



HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY



The New Heights Times

Read all about it ...



Principal's Message:

Is it possible that Spring may actually be peeking around the corner? This weather certainly has our hopes up! We see it in the faces and extra bounce of the students, staff, and parents who spend time at the school each day... Just a reminder that even though the snow is melting (knock on wood), because of the angle of the building our outdoor playspace is in the shade most of the day and can still be quite chilly. Remember those boots, mitts and jackets everyday, just in case.

New Heights is looking forward to a makeover this Spring, with some fresh paint on the walls (much thanks for the donated paint from ICI paints), and hopefully we will see the arrival of our Imagination Playground on location (weather/snow permitting).

We would like to thank students, families, and staff who were affected by our classroom reorganization this month. Change is never easy, and we very much appreciate everyone's support and willingness to make the transition smooth for the students involved. Thank you.

~ Katie Blasetti and Kaetlon Irwin

Inside this Issue:

Principal's Message	1
Intermediate Class	2
Preschool Class	3
Primary Class	4/6
PAC Update	5
Junior Class	7
Senior Class	8
EXTRA! EXTRA!	9
Wish List	10
One last thing ...	11

March 2011

*** IMPORTANT DATES:**

- March 21 - FOP Day (no preschool classes)
- March 25 - Last day of classes before Spring Break
- March 26 - April 3 - SPRING BREAK
- April 4 - Classes resume
- April 5 - PAC Meeting @ 7pm
- April 8 - Report Cards & IPP Updates
- April 13 & 14 - P/T Interviews
- April 14 - Pizza Lunch

PLEASE MARK THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR!

The newsletter is available online!

www.newheightscalgary.com

Katie & Angie's Intermediate Class:

The Intermediate Class has been working on organizing and planning when we write, trying out different structures and story maps to help sort our thoughts. For inspiration we are using the illustrations of Marie Cardouat from the board game Dixit. Here are a few of the “story starters” we came up with as a class. See if you can match our sentence to the picture we made it for.

(Answers are on the last page of this newsletter issue)

We look forward to you reading our work when our stories are complete. Coming soon to the hallway bulletin board!

A: If only it was a magic staircase.

B: And the plants kept growing!

C: How could he tell if it was really real?



Preschool Update: By Principal Katie Blasetti

Our March train theme is well underway! Everyone enjoys the train songs and activities we have done so far! Coming up this month will be an exploration of categorization, and dramatizations of the Little Engine story and "Freight Train" by Donald Crews. We will also be developing our self care skills and practicing our use of our visual schedules. Before the month is out, we hope to develop more deeply our independence and problem solving skills, and work on maintaining a can-do attitude in the face of obstacles. "I think I can, I think I can..." Come to think of it, I guess that's something we all need to remember as we are faced with a transition in the middle of our year.

As you now know, our preschool teacher April will not be returning for the remainder of the year. Sheetal will be in as usual, and Lanna will be joining our team to help with the transition and provide additional support. As of March 14th, New Heights teacher Sarah Erickson will be moving into the preschool classroom. Our OT Jen and SLP Astrid have also been seen more frequently in the preschool program, providing support to students and consultation for staff.

Our next scheduled FOP is for Monday, March 21st. Astrid, Jen, Colombia, and Cassandra have been putting together some very informative and interactive sessions. Please try and take advantage of these.

Also, keep in mind that even with the (hopefully!) eventual warmer weather coming, boots are still appropriate footwear for our sometimes muddy yard.

"Getting Wild" with the Primary Class

In the primary class this month we have been taking a closer look at creatures of the wild, with a focus on Owls.

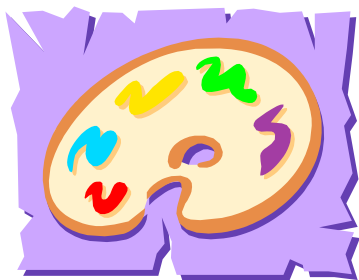
We have been reading a lot of "Wild Thing" themed books such as Maurice Sendak's "Where the Wild Things Are" and we have also explored the idea of magical creatures when reading Peter Yarrow and Lenny Lipton's "Puff the Magic Dragon".

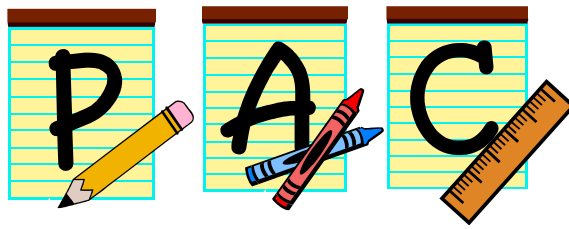
The gym has continued to be a wonderful place for us to explore our creativity and use of imagination as we have been coming up with a variety of action and movement games involving magical creatures of the wild.

In this issue of the New Heights Times we are highlighting the work we have been doing to build our very own "Wild Things".



"Wild Things"
art work by:
Zoie

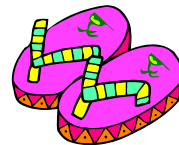




Update from PAC (Parent Advisory Council)

We are finally coming out of the deep freeze of winter and with Spring, we are excited to announce our **2nd Annual “Girls Just Wanna Have Fun” Mother’s Day Mini-Spa Event on Friday, May 6 (6:30-9:30pm)!** We are dedicating this year’s event in memory of Theresa Schneider. Her daughter, Madison, will be our special guest of honor.

This year, the mini-spa will be held at the Edgemont Community Hall located in the NW. Back by popular demand is the Candy Buffet, shop-til-you-drop with vendors, door prizes and an award for the **“Best Dressed in P.J.’s/Spa Attire”!** Something new this year ... a digital photo booth which should bring lots of laughs (maybe even a few tears!) and fond memories. It’s a wonderful opportunity for Mothers, Grandmothers, daughters, aunts, sisters and BFF’s (girlfriends) to come together for an evening of pampering, friendship and “girl power”.



Save the date!! More details about this great event will be sent out soon! If you would like to help organize this event (tickets, decorations, purchasing items etc.), please contact Becki at becki.mravunac@newheightscalgary.com.

Yours truly,

The Parent Advisory Council

*** Our next meeting is TBA - please watch the PAC bulletin board for the date ***
Everyone is welcome!

**More “Wild Things” Art Work
from the Primary Class ...**



**“Wild Things” painting
by: Terran!**



**Ben’s artistic interpretation
of “Wild Things”!**



Junior Class:

The Junior class is well into our study of the native people of Alberta. In science we have been learning about simple machines. We had a great visit from a number of animals from Petland as part of Colton's birthday party and have included pictures of a couple of our visitors ...



"I'm so-o-o-o-cute!"



"Let's play dead!"

Other news from the Junior Class ...

Joshua is recovering well from his surgery. He has been back for a visit and will be coming back to school soon.

Jake just got back from his trip to Hawaii - hopefully he brought some of that balmy weather back with him.

We are working hard on our plans for our Leprechaun traps and are eager to show them off to our friends and to see what we catch!!!!

* See the **LAST** page of this newsletter issue for more details ...





Senior Class:

The senior class would like to thank our New Heights Parent Council for allowing us the opportunity to participate in a recent school fieldtrip! The entire class got to see the *"Titanic Exhibit"* at the Telus World of Science. We spent the day learning about the Titanic and the ill-fated journey of its passengers.

It was interesting to see all of the actual photographs and artifacts, along with hearing the many stories about the Titanic. Thanks to PAC for their help in making it happen!

We continue to learn about other events from the past. In social studies, we are studying World War II and the effect it's had on our world today.

We're all excited that spring is nearly here and we're looking forward to Spring Break!

~ Miss Anderson & Mrs. M.



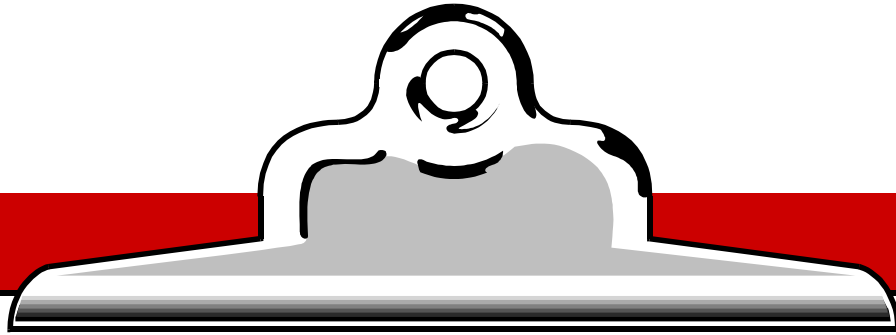
A BIG THANK YOU to Zach's sister, Brianna (photo above) for donating \$390.85 she raised for New Heights from a bake sale at her school! Brianna and her mom, Sharron, did all the baking and donated the funds to OUR school!



We are delighted to have *Lanna Code* join us in our preschool! Give her a warm New Heights welcome!

Psychology News ...

Jennifer Mensink and Kalyn Wiebe have enjoyed working with the staff, families and students of New Heights Learning Services and Home Program. It has been an honour and a pleasure to work with such a wonderful team of individuals. Best of luck to all in the future.



Wish List

If you or your business can supply the school with any of the following items, please contact the office. We'd gratefully accept donations of these items!

THANK YOU!

- (6) Blankets *

- (6) Buckets (trash can sized) *

- Dishrack *

- Suitcase *

- Globe *

- Snowshoes

- Beanbag chairs

- Paper shredder

- 12" Paper trimmer

- Hand weights

- Lego/K'Nex

- Discman/Portable CD player

- Puzzles

* Item that has been most RECENTLY added to our "Wish List".



One last thing ...



Leprechaun Traps!

As most of you are aware, we are holding our 2nd annual St. Patrick's Day Challenge at New Heights. Students and their families have been challenged to build the perfect Leprechaun trap. Students will meet on Tuesday March 16 to show everyone the traps they have made and to demonstrate how they work. We will set our traps at the end of the day on Tuesday and see whose trap will capture a leprechaun on St. Patrick's Day (March 17)!

Intermediate Class Answers:

A: Middle right

B: Bottom left

C: Top right

