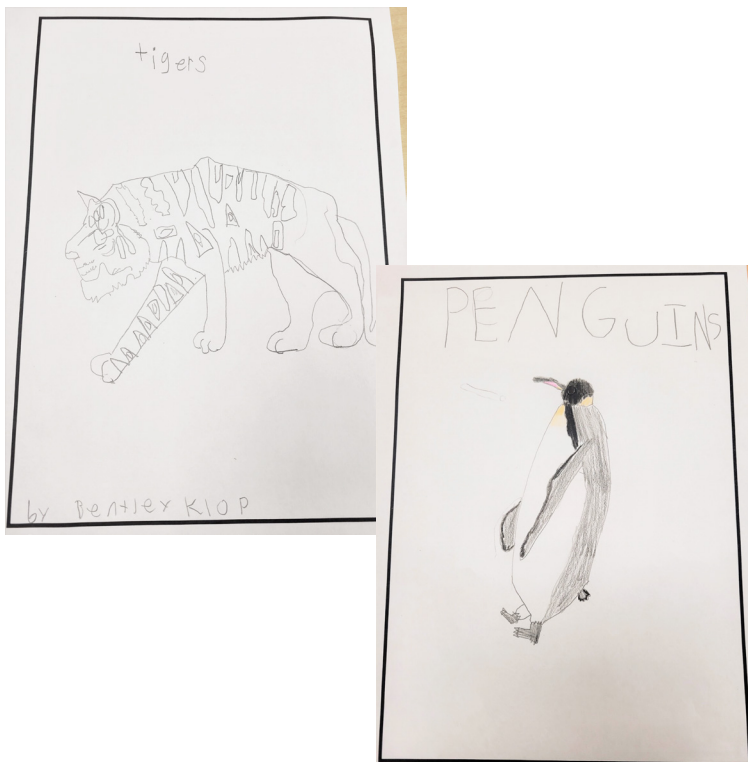
- Playing board games with my adult children
- Snuggling my grandson as he falls asleep in my arms
- Watching students build snowmen and forts and whole families out of snow
- Drinking hot apple cider
- Having a real wood fireplace
- Highways that are open and allow me to resume my daily activities
- Crowded hallways of students first thing in the morning
- The sounds of student voices calling to each other as they arrive at school



Sometime this Christmas, please join me and take some time to reflect on God's goodness and "repeat the sounding joy." JOY TO THE WORLD! THE LORD IS COME. ●

# An **inside**look ...into our Grade 2/3 class

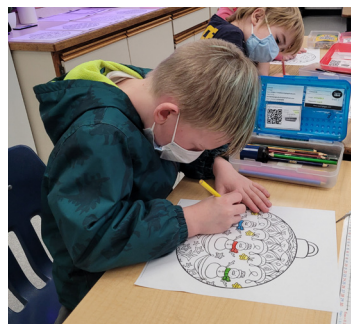
Penguins, snakes, pandas, cougars, coyotes and meerkats are just a few of the animals that the 2/3 students are learning about. We have been in full research mode since the beginning of November and our projects are almost finished. After choosing our animals, we spent some time reading books and watching videos about them. Then we had to put our note taking skills to the test. Note-taking is not for the faint of heart, but these bright students quickly tackled this skill and moved on to rough drafts. Rough drafts required diligence and patience, and editing required even more effort, but soon all the hard work paid off. It was time to create good copies, complete with illustrations. The class loved using directed drawing tutorials to create amazing pictures of their animals. The best part of the whole process was seeing the creativity of God through all the different animals. When you see a Grade 2/3 student, make sure you ask them what their animal is and if they can tell you some interesting facts about it.



In Math, we have been busy learning about addition and subtraction, with regrouping. The students love a challenge and are always asking for harder questions and bigger numbers when we work together at the teacher table. Somedays, they want numbers in the thousands, millions or even billions to add and subtract. We have also enjoyed playing games like Snap and Go Fish, to practice fact fluency.



The 2/3 class are a very creative group and enjoy drawing, colouring and crafting. They are excited to be working on a Christmas project that we hope to share with you in the virtual Christmas Program, coming soon!



# An **inside**look ...our students' perspective



**K/1 Tobias**— Jesus brings me joy at Christmas, and I like making Christmas cookies with Mommy and spending time with my family.



**K/1 Eli** — Sledding brings me joy. I also like to see the salmon in the lake with my family and decorating Christmas tree cookies brings me joy.



**2/3 Stella**— The three things that bring me joy are baking cookies, hanging the Christmas ornaments and spending time with my family.



**2/3 Grace**— Things that bring me joy are spending time with my family and decorating the Christmas lights on the trees outside.

## *Question of the Month*

The packages under a Christmas tree can bring us joy and happiness, but joy can also be all around us in many different things. What are three things that bring you joy that you don't find under the Christmas tree?

**4/5 Nikola**— My siblings bring me joy because they are kind and the best to be around. Being able to draw brings me joy because it is great to be amazing at something. And my friends bring me joy because they can make me laugh.



**4/5 Jessica** — The three things that bring me joy are my parents because they comfort me, my friends because they entertain me and my grandparents because they are funny.



**6/7 Wade**— The three things that bring me joy and aren't under the Christmas tree are the gaga ball pit, our school and my friends.



**6/7 Jeremiah**— The three things that bring me joy are spending time together, eating, and playing games.





# An inside look

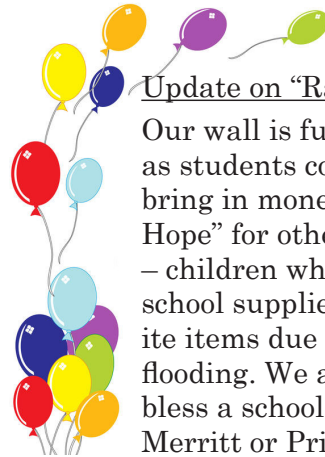
## Update on the C.A.R.E. Campaign

We are so excited to note that because of the generous support of people like you who believe in Christian education, we have raised just over **\$22,000** in our C.A.R.E. Campaign. We are thrilled to be able to use that money to engage in the three projects that have been highlighted for this year. If you were still planning to give, donations will be gladly received at the office.



## Christmas video coming soon!

It is another year of Christmas during a pandemic. We had hoped to bring you a live performance this year, but singing and performing through a mask does not lend itself to quality sound, and a room full of spectators does not promote the safety of our community. So, you will soon be receiving a link to our second Christmas YouTube performance. Please gather with your family, get some good snacks and enjoy the Christmas Presentation of Agassiz Christian School, coming soon through a video link just for you. Please feel free to send the link to grandparents, family members and others who need a bit of Christmas joy.



## Update on "Raising Hope"

Our wall is full of balloons as students continue to bring in money to "Raise Hope" for other children – children who have lost school supplies and favourite items due to the recent flooding. We are hoping to bless a school in either the Merritt or Princeton area

with our gifts of hope.



## Treadmill Needed:

Treadmills are a great tool to help keep students regulated and productive at school. Our treadmill has seen many steps, but isn't working anymore. If anyone has a working treadmill that needs a new home and likes children, we could definitely find a place for it at school.



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## Important Dates to Remember

- **December 18 - Jan 3** - Christmas Break
- **January 4** - School Re-opens for P-7
- **January 28** - Pro-D Day - (no school P-7)
- **February 21** - Family Day - (no school P-7)
- **March 12- 27** - Spring Break
- **March 28** - School Re-opens for P-7



Merry Christmas!

Have a safe and joyous holiday