

# Skwo:wech Newsletter

From the Office of  
Skwo:wech Elementary  
November 28 - December 16



Fuel Up! School Lunch  
December Menu is  
online  
Order before noon  
November 29 for Dec. 1  
[December Menu](#)  
[Order online](#)



2022 November / December

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
28	29	30	01-Dec	2
5	6 Winter Concert (A-L) 	7 Winter Concert (M-Z) 	8	9 Report Cards Available Online through MyEdBC Family Portal - 4pm
12	13	14	15	16 Last Day of School before Winter Break

## Mark Your Calendar



**December 09**  
Report Cards Available on  
MyEdBC Family Portal – 4pm

**December 19 to  
January 2**  
Winter Break  
(School Closed)

**January 4**  
School re-opens 8:50am

Dear Skwo:wech families,

The past few weeks have been full of the buzz of excitement for our winter concert. The lovely sounds of children's voices coming together to rehearse for the concert have been delightful to hear. The children are excited to share their creativity with you as we enjoy their interpretation of the famous Jan Brett story, The Mitten. Please be sure that you have returned your request for tickets to your child's teacher. If you missed the deadline, please send the completed ticket request form to school on Monday morning.

A big thank you to all our families who have contributed to the Read-A-Thon! We are excited to hear the outcome of this fundraiser and to see how many minutes of reading our students have logged! The read-a-thon closes at midnight tonight, so be sure to add any minutes from today! Your generous contributions will go a long way towards refreshing our library collection! A big Thank-you to our PAC for your work with the Read-a-Thon.

Please be sure to watch for information about our student leadership initiative to support our local food bank; it will begin on Wednesday, December 7th; The Five days of giving!

Thank you for your generosity in advance.

With gratitude,  
Kathleen Chad

If you haven't sent in your ticket request please do so by Monday November 28<sup>th</sup>.  
Thank you



**DIVISION 2 WILL BE  
OWLS IN OUR  
UPCOMING WINTER  
CONCERT**



Welcome to our new staff for Division 6:



I am so excited to be joining the Skwo:wech community this year as the Division 6 teacher. I love the work that I get to do as a teacher and know that relationships with students and families form the foundation for all that we as teachers do.

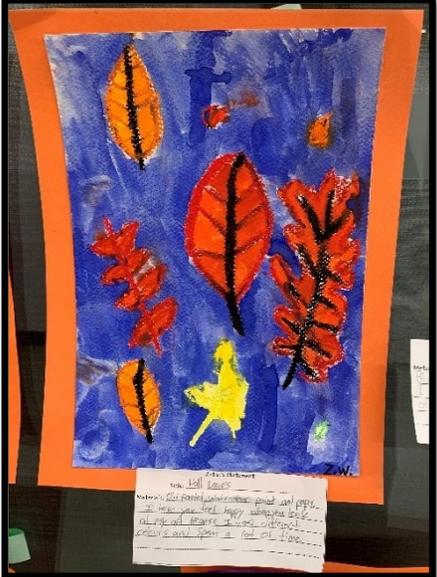
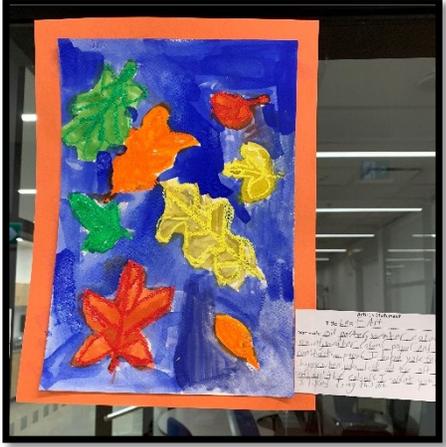
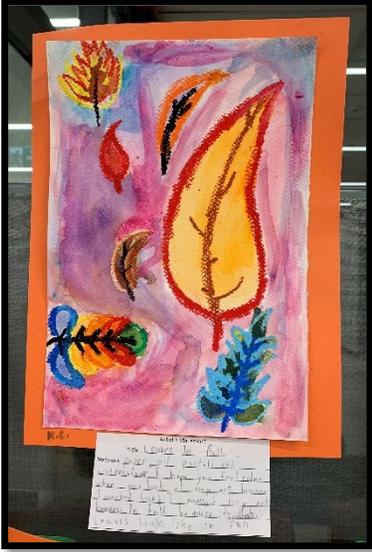
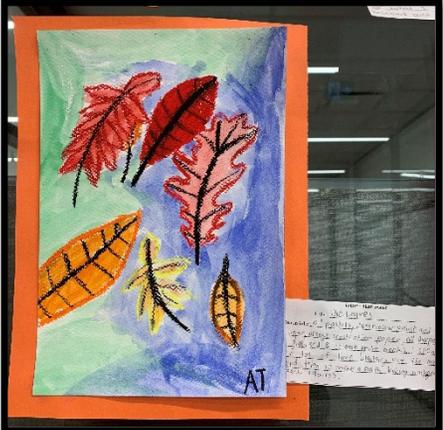
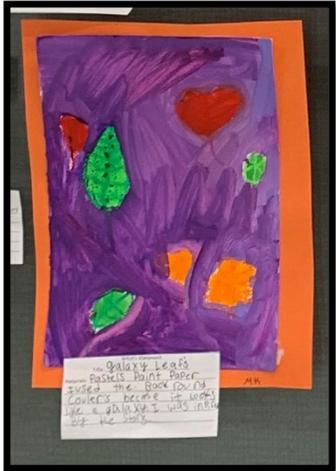
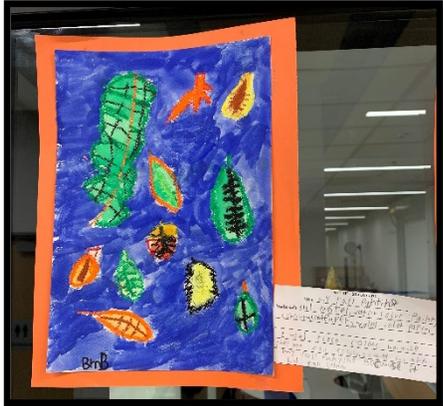
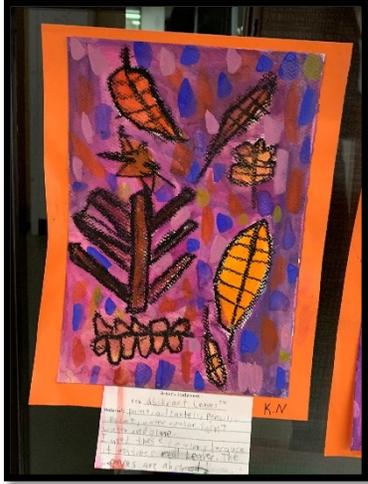
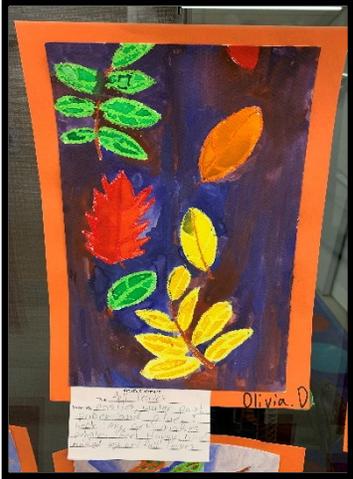
I'd like to share a little bit about myself and my background to help you get to know me better. I was born on Vancouver Island but grew up in Alberta. I completed a Bachelor of Science at the University of Lethbridge before moving to Spain to learn Spanish and teach English in a primary school. While in Spain I became fascinated by how kids learn, and knew I wanted to pursue this career further! I moved back to Canada with my husband and enrolled in the Teacher Education program at UBC. My first two years of teaching I taught grade 2 with the Stz'uminus First Nation on Vancouver Island, followed by teaching grade 2/3 last year in Parksville at Springwood Elementary. This year we have returned to the mainland and I am very excited to be continuing my journey as an educator here in the New Westminister School District. Outside of teaching I love reading, baking, crafting, exploring natural spaces with my husband, and dreaming of one day having a dog to bring on these adventures too. I look forward to meeting more of the students, parents, and staff of Skwo:wech and am excited for this school year!

Ms. Gilbert

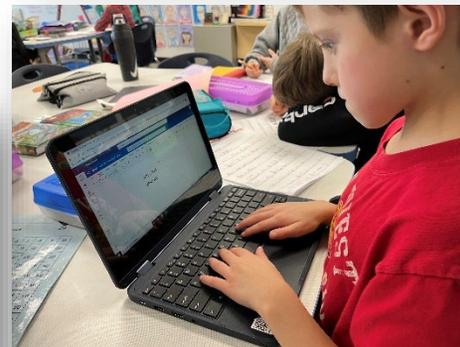
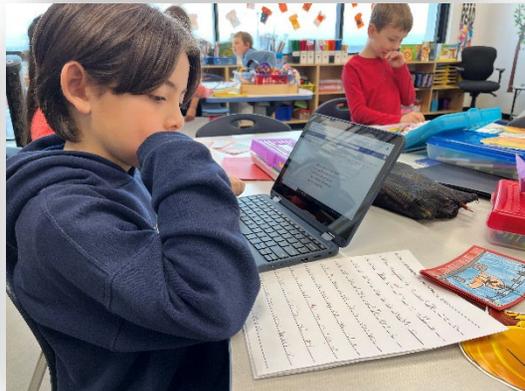
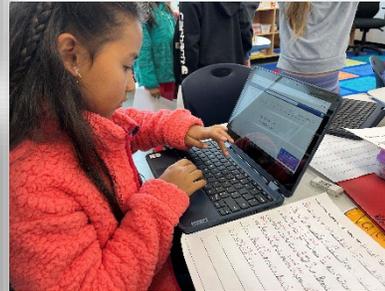
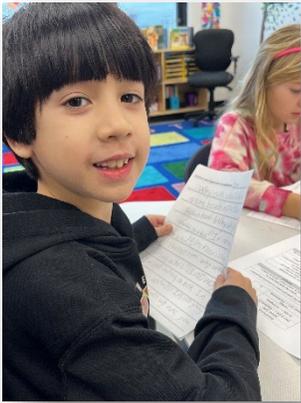
## DIVISION 5 PERSPECTIVE ART



# Division 3's Fall Art



THE STUDENTS IN DIVISION 8 ARE WORKING HARD TO PUBLISH THEIR WRITING BASED ON ANTOINETTE PORTIS' BOOK NOT-A-BOX. ENGAGING IN STEPS OF THE WRITER'S WORKSHOP, THE STUDENTS WILL COMPLETE THEIR PUBLISHED WORK USING THE LAPTOPS AND MICROSOFT WORD.





Further weather updates:

In rare instances where a school closure is warranted, the decision will be made by 6:30am at the latest and will be announced over the radio stations **CKNW AM 980** and **CKWX AM 1130**. Phone calls will also be made to parents who are part of our SchoolMessenger Automated Calling

System. We encourage parents to make advance alternate plans in the event of an unexpected school closure. If you deem that your child cannot travel safely to school due to snow or ice, please make alternate arrangements for your child and inform the school of their absence and the reason for their absence.

## Snow Removal Update

In anticipation of potential wintery weather ahead, our District is committed to ensuring that snow removal occurs in a timely manner to enable safe school opening. In order to accomplish this, we have prioritized pathways to the building which will be cleared first. Certain portions of our site will be cleared later in the morning, before the children go outside for recess. Areas that are not cleared as the first priority will be marked by a cone and tape - we ask that everyone avoid these areas. The sidewalks around the perimeter of the building will be cleared first and a path to each entrance way cleared. We ask that parents and children walk around and use the cleared sidewalks and enter the school property using the cleared side pathways. Additionally, for those who enter school grounds off of Richmond Street, we ask that everyone use the main stairs at the front of the building. The stairs at the southwest corner at the front of the building will be closed until later in the morning (this will include the path that runs through the front playground and picnic table area.) We thank you all for your understanding with this.

## West Coast Recess...

We believe that children need to be outside for fresh air at recess and lunch. They need an opportunity to run and play with their friends so that when they return to their classrooms they are ready to focus on their learning. This is a perfect opportunity to get moving!

On the "wet" coast we have unpredictable weather. The wet and rainy season is now here. Children will be sent outside to play – rain or shine. Parents, we ask for your support and that you ensure your children are dressed appropriately for the weather. We also encourage all children to bring a change of clothes. In extreme weather, including windy conditions and heavy rain, children will remain inside.

### Rainy Weather FAQ

**Question:** *Are the children ever allowed to stay inside due to the weather?*

We occasionally have extreme weather conditions. These days include hard, driving rain with extreme cold or wind. In these situations we will declare it an inside recess or lunch, however, we do not expect to have more than two or three of these in a year.

