



MARCH

- March 8: Daylight Savings Time
- March 9-12 : Book Fair
- March 10: Indus Hot Lunch
- March 10 & 11: Parent Teacher Conferences
- March 16: PL Day — No School
- March 17-20: K-6 Skating
- March 18: Outdoor School Meeting @ 7:00 pm
- March 23: Term 3 Begins
- March 23: Indus School Council Meeting @ 6:30 pm
- March 26: Staff Appreciation Luncheon
- March 27: Report Cards Sent Home
- March 31: Recognition Assembly
(parents will be notified with details)
- Apr. 3 — Apr. 10: No School

MISSION STATEMENT:

The purpose of Indus School is to build in students a multifaceted personal foundation to carry them successfully through life.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

WE Day Goat	Pg. 2-3
Fundraising News	
Music Notes & Gr. 7 News	Pg. 4
School Lunch Info	Pg. 5
Gr. 2 News	Pg. 6
Kindergarten News	Pg. 7
Gr. 4/5 News	Pg. 8
Gr. 3 News	Pg. 9
Division 3 News	Pg. 10
Library & Science Fair News	Pg. 11
Parent Council News	Pg. 12
Student Council News	Pg. 13
Team 2/3 News	Pg. 13-14
Tech News & Outdoor School	Pg. 15

THE SPIRITS

SOME PERTINENT INFORMATION REGARDING INDUS TODAY

WE DAY: Goat Fundraiser an Amazing Success!!!

Indus School's 2014 Me to We Group chose to support the Year of Empowerment, an initiative of Free The Children, by raising money to send goats to families in Ecuador. The gift of a goat helps break the cycle of poverty because the families are able to make an income from selling the milk, and can breed their goat to raise a herd! This income allows families to buy medical and school supplies for their children. One goat costs \$50.00.

Mrs. McKenzie and her Me to We group, held various fundraisers including Fun Fairs, Dances, Face Painting, Karaoke and Bake Sales, where students donated money to attend. Our initial goal was to raise 13 goats, but students, staff and parents overcame that goal in only one week! So, we set a new goal of 30 goats! Staff agreed to motivate students by putting themselves through some torture. We had an assembly on February 12th, where students were able to witness the staff paying their dues.

This entire fundraiser has brought on a new spirit at Indus School. The students have been ecstatic about the teacher torture and about raising money outside of school for this great cause. When Mrs. McKenzie announced the events that would take place if enough money was raised, students could hardly contain their excitement! Live goats were brought to our school for students to pet and ever since then, there has been a constant rumble about goats in our hallways. We have kept track of the number of goats we have raised on a giant poster outside the office. Students are always checking on it as they get a drink or go to the bathroom. They are excited as more goats get coloured in, especially because the teacher torture is also noted on the poster. Families and staff have even donated money towards an entire goat! As a school community, we raised a total of 42 goats, which is \$2100.00.

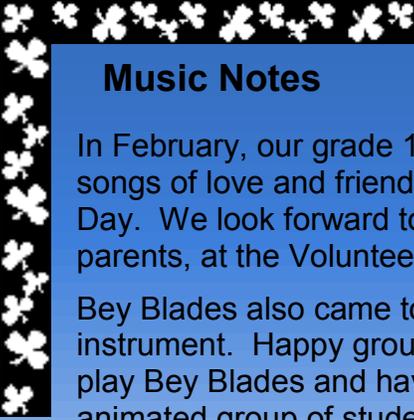
At the assembly Mrs. McKenzie allowed students to duct tape her to the wall. She was able to stick and raised enough money for three goats. Students were also very excited to watch Mr. Green shave his beard, Mrs. Neid and Mrs. Sefton wear Sumo Suits, and Mrs. Ischenko play a duet on the recorder through her nostrils. It was fantastic! Mrs. Beal blew us away with her beautiful voice and sang the national anthem A Capella. Students and staff could not contain their laughter when Mr. Wyper sang a love song to a pig and kissed it. Also that day, Mr. Wyper, Mrs. Preete, Mrs. Neid, Mrs. Beal and Ms. Allard took the plunge and had a bucket of ice dumped on their head. Thank you to all staff, parents and students for your wonderful spirit and support. We are all blown away with the enthusiasm at Indus!





Indus SPIRIT!!
We raised
\$2100 for our
Goat
Fundraiser.
WAY TO GO!





Music Notes

In February, our grade 1 through 6 music classes sang, drummed, played, and composed songs of love and friendship in conjunction with themes of Valentine's Day and Pink Shirt Day. We look forward to sharing a performance of *Gitsigakomin*, a love song that honours parents, at the Volunteer Tea in the spring.

Bey Blades also came to the music room this month. No, it's not a new musical instrument. Happy groups of students from grades 1 through 6 met each Wednesday to play Bey Blades and have some fun. It was great to have such a cooperative and animated group of students joining in. "Let it rip!"



Grade 7s and The Great Deportation

The Grade 7s have been studying the Great Deportation as part of Canada's History. In studying this, they put together a narrated skit with a PowerPoint presentation in small groups. The 7s did a fantastic job of fusing visuals, acting, and narration into an engaging presentation on this important part of Canadian history. Well done Grade 7s!



School Lunches

Is it time to try something new for lunch?

Involve your kids.

- Let your child choose the foods they like. This will increase the chance of them eating the foods you send.

Switch up bread options.

- Try using whole grain wraps, pitas, small bagels, English muffins, buns or a different type of bread.

Add excitement to vegetables and fruit.

- Send fruit such as bananas, pineapple or apples with a yogurt dip or vegetables like carrots, cucumbers or celery with hummus dip. Keep in mind; kids are more likely to eat vegetables and fruit that are already cut up!

Offer a variety of meat and meat alternatives.

- Use leftover meat from supper or make a homemade egg salad mixture for sandwiches.

Include milk and milk alternatives.

- Have a carton or container of milk with lunch. Add cheese to your child's sandwich or some yogurt to round out the meal.

Aim to include a food choice from each of the four food groups on [Canada's Food Guide](#) (Vegetables and Fruit, Grain Products, Milk and Alternatives and Meat and Alternatives) to make a balanced and healthy meal.

For more tips on making a balanced lunch, please visit:

<http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/info/nutrition/if-nfs-whats-for-lunch.pdf>

For more information on Healthy Eating, visit:

<http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/2914.asp>

Nutrition Bites

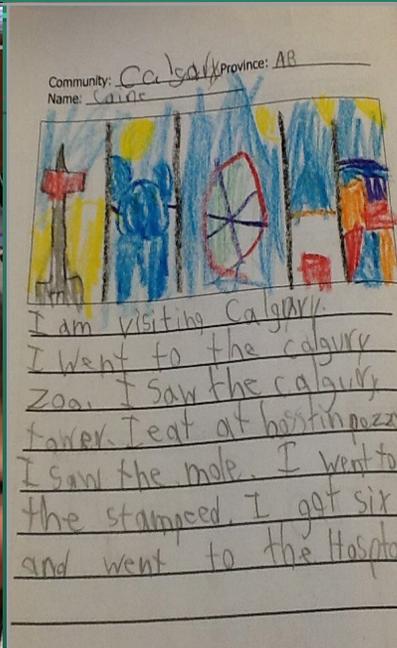


Grade Two: Finishing up Western Canada!

Wow! The Grade 2 students had an incredibly busy February. We celebrated Groundhog Day, the 100th day of school, Valentine's Day, Science Fair and began reading with the Indus Pre-School kids! We were full of warmth, love and laughter as we wrapped up the school-wide Goat Fundraiser!

Students have been busy studying the Western Provinces in Canada, we will spend some time reviewing these communities, and then spend the month of March studying communities in Northern Canada and following the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race beginning on March 7th. Students will be cheering on their favourite musher and learning about the sport, history of the race, and the dogs next month. Please allow your child to show you the website and follow the mushers at www.iditarod.com.

Students are working hard to represent what they have learned through studying, questioning and researching packages from community contacts.



Kindergarten: Teaching Our British Friends

What excitement ensued when the kindergarten students realized that their morning message had arrived all the way from across the Atlantic Ocean! We created two slideshows depicting our rural schoolyard in fall and winter, featuring horses, barns, the playground, the elevator and cattails in our wetland. It was an arduous task to add the text until Sophia discovered that we could simply use the speech to text feature! We then sent our slide show off to a class in London, England and waited anxiously to hear a reply. Our English friends were just as excited and quickly replied with many questions.

In Kindergarten, we study the four seasons and how they affect humans, plants and animals and we were eager to share our knowledge. We are now looking forward to seeing pictures of their London schoolyard and we are working diligently on the finishing touches of our winter slide show so that we can send it off to our friends in Adelaide, Australia who have never seen snow!

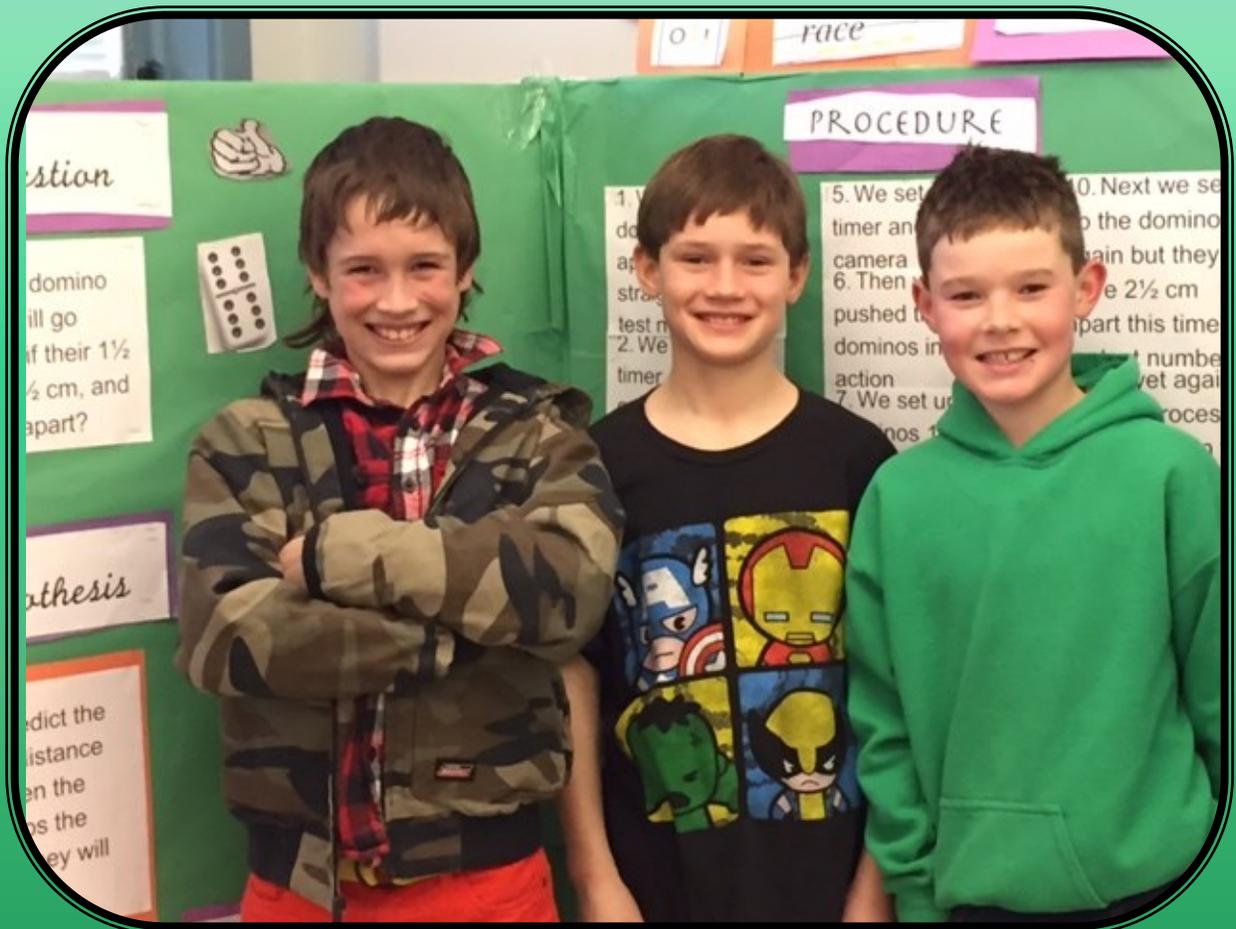


Maizey and Mary add text to our slide show.

Grade 4/5: February Brings Engaging Learning

Although February was a short month, it was not short on excitement. The month began with a visit by a couple of goats for our WE Day Charity. Students were then invited to a Jelly Bean Dance and Fun Activities during recess times to raise money.

The month ended with Science Fair and Valentine celebrations. In the midst of WE DAY fundraising, the students realized it was time to get serious with putting the Science Fair Projects together. I was very impressed with a lot of the students' project ideas. Each project was as unique as the child behind the scenes of the creation. Setting up the necessary scientific information on a huge trifold was challenging, but I sensed the pride that each student felt standing by their project the day of the fair. I believe it gave each of them a sense of how putting forth your best effort is worth it. Grade 4 is young to be able to do this level of work, but it will give each student a huge advantage when they are able to compete competitively next year. The Grade 5 students were able to provide guidance since it was now their second year. For Grade 5, it was the first time they could choose to enter their project in the competitive category. With this decision, the students had to face judges and their questions. This choice takes a lot of courage and just entering this category needs to be congratulated. Science Fair Projects required much parent support. I greatly appreciate your assistance, but even more importantly the active interest you are taking in your child's education.



Austin, Garrin, and Carter enjoyed participating in our annual Indus Science Fair.

Grade 3: Shaking Things Up!

Grade 3 was rocking and rolling during the week of February 9th. Mr. Wyper built us a special Earthquake simulating machine to test the structures that we built for Science! The machine simulated p-waves and s-waves and shook our structures like crazy! It was exciting for all students to be able to help clamp their structures down and then press the button to operate the drill that shook them. We are proud to say that almost all of the structures stayed intact. This taught us that strong joints are crucial to the stability of our buildings and that choosing our materials carefully when building specific types of structures is a must. After the earthquake, a short hurricane came through to further test each of the projects. Again, almost every structure was able to survive this wind and water test. I am proud of all of the Grade 3s for the thoughtful and diligent work that they put in to their projects! Excellent job, Grade 3! Thanks again to Mr. Wyper for helping make our Science structure testing so exciting.



Missing In Division 3

The students of Division 3 are currently involved in seeking out bodies of indeterminate value through the manipulation of alphanumeric sequences. Simply, we are looking for x. Grades 7, 8 and 9 are exploring linear relations and their related functions. Graphing, table creation and solving for unknown variables are being worked on in all grades, with Grade 9 going much deeper with studies of linear inequalities and polynomials.

© MARK ANDERSON

WWW.ANDERTOONS.COM



*"You knew X was 7 the whole time
and you never said anything?!"*

Life Skill Learning

Division 3 Life Skill students spent the last few classes before break learning about the basics of first aid. We were lucky enough to have Marsha Nelson show us some of the techniques for wrapping sprains and dealing with bleeding. Hands-on practice as the "first on the scene" person and the victim was both fun and informative. Students were given opportunities to try new things and ask questions about sprains and bleeding. Christine Nunn gave us another great learning opportunity, bringing in CPR Manikins. Students quickly found that maintaining proper chest compressions for an extended period of time was much harder than they thought. Although students did not receive formal certification, the hands-on practice helped them gain basic knowledge and confidence that may help them in future situations.

Again, we would like to thank Marsha Nelson, Christine Nunn and the other parents who offered their assistance and knowledge for this option course.



Library News—March 2015

Come **Explore an Ocean of Books** at our **Under the Sea** Scholastic Book Fair from March 9 - 12. March is report card time, and a new book from the Book Fair is a great reward for a job well done. I've also heard that the Easter Bunny likes to shop at Book Fair! We will be open late on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings for your shopping convenience. We always have a great selection of affordable books for every age group, from preschool through mature teen, as well as adult. Every purchase you make earns our library some free books!

Reading – Give it a Shot! We are more than halfway through this literacy program for grades 4, 5, and 6 students. How exciting it is to earn those Calgary Flames bookmarks! This year, for the first time, Indus School was awarded two free tickets to a Flames game from the Reading – give it a Shot program! Students in Grades 4, 5 & 6 had two weeks to read books and do AR quizzes to be entered into the draw. Congratulations to **Kolten Kuryk** in Grade 4 – hope you enjoyed the game!

March Themes at the library include the Iditarod sled dog race (we have books about Huskies, dog sledding, life in the north, etc.), as well as Lions and Lambs (by the time you read this, we'll know if March came in like a lion or a lamb!)

Mrs. Potter would like to extend a big THANK YOU to the Tanner family for their donation of a large pail of wheat for our Sewing Club students to make wheat bags. Your support means a lot and we appreciate it!

Indus Science Fair 2015 Competitive Results

Grade 5

1st – Arista & Leah: *What Different Liquids Do To an Eggshell*

2nd – Najah, Brynn, & Drickus: *Super Tasters*

Grade 6

1st – Jeannie: *Does Font Affect Memory?*

2nd – McKinley: *Twin Prints*

Jr. High

Navdip: *The Acid Factory*

Overall High Score:

Navdip: *The Acid Factory*

CYSF Representatives:

Navdip: *The Acid Factory*

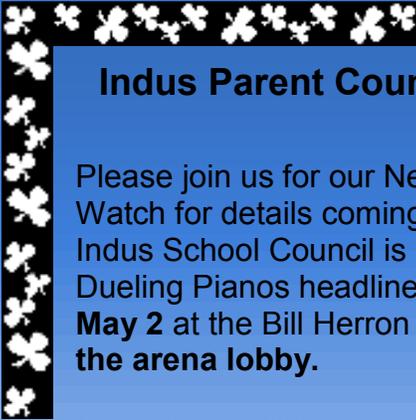
Jeannie: *Does Font Affect Memory?*

McKinley: *Twin Prints*

Riley & Claire: *Which Food is Easier to Extract DNA From?*

Arista & Leah: *What Different Liquids Do To an Eggshell*

The Calgary Youth Science Fair will be held at the Olympic Oval in Calgary from April 15th —April 18th. This fair is open to the public between 9:00 am and 12:00 noon on Saturday, April 18th. Our Indus CYSF representatives would appreciate your support!



Indus Parent Council News

Please join us for our Next General Meeting **Monday, March 23rd 6:30pm**. Watch for details coming on our annual staff appreciation week **March 23rd – March 27th**. Indus School Council is pleased to announce that we have secured the original Dueling Pianos headliner from Las Vegas to play at a fundraising event for our school on **May 2** at the Bill Herron Arena. **Ticket presale date Wednesday, April 1st 7-8:30pm at the arena lobby.**

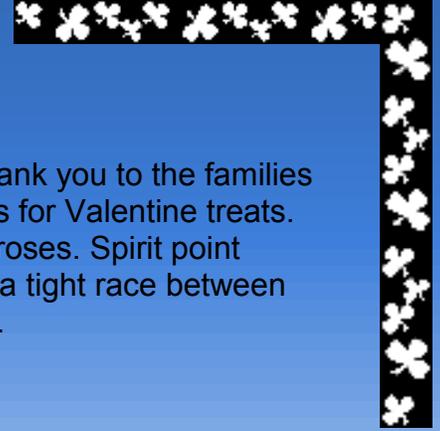
As well, we will be once again selling tickets on a **Gift of Flight** for two tickets anywhere WestJet flies. Did you know WestJet now flies to Dublin and Glasgow, as well as various destinations in Canada, the U.S. and the Caribbean? Tickets will be going on sale in April with a draw deadline in early May.

We are requesting for volunteers from our parent population to form a committee for our upcoming piano event fundraiser. We require assistance with pre-event duties such as advertising, printing, ticket sales, etc. As well as with the delivery of the event day as well. This is an incredible fundraising opportunity for our school council and the more people we have out to pull it off the more success we will have. As part of the event, we are requesting sponsorship from local and nearby businesses to contribute to its success, either by attending or just simply contributing. If anyone knows of any potential sponsors, please let us know and I can provide a copy of the letter to them or to you. We have different types of sponsorships available. We will of course accept sponsorship right up until event day; however the Title Sponsorship is guaranteed to have their name and logo included in our printed advertising. We have set a deadline of **March 20th** for this sponsorship so that we have time to get our posters and advertising out prior to ticket sale dates.

Please contact Michelle Alm malm@platinum.ca or Andrea Desjardins andrea_d@telus.net

About the Act

The Dueling Pianos is the number one show seen in Las Vegas. Playing on the strip for 20 years now, this show combines comedy, improv and musical requests in a fun environment that lends to raising funds. We have been able to secure the original Dueling Pianos act that opened New York, New York and still headlines the Las Vegas strip today. Our entertainers will be flying in from Las Vegas and have the authentic equipment needed to produce the same show you would see at New York, New York, Harrah's, or any other high quality Las Vegas room. With over 5000 songs known off by heart, this form of entertainment is completely audience controlled.



Student Council News

February is becoming a tradition of candy grams and roses. Thank you to the families who supported our 'goat' fundraising and still found some pennies for Valentine treats. We bagged up over 500 candy packages and delivered 7 dozen roses. Spirit point winners for wearing Pink and Red through Valentine's week was a tight race between the Grade 5/6 and Team 2/3. Team 2/3 just edged out Grade 5/6.

NEW SPONSORSHIP BY STUDENT COUNCIL

Students would like to see more student work in the Spirit Newsletter and they would like to be involved. We have created a Student Editorial Board to assist and review student submissions for the newsletter. This will not be teacher generated but Mrs. Graham will support the editorial group. The student board will promote the opportunity to review submissions, coach students to achieve publishable quality appropriate to the grade level and ensure there is at least one submission for each month. Once we get 'writing' up and running, we will explore art, photography and other suggestions to showcase the students' work.

The Editorial Board will have a core group of 4 and guest seats available specifically to the Grade 9s (dependent upon the number of submissions).

The Student Editorial Board currently is Navdip Gill, Riley Burke, Miranda Ruckaber and Amy Saretsky.

Team 2/3 News

We have had a very pink/red month. Lots of dressing up for "Soft Heart" month. All month students could have a stuffy with them throughout their morning class. The stuffies can be a self-regulating tool as it can help many students to think calmly. The stuffies helped the students to role play or act out how some people can be mean and how some people become bullies. More importantly, we acted out with the stuffies how we can change the bully cycle and 'stand up' for ourselves and others.

We have been acquiring objects/pictures for our Team 2/3 poster. These are things that make us happy or confident. When we look up at the poster we remind ourselves we can handle the next challenge. This poster will remain in the room all day and throughout the rest of the year. This will identify this room as Team 2/3s room. We are putting our stamp on this learning space and trying to be humorous when we call this – our "stink poster" with our "stink things".



Team 2/3: Splash Math



It looks like they may be playing Lego. What we are doing is learning to know a small number of things without the need to count them one by one.

Imagine you are driving to Banff and see a number of deer by the side of the road. Going 120 kilometers an hour (*oops*) do you have time to count one by one or do you see 3 by the fence, 2 in the ditch and 4 under that big tree, making 9. If you try to count one by one, you are gone in a flash and can only say, “saw some deer.”

This skill cements for students the value behind the symbol.

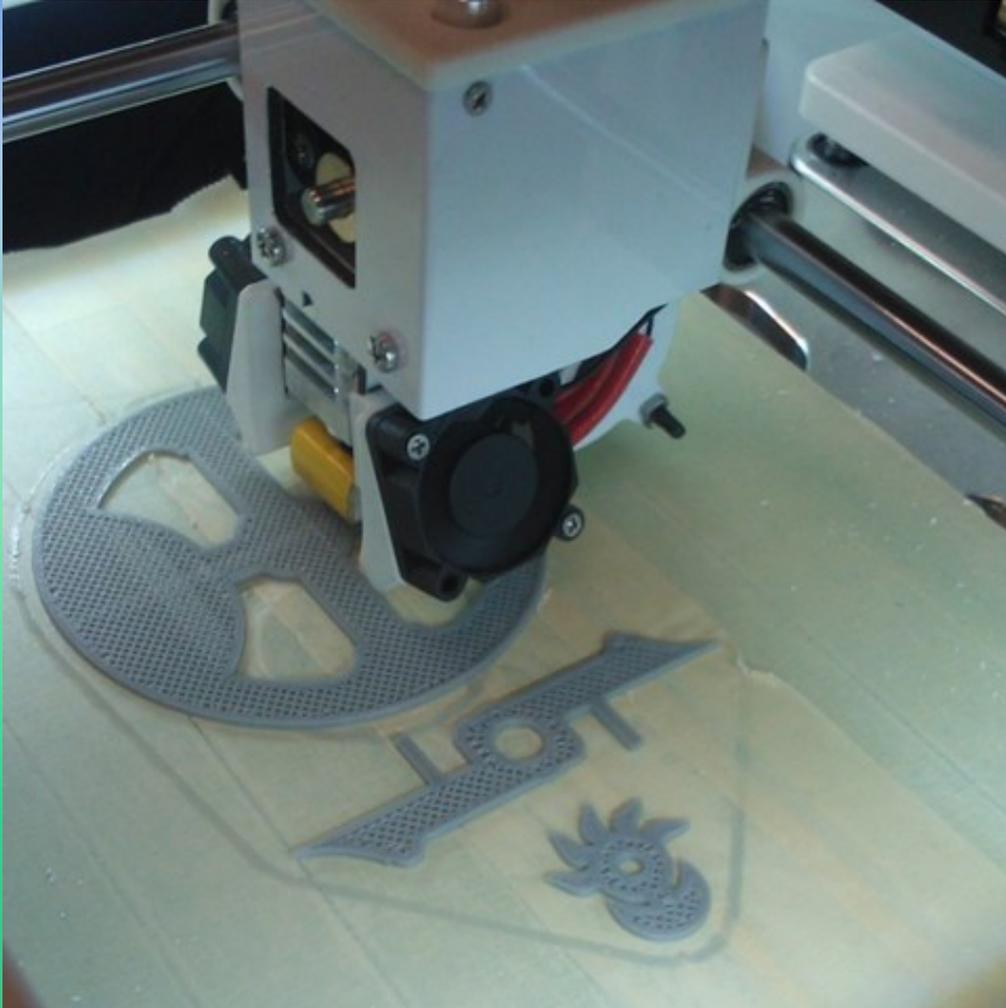
In Splash Math, we start with 10 blocks or small items like Lego. Splash down or let go of some of the blocks. Allow the student 2 seconds to see and quickly cover them up. The student tells you how many were seen. Uncover to check. The student’s job is to see and know – they strive not to count one by one but to see the number. As the student becomes proficient, we add more blocks. The skill to see clusters or groups and to then add these groups together extends the mental math knowledge making number ever more real.

Great game – give it a try!

Current Tech Creates Historical Tech

Getting lost is difficult in this day of GPS, but it was not always so. A thousand years ago, the astrolabe (precursor to the sextant), was cutting edge navigational technology. It gave the viewer an accurate reading of the angle of the sun or a star above the horizon.

As part of the Grade 9 unit on Space Technology, Mr. Green, with a lot of help from Rhyse in Grade 8, used our 3D printer to create an astrolabe. The students will now be able to see and touch the historical device, rather than just reading about it in a textbook.



Grade 6 Outdoor School Information

There is a parent meeting for *Grade 6 Outdoor School* on **Wednesday, March 18th** starting at **7:00 pm**.

Outdoor School will include only Grade 6 students and is scheduled for the week of April 28th to May 1st.

Please contact Peggy Graham if you have any questions.