

happy halloween

The New Heights Times

Read all about it ...

Principal's Message:

We are excited to introduce New Heights' new part time Executive Director Brent Williams! Brent will be working with School and Home Program administration, as well as with our Board of Directors. With his experience with not for profit agencies, as well as his own experience as a parent of children with learning challenges, Brent is a wonderful asset to our organization. When you see him around the building, extend him a warm New Heights welcome!

Also a reminder that your child's IPP will be coming home soon. Thank you to our families for taking the time to meet, provide input, and play such a vital role in your child's learning.

~ Katie Blasetti

IMPORTANT DATES:

Oct. 14 - IPPs sent home
Oct. 17 - PD Day (No School)
Oct. 18 - FOP (No Preschool classes)
Oct. 31 - Halloween
Nov. 6 - Daylight Savings (fall back)
Nov. 11 - Remembrance Day (No School)
Nov. 12 - Wonders of Winter Event (11am-2pm)
Nov. 14 - PD Day (no school)
Nov. 15 - FOP Day (No Preschool classes)

PLEASE MARK THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR!

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OCTOBER 2011

The newsletter is
available online at:

www.newheightscalgary.com

Intermediate Class:

The Intermediate Class is back into full swing, and we are a busy class this year! This month we have begun our unit on bats and owls. The novel study we are using is *Silverwing* by Kenneth Oppel, and we are loving the many adventures that the curious bat Shade has gotten himself into. The students have also begun their research on different species of bats and owls around the world (many of which appear in our novel study), and we are about to begin a science unit on Light Systems and Optics (with an emphasis on nocturnal animals). We invite you to come take a look at our art work in the halls this month...you will see many night time themes, exploration with light, and even some bats and owls.

To our intermediate class parents: Many of you have asked for appropriate books that your child could be interested in. The following two websites are excellent resources that I use often. *Guys Read* is at www.guysread.com and is fantastic for finding books in a specific genre or interest. The *GoodReads: Best Books for Reluctant Readers* list includes many of the books I often recommend to parents and other teachers, and I have also found many of my novel study favorites listed here: www.goodreads.com/list/show/488.Best_Books_for_Reluctant_Readers.

Happy Reading!

~ Katie & Angie



PAC UPDATE



Dear Families,

We are excited about the fast approaching **5th Annual "Wonders of Winter Event"** on **Saturday, November 12th from 11am-3pm** at the Edgemont Community Center! (33 Edgevalley Circle NW)

This is our biggest fundraiser of the year. It will include a Silent Auction & Bake Sale, L'il Elves Kids Shop, Raffles, Door prizes & lots more! The funds raised are dedicated to the purchase of desperately needed new laptops & computers for the students! Invite your friends and family ... everyone is welcome!!!

Please bring in your item donations for the Silent Auction by Friday, October 28th! The more donations we receive, the more successful the Event will be!

The Bake Sale is always a favorite so be sure to bring your baking into the school on **Thursday, November 10.**

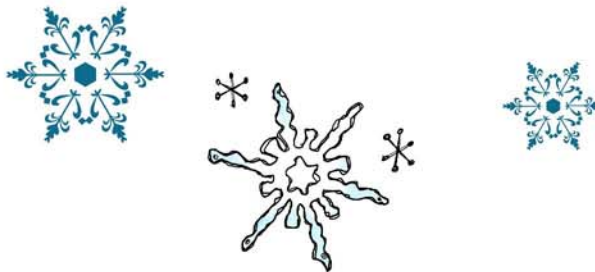
Want to help out for the Wonders of Winter Event? Contact Claudia, our Volunteer Coordinator, at cochoav@hotmail.com. You can also fill out the volunteer form that went home with your child to sign up for a specific task.

We want to hear from you! Do you have any comments or ideas for us? Let us know how we are doing. E-mail Becki, our School Liaison, at becki.mravunac@newheightscalgary.com.

We would like to thank everyone for selling the SUTP books at the start of the year. They sold quickly and easily. We really appreciate your help on this! We even had to order a few extra books and we happen to have 9 SUTP books left if you'd like one last chance at getting them!

See you on November 12th!

PAC



PRESCHOOL - PM CLASS

We welcome back students from last year and students new to New Heights! This school year has started off with much activity and energy as we have started to get to know each other. We began September with the exploration of color using the book "Brown Bear" by Eric Carle where the students enjoyed telling parts of the story back to their friends and had fun making brown fuzzy bears, red feather birds, and bubble wrap painting goldfish. As well, the students have shown great interest in the counting song "Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed" which we sing along with and interact with on our new classroom IPAD. The students' laughter while singing, counting, and interacting with the animals on the screen is so contagious!

In October, we have started a discovery of autumn themes using Leaves, Thanksgiving, and Halloween. The students are learning number recognition, categories, and feelings through the song "Five Little Pumpkins" and the story "I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Bat". We are also very happy and excited to have Anna Spencer join our class in October to teach us Music on Tuesday afternoons. We look forward to the sounds and rhythms of various musical instruments with Miss Anna and we will be busy decorating our Music Boxes this month.

What a great start to the school year!
~ Miss Kyla, Miss Sheetal & Miss Lanna



Home Program

Jane Wilde & Betty Heung
Contact: 403-250-1317

Hello friends and family of home program!

We would like to welcome Lindsay Shearer to our team of lovely developmental assistants! With the start of fall, our girls have mentioned some fun indoor playdate destinations: Tommy K Play, Let's Play, Shakers, and Coffee & S'cream. Home program families can expect their very own parent binders complete with a copy of our parent handbook...coming soon!

PRESCHOOL - AM CLASS:

Greetings from Maggie and Sheetal's class of busy boys. It's only October and I am happy to report that our objectives for the first weeks are well on the way to being achieved. Routines are established, we are all getting to and from where ever we need to be with increasing independence, everyone is happily sitting at circle time and participating to their various degrees.

These are very important foundation skills for a class like ours, paving the way for valuable learning opportunities throughout the year. We (myself and my able assistants Sheetal and Lanna) have worked hard to provide the consistency and motivation necessary to accomplish this. I had to revise my plan for our first literature theme which completely failed to engage, and replace it with one that had more action and minimal narrative.

The Wheels On the Bus worked like a charm for September. We are now enjoying Five Green and Speckled Frogs. Later in the month we will shift to something more seasonal, Go Away Big Green Monster or Five little Pumpkins. October is the perfect month to focus on awareness of emotions- own and others. In a continuing effort to elicit verbal response we also focus on a new letter each week. This has proven to be a very popular feature of our daily and weekly routine.

Thank you to all of the parents who came out for our first two FOP Days and the parent teacher interviews. It has certainly been a busy time. Next date to note on your calendar is October 17 (classes cancelled for professional development day) and October 18 is our next FOP Day.

~ Maggie, Sheetal & Lanna



Children and Their Parents Needed for Research About Food!

Researchers at the University of Calgary want to know which foods children aged 3-16 years would eat IF they had complete freedom to make their own choices. We especially want to know if children with learning and developmental problems have different food preferences from children experiencing typical growth and development. Participation in this project is voluntary and anonymous. Parents and children should decide together if they want to participate. If you and your child choose to participate, please complete the questions online by May 2012. If you prefer writing answers on paper, a package can be mailed to you along with a self-addressed, stamped return envelope. To receive a package, please contact Kristin Wiens at kristin.wiens@albertahealthservices.ca. This study has been reviewed and approved by the Conjoint Health Research Ethics Board at the University of Calgary. Thank you in advance for your interest in this project!

What we ask of you: Complete a survey

1. Copy and paste the URL below into your internet browser address bar to access the survey.
2. Take about 30 minutes to answer some questions online.
3. Help your child (if help is needed) to complete one section of questions. Keep in mind that we want to know your child's preferences, not what you wish your child would prefer!

URL: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/foodpreferencestudy>

(If this link does not work by clicking, please copy and paste it into your browser!)

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Welcome

New Heights welcomes Jen's OT student, Chrisoula, who will be working with us for October into November.

Welcome Mount Royal University student, Kiersten, who will be working in the school for October and November.

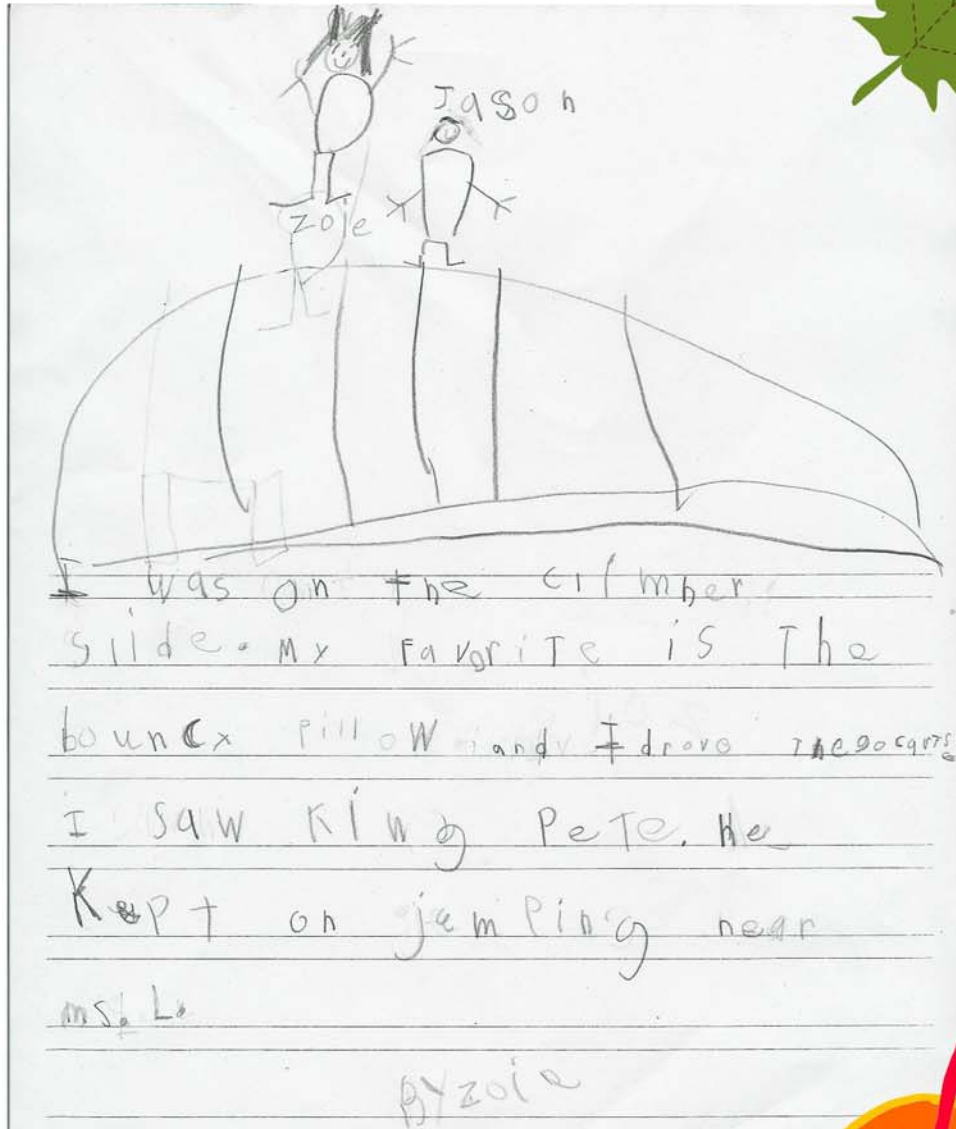


thank you very much

Thank you to Brianna Hall for her generous birthday donation to our school!

The **Junior Class** enjoyed their recent trip to Kayben Farms!
Here are a few student submissions.

Enjoy!



By: Zoie



FIELD TRIP



I was on the Climber,
slide, Baccats. Best of all was
the bouncy pillow with the
ball gun.

We got a tour of the
garden.

BY Jason



By: Enayat



We were here on the journey

pillow. We saw a black cat.

We painted our pumpkins.

We had snack.

We went on the go carts.

We saw some plants.

We had water noon snack
by spider men (Enayat)



Senior Class Lifeskills

Question: Where do you see yourself after New Heights?

"After New Heights I will be working at a Subway."
-Ben



"When I leave New Heights I see myself going to college so I can study film and writing."
-Liam



"In 7 years I think I will probably still be living with my parents going to either university or college and train to be a veterinarian."
- Noah



Senior Class Thoughts for the Day:

You are in a parking lot and you find a thousand dollars. What would you do?

- A. Take it to the police station
- B. Look around the parking lot for the owner
- C. Keep it
- D. Leave it
- E. Other



Discuss this with your family and see who would do the right thing.

~Ms Anderson, Mrs. M & Miss D