



From the Principal's Desk

Psalm 1:3 states:

*He will be like a tree firmly
planted by streams of water,
Which yields its fruit in its
season*

*And its leaf does not wither;
And in whatever he does, he
prosper.*

Our playground had a tree like that. A tree that was firmly planted. It was a favourite of staff and students. But last year the winds of Agassiz split the tree right down the middle. We put a “bandage” around the tree (actually a metal plate) and the tree persevered and survived the drought of summer and the winds and rain of the



fall. However, the recent snow, wind and ice proofed too much for our playground tree, and

this time the damage on the surface was irreparable. However, the roots of that tree remain strong. The stump is still firmly in the ground and before its demise, it had already been sending several shoots of new growth, possibly preparing for a new season of life.

The first day back after the icy, stormy week, the students were definitely lamenting over the loss of our favourite tree. We often discourage lament and feel like we always need to remain positive, or keep a “stiff upper lip.” I recently read a devotion about lament. The author wrote, “Lament isn’t a failure or lack of faith. Lament is an act of bold trusting faith in the midst of pain, suffering and confusion. In fact, if we ignore lament, if we avoid giving voice to despair and rage, the gospel loses its ability to speak honestly, realistically and truthfully.”

I can’t help but see the correlation between that tree and the recent “storms” that

have come our way. The Bible tells us to be firmly planted. It doesn’t promise that winds and ice storms, (or COVID and all its related unknowns and unpleasanties) will pass us by. And it doesn’t tell us that we can’t lament over all the regular things that COVID has taken from us. But it does tell us that God will give us what we need for stability through all the storms. We may even feel like we are cracking, or that the “ice” is wearing us down. But God remains faithful, and our roots go down deep into that faithfulness. We will not wither, we will not yield, and we will prosper.

It has been a difficult year, with school closures due to weather and COVID, and the constant requirements to follow new, existing and changing COVID protocols. We may do some lamenting in the everyday frustration of COVID, but we will still choose each day to remain firmly planted in the promises and faithfulness of God. ♦

An **inside**look ...into our Music class

Let Everything that Has Breath Praise the Lord! Psalm 150:6

Our theme verse for Music Class this year is a reminder to have gratitude with each breath we take. We have been doing musical activities outside as much as possible. Nature has been inspirational to the students as they compose rhythms, tunes, and lyrics. As the children express their delight in the Creator and creation with much vocalization, I am reminded how Jesus responded to the Pharisees who wanted Jesus to restrain the enthusiastic praise of the children and disciples. "I tell you," [Jesus] replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out." Luke 19:40



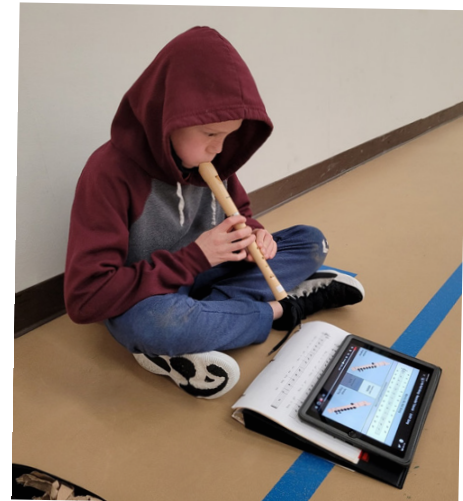
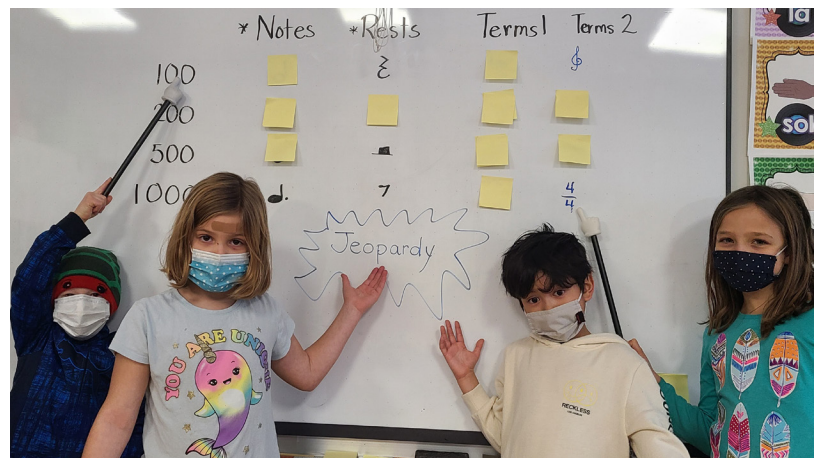
Kindergarten and Grade 1's arranged sticks and leaves to create and perform musical patterns (TiTi & Ta).



Grade 6/7 composed pumpkin-themed songs and performed them for the GIANT pumpkin that mysteriously arrived at the school. Some K/1s wonder if the surreptitious Garden Fairy gifted this enormous squash for our enjoyment!



Grade 2/3 reviewed musical terms with a competitive game of Jeopardy.



Grade 4/5 learning the recorder

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



K/1 Marja— One of my favourite memories is praying on the bench by the tree.

2/3 Tara— I miss playing hide and go seek by the tree. I also miss acting like I'm the tallest person in the school. I liked when I would say 'hi' from high up and people would be confused.



K/1 Myelle— I looked for so many leaves by that tree and collected them. I even tried putting them back on.



2/3 Fynn— I will miss the shade and playing dinosaur.

Question of the Month

Our playground tree finally gave in to the wind, snow and ice of the recent storm. What are some memories you have of that tree? What are you going to miss about that tree?

4/5 Essie— I will miss the tree so much. One of my favourite memories would be when me and all of my friends would sit under the tree and play really fun games.



6/7 Makenna— I liked climbing that tree. I am going to miss the shade and the memories of that tree.



4/5 Jessica K. — A memory I have of that tree is when I climbed to the top of it, but then I got stuck and couldn't get down so my friends had to grab my legs and pull me down. I am really going to miss the tree!

6/7 Nathaniel— I hung on the branches of that tree and I will miss the shade.



An **inside**look



Employment Opportunity:

Agassiz Christian School is looking for a bus driver for the 2022-2023 school year.

This is a part time position that aligns with the school calendar. Hiring incentives may be offered!

Please contact Josh Vanden Eykel at joshvandeneykel@gmail.com or Judy de Waal at jdewaal@agassizchristian-school.com if you are interested.



Registration for the 2022-2023 School Year opens in February. More details to come.

Important Dates to Remember

- **January 28** - Pro D Day (No School P-7)
- **February 3** - Photo Retakes
- **February 21** - Family Day - (No school P-7)
- **February 28 & March 7**- Ice Skating
- **March 11**- Report Card #2
- **March 12- 27**- Spring Break
- **March 28** - School Re-opens for P-7



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AGASSIZ CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
7571 Morrow Road
Agassiz BC V0M 1A2
604.796.9310 telephone
office@agassizchristianschool.com

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agassizchristianschool.com

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