

# Hamiota Schools Newsletter

## Principal's Message

November 2021

It is hard to believe we are approaching the end of November! This past month has been a busy one, and that busyness looks to continue up until the Christmas break.

On the extracurricular front, many students at HCI have been busy with volleyball and hockey. Our middle years' volleyball program saw the grade 6's participate in several practices before travelling to Miniota for some game action. The grade 6 co-ed team developed many skills throughout the last few weeks and did very well in their first taste of game action.

Our grade 7 & 8 students made up a boys team and two girls teams. These teams also practiced regularly but were part of a modified PWSD schedule. The schedule saw them claim the south division title by defeating Miniota and Shoal Lake.

Our grade 8 girls competed in the PWSD finals against Wayway and lost a close third match to Wayway to claim the Finalist Banner. Our boy's team won a tight third set to Russell to be crowned the PWSD Champions. Congrats to all the players and coaches on a terrific season.

Our JV girls had an excellent season at the senior level, which ended when they lost a close match to Russell, preventing them from moving on to provincials. Both our varsity boys and girls teams are gearing up for provincials after winning their respective regional qualifiers to earn the right to attend provincials on December 3 & 4. Good luck!

Finally, the High School Hockey team has had an excellent start to their Westman High School Hockey league schedule, seeing them sitting at a 4-win, 2 loss record.

Our first reporting period has come and gone, with report cards sent home during the third week of November. Teachers welcomed many parents/students to Virtual conferences where they could share many of the wonderful things our students are doing. As always, if you were unable to connect with your child's teacher, please feel free to contact the school to arrange a meeting.

Students at HCI have been able to take part in several Virtual presentations in November. SERC (Sexuality Education Resource Centre), MPI (Manitoba Public Insurance) and Health Canada gave presentations to students at various grades on the topics of Sexual Health, Friends for Life (Texting & Driving), and the Consequences of Vaping. These presentations were very informative and provided a chance for students to reflect on many important topics.

Both schools participated in Remembrance Day ceremonies to reflect on our veterans' sacrifices to allow us to live the lives we do. Both ceremonies were virtual, and students at both schools performed some readings, which added to the day. Students at HCI worked together leading up to Remembrance Day by



creating murals for the school and community.

At Hamiota Elementary School, we continue to focus on "We Before Me." The idea of being a great teammate is catching on, and we have had several students be recognized for hard hat awards which are great to see.

With less than four weeks until Christmas break, I encourage all the students to continue to work

hard and make the most of their days at school. We are very fortunate to be able to attend daily and have many things return to somewhat normal. Having lived through the past 20 months has made me realize how fortunate we are to live where we do, and it has allowed me to recognize we have much to be thankful for.

Take care and stay safe.  
Bruce Coulter  
Principal

## KINDERGARTEN A - MS. KAITLYN RAMSEY

Wow, November has really flown by for us. This month we have been learning about Peace and Kindness. We brainstormed what it feels like for us when we are peaceful. We came up with some ideas like: calm, happy, good, relaxed. Then, we discussed what made us think of peace and what peace meant to us. After we had our ideas we each illustrated what peace meant to us and then we created a movie to share our learning.

In Math we have started Math Stations. We now have four stations up and running: Math at my Seat, Math Games, Math with Technology and Math with the Teacher. Everyone is becoming more independent and working well while I work with a small group of students at the teacher table. We are working on counting to ten, subitizing a dice, and printing the numbers.

We have continued working hard at learning letters and their sounds. We are each taking a letter bag home each night to learn the letter's name and sound as well as draw a picture in our personal letter book of something that starts with that sound. We are going to continue to work on our letters and sounds through a variety of Christmas play-based activities over the next month.

Our playhouse has been transformed into Santa's Workshop and a hot chocolate stand. We also have a tree to decorate in the upstairs playhouse, and some Christmas crafts at our Art station. We don't have many Kindergarten days left until Christmas so we plan on reading lots of stories, playing some Christmas Math & ELA games and doing some Christmas Art.



## KINDERGARTEN B - MS. CARRIE RAMSEY

We have been busy in Kindergarten this month learning about our different emotions and how to manage all these big emotions. We used the movie Inside Out to guide our discussions about each emotion and help us understand that all our feelings are okay. It's how we handle them that matters. Letterland is an exciting part of our morning routine, when we get to meet a new Letterland Character, we build the letter, learn a song/dance and practice printing each letter. November was the beginning of our math stations. Hard work is being done each day to

write sentences in our draw and write book and to add a beautifully detailed picture. We have learned several sight words so far and use them in our daily writing. Each station is a hands-on game or activity working on number recognition and building on numeracy skills. Math stations also teaches us to share and to work together to play games or complete a task. As we move into December our dramatic play area magically changed into Santa's workshop and has a Hot Chocolate stand to keep us busy and using our imaginations.

## GRADE ONE—MRS. NOWOSAD

It is hard to believe that November is almost over. We have been fortunate with some pretty lovely weather overall this month. Some of our kids are excited to be able to slide on the little hill at school, and lots of snow people/balls can be found on our playground.

We continue working on our guided reading groups, and it's great to see the progress these kids are making. We have been focusing a lot on building strong phonological awareness skills, and using these skills to help with reading and writing (spelling). Lots of oral activities and I am sincerely in awe of how well these kids are able to manipulate sounds, syllables etc in words already. Journal writing continues as well.

In math, we have been working with larger numbers, up to 100. We have practiced

sequencing, comparing, and identifying these larger numbers. A favourite activity we do involves me blacking out a hundreds chart on the smartboard. Then I give a student a number to "find" or uncover. Using their knowledge of patterns and placements of numbers on the hundreds chart, they try to find it. They are getting very good at this activity! We have mastered skip counting by 10's, and 5's will be next. We have introduced more math games and math puzzles.

Science has us working on our Five Senses unit. It's been fun listening to different sounds, trying to identify what makes that particular sound. We also have been using our sense of sight to try to identify close up photos of various objects. Next we will have some fun learning about our sense of touch, taste and smell.

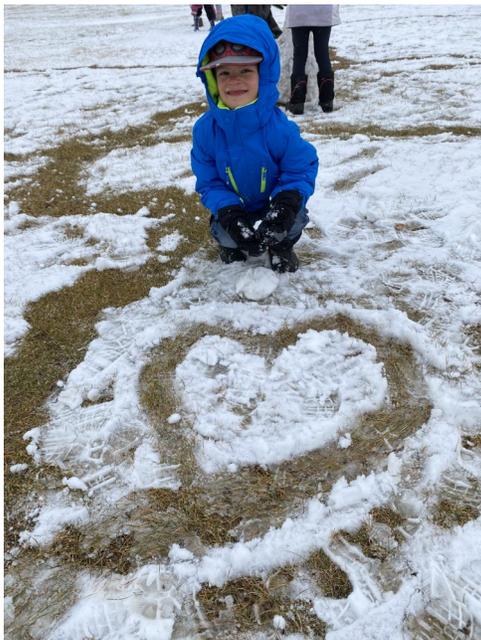


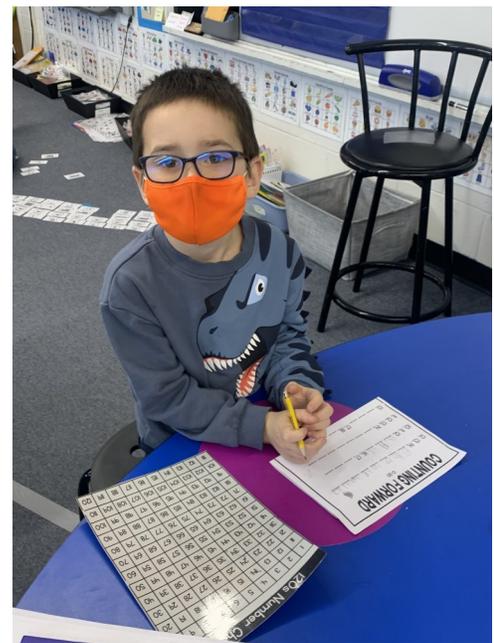
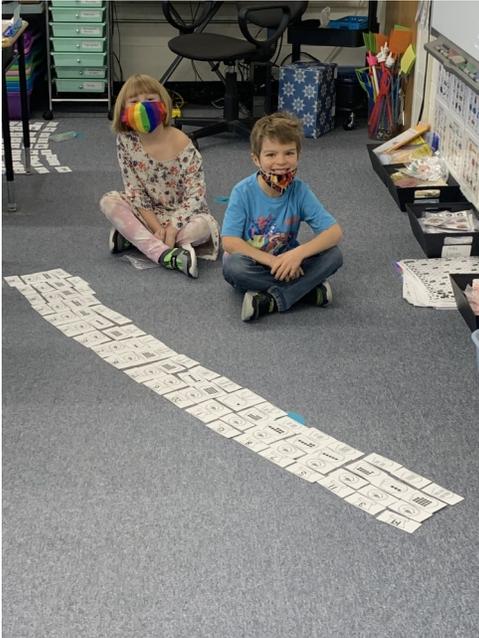
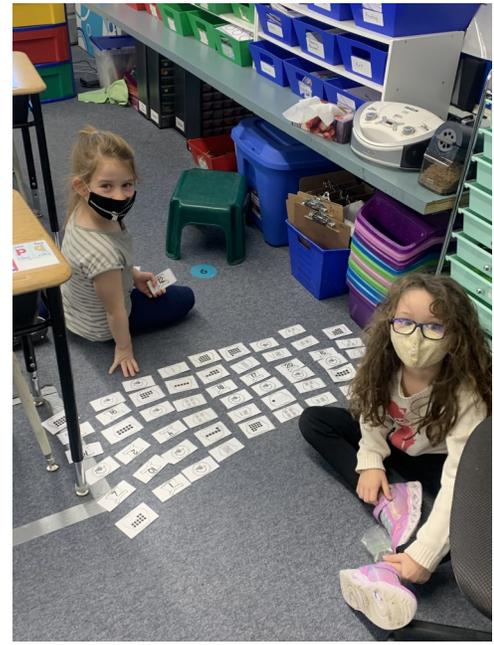
We are grateful to have some wonderful volunteers helping out again this year. Thanks to Mrs. Sheridan, Mrs. Brooks and Mrs. Lee for coming to listen to us read each week. We really appreciate it.

It was great to connect with many of my Grade 1 families this month so we could share all the wonderful

learning each child has done this year. I look forward to when we can do this in person again.

We are looking forward to December and the fun the Christmas season can bring to our learning at school.





## WHAT'S NEW IN GRADE TWO MRS. MCNABB AND MRS. ALLAN

It was a positive experience to connect with so many of our Gr. 2 Families using Google Meet. Again we are reminded of the great home support that we have, and for that we are truly grateful.

We spent a lot of time reflecting on the word PEACE and learning about the significance of Remembrance Day and the symbols that represent this special day of remembrance. Our read alouds, "A Poppy Is To Remember" by: Heather Patterson and "What Does Peace Feel Like?" by: Vladimir Radunsky, initiated some meaningful discussions. We created PEACE poppies as one of our writing responses. What does PEACE mean to us? Here are some thoughts from our Gr. 2s:

### PEACE IS.....



- Peace is hockey! (Brody)
- Peace is kindness. (Ethan)
- Peace is going for a walk with my family. (Ella)
- Peace is love. (Matreya)
- Peace is hugging my bunny. (Gregor)
- Peace is drinking hot cocoa in my mug. (Francesca)
- Peace is reading to my mom. (Aubree)
- Peace is taking care of animals. (Jess)
- Peace is cuddling with my cat Dorothy. (Grady)

Peace is riding in the semi. (John)  
Peace is eating good food. (Katie)  
Peace is making new friends and having fun with them.  
(Jolene)  
Peace is family and friends. (Gloria)  
Peace is climbing a tree. (Dayton)  
Peace is birds chirping. (Macy)

In math, students have been learning different strategies to recall basic facts, while earning gumball stickers for their gumball machines! Problem solving is also a big part of our math program and the students used their creativity to write their own problems for their peers to solve. Here are 3 to share:

I gave my bunny 10 pieces of bunny food. He ate 5 pieces of bunny food. How many are left? (Gregor)

I had 14 horses in the stables and 6 went out in the pasture. How many horses are in the stable now?  
(Macy)

Grady has 20 candies. Jess eats 4 then Brody eats 2. How many are left?  
(Grady)

We have continued our exploration of the states of matter by performing many investigations. The students have a lot of fun making hypotheses, an important part of the investigating process.



## GRADE THREE—MRS DIXON AND MRS. METCALF

Another month has zoomed by in Grade 3! It looks like winter is here to stay so we are donning our winter wear and embracing the great outdoors!

In Math, we are working on many strategies for addition. We're discovering that knowing our basic facts to 18 is a big help when working with 2 and 3 digit numbers. We also enjoyed making some number riddles to share daily with our classmates. This group works very cooperatively when playing games and completing problem solving activities! Keep up the great work, Grade 3!

In Science, even though we've completed our plants unit, we are still growing plants of our own. Currently, we are growing lettuce and have transplanted it already. With the help of our grow light, we hope to be able to have a fresh salad one of these days. Many thanks to Mrs. Johns for securing the grant from the "Agriculture in the Classroom" program. The materials we received are very helpful for our cause!

We've now started a unit on forces, such as magnetism. There are many fun and meaningful experiments in this unit, so we're looking forward to some great learning over the next few weeks.

In Social Studies, we have finished our unit about Canada and have started talking about rights and responsibilities that we have as Canadian citizens, and we also started mapping (which they seem to be really interested in!).

In E.L.A., we have been working on writing sentences and digging deeper into grammar.

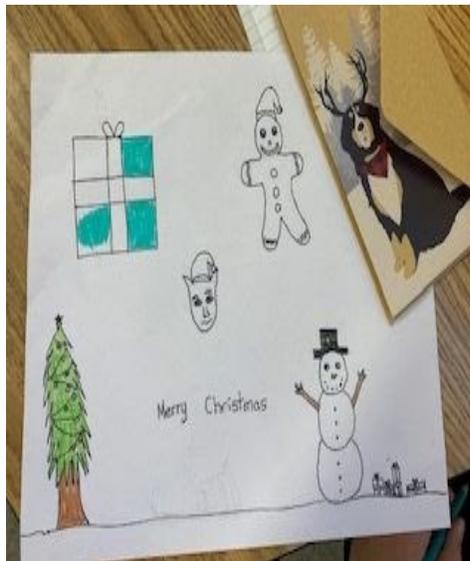
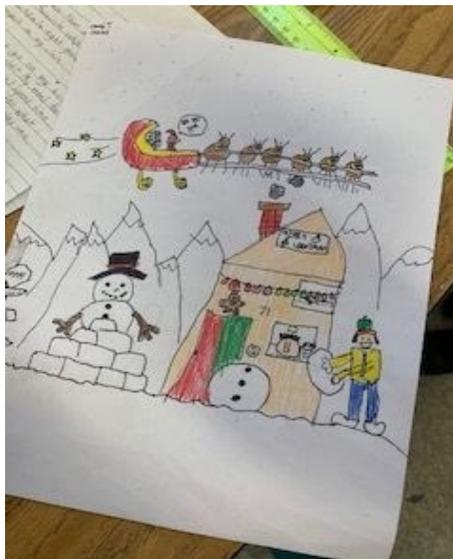
We enjoyed meeting with many families over Google Meets recently. Thanks for your continued support!

Soon it will be time to think of Christmas and all the fun learning activities that go with the season!



## GRADE 4 NEWS—MRS. ROUTLEDGE

The grade 4 students have been hard at work recently writing Christmas cards to our Canadian Armed Forces' Members in Latvia. This was an endeavour we started a few years ago in lieu of Santa letters. We know that members of our armed forces are often away from their loved ones during the holidays and we wanted to find a way to send some holiday cheer to them! November may seem early to be "Christmasing" but we want the cards to reach them by Christmas. It is always a wonderful way to get students thinking about others during the approaching festive season. Below are some photos of the students writing their letters!

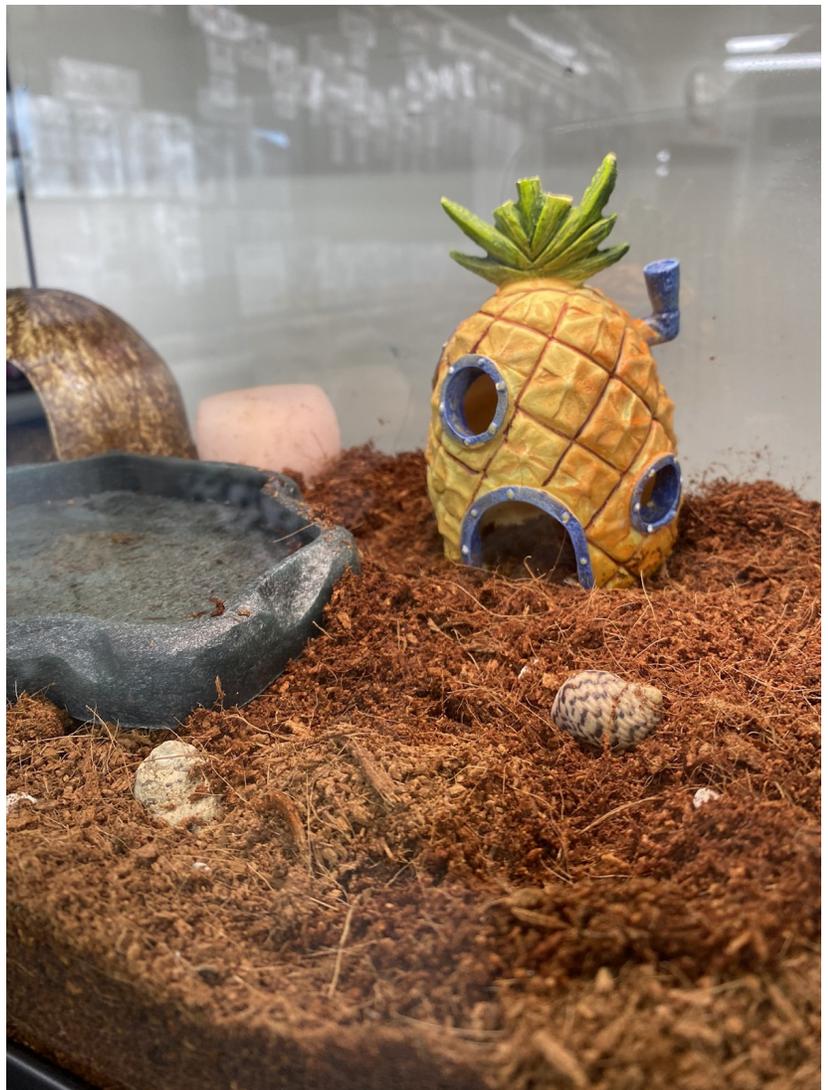


## GRADE FIVE—MRS. LAMB

The holiday season is quickly approaching and things are starting to feel festive in Grade 5! With Report Cards and Parent Teacher Interviews in the past, we are looking forward to squeezing in a little bit more learning before Christmas holidays. Although we won't be able to have our Christmas concert this year, we are looking forward to decking the halls and bringing some Christmas cheer and spirit to HES in the coming weeks!

November was a busy month in our classroom. We started our novel study for "Number the Stars," finished up our math unit on fractions, and created and tested catapults in science. We were also excited to welcome two hermit crabs into our classroom: Karl and Mr. Crabs! We learned very quickly that hermit crabs molt, and have been patiently waiting for Karl to finish growing his new exoskeleton. The process of molting can take up to 3 months for hermit crabs. We've spent some time learning about hermit crabs this month so that we can take care of them properly. Here are some of the interesting facts that we have learned about hermit crabs:

- Hermit crabs are mainly nocturnal
- They like to climb
- They can see colour and can see 360\* around them
- They usually live in tropical places so they like heat and humidity
- They drink out of a sponge. Putting a sponge in their environment also helps to maintain proper humidity.
- They need two sources of water: saltwater and freshwater.
- There are over 800 known species of hermit crabs. The largest is the coconut crab.
- Despite their name, hermit crabs are social creatures.



## BAND NOTES

Happy December Everyone!

The last couple months have been wonderful in the music world and the students have been making great progress and have demonstrated a genuine interest and enthusiasm for making music. It has been truly inspiring for their teacher!

In Grade 6, we are wrapping up our chair drumming unit. We have been concentrating on sixteenth notes and I have heard amazing progress on their part and they have been extremely successful. Bravo Students! Going forward we are going to wrap up our Bucket Drumming in December and then we are going to start doing a unit on Body Percussion.

The Grade 7 students have continued to work on their fundamentals and being able to play with a proper tone. All the students have been put in a lot of work and the benefits are starting to show. We are just about at the point of learning the first six notes on our instrument and then we will be able to start playing our very first band piece! I can't wait!

In Grade 8 they have continued to work on their fundamentals and they have been working on a few pop songs that only use three notes. The students have become extremely proficient at these and they have increased their ability to read notes and to play with a great tone. Going forward we are going to begin looking at a Pentatonic Scale and we are going to continue to learn some new Band music.

The Senior students have been working on many Band concepts and skills and each time I hear them play they are playing better and better. We have been working on two songs "Crusade" by Vince Gassi and "African Festival" by Quincy Hilliard. We have also just started on "20 Carols in Two Minutes" which the students have enjoyed and have been able to learn very quickly.

The students have been doing amazing work and I look forward to seeing and working with them every couple of days. Bravo students and keep up the great work!. If you ever have any questions about the Band program I can always be reached at [ksalmi@pwsd.ca](mailto:ksalmi@pwsd.ca) . Thank you everyone for your continued support.

Go Band!  
Mr. S.



# Hamiota Youth in Philanthropy

Are you part of an organization looking for financial aid?

The Hamiota Youth in Philanthropy Group is a group of students looking to fund projects that benefit youth in our communities of Hamiota and Kenton. Each year, \$2500 is split between charitable organizations that present projects or programs shown to appeal to students in Hamiota Schools. If your organization is interested in learning more or applying, please visit [www.hamiotayip.weebly.com](http://www.hamiotayip.weebly.com), or contact us at [hamiotayip@gmail.com](mailto:hamiotayip@gmail.com).



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Committee Member



JeAnne Villela  
Committee Member



Trinity Lints  
Committee Member



Mr. Coulter



Mr. Obach



Mme. Mitchell

# MIDDLE YEARS VOLLEYBALL



Coaches: Julie Facey and Chelsey Kostaskey

Back row: Jayson Knight, Tyson Bridge, Griffin Wright, Josh Mathison, Blayden McKinnon

Middle row: Chloe Facey, Karli Knight, Sophie Kalinowich, Nicole Rozdeba, Avery McGonigal

Front row: Justin Martinez, Destin Knight, Julienne Andan, Amy Burr, Alex Airey

Since the grade sixes had to stay as their own cohort this year, several teachers helped to run a volleyball program for the students at noon. They practiced Tuesdays and Thursdays. It was fun to watch how they improved their skills each week. The grade sixes wrapped up their season with a trip to Miniota school to play a few sets against their teams. The players had a lot of fun and can't wait to play again next fall!

## GRADE 6



Coach: Chelsey Kostaskey

Back row: Lauren Soutar, Robyn McNabb, Claire Ramsey, Brady Gregory,  
Front row: Acadia Huberdeau, Shelby Nowosad, Anika Conde, Chloe McKinnon, Taite Smith

Missing: Kendra Dale and Maddison Currah



# GRADE 7

It was great to have the middle years volleyball program this year. We had a grade seven and a grade eight team. Although the season was different compared to other seasons, due to Covid, the players adapted well and improved their skills. The girls practiced on Tuesdays and Thursdays and were able to play a few games against Miniota and Shoal Lake. The grade eight team won the south-side banner and went on to play in the divisional finals. The girls played against Wayway. They lost the first set, won the second set and lost the third set 15-11. They received the Division Finalist banner. The girls had fun playing in a competitive tournament and socializing with their friends. I am sure they all look forward to playing again next season.

## GRADE 8



Coach: Julie Facey

Back row: Adrianna Charlton, Alyssa Kirk, Taylor Lawn, Alyshia McKinnon,

Front row: Quinn Armstrong, Brooke Facey, Hudson Bond, Maria Rogers



Coach Sheldon Gurr

Back row: Colton Rapley, Joe Lelond, Cowen Lints, Bruce Knight, Nicolas McDuff,  
Front row: Iluak Burke, Gunnar Tannas, Kaden Allan, Nolan Drake, Jordon Edwards

The team received the South Division Banner, defeating Shoal Lake in 2 sets, which then gave them the opportunity to travel to Russell on November 23rd to compete for the Park West Divisional title. The team of 10 players lost the opening set 26-24, won the second set 25-13 and went on to win the third set with an exciting 17-15 finish!

The team would like to thank their coach, Sheldon Gurr, for his time, effort, and volleyball expertise/experience.

We would also like to thank Mr. Coulter for organizing the Middle Years Volleyball Program.

**GRADE 8**

## Remembrance Day



Thank you Mrs. Brown and our Grade 12 class for commemorating Remembrance Day by placing a wreath at the town cenotaph.

The entire school coloured 5 murals and sent them out to Birch Lodge, the post office and Kenton Legion.

Each student coloured one square of a mural and then we assembled them. They all turned out beautifully, thank you to the staff that helped bring this to life.



## STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS—MACHEALA TANNAS

And the countdown to Christmas starts... December is right around the corner and with it brings the gift giving season. Thank you to all the students who participate in selling cookies and continue to sell cards, whether it be for gifts or enjoy yourself. Congratulations to the senior boys volleyball team for their first place win in their home tournament and to the senior girls on their win at regionals. Good luck to both teams at provincials. I look forward to participating in this season's spirit weeks and other fun activities with you.

Instagram - [hcistudentcouncil](#)

Twitter - [HClstudentC](#)



**Grade 10 & 11 Students** - Are you interested in a month of a lifetime? If so, consider SHAD! Shad is a month-long program for grades 10 & 11 students. At Shad students participate in hands-on learning, collaborate in design teams, explore post-secondary institutions, engage with academic and entrepreneurial mentors, experience vulnerability training, and meet some of the most passionate dreamers in Gen Z. For more information or to watch a video on the experience please visit:

<https://www.shad.ca/>

<https://vimeo.com/623600311>