

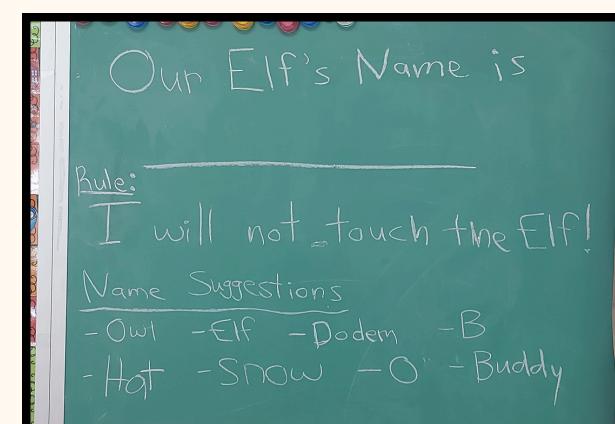
DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

KINDERGARTEN EDITION

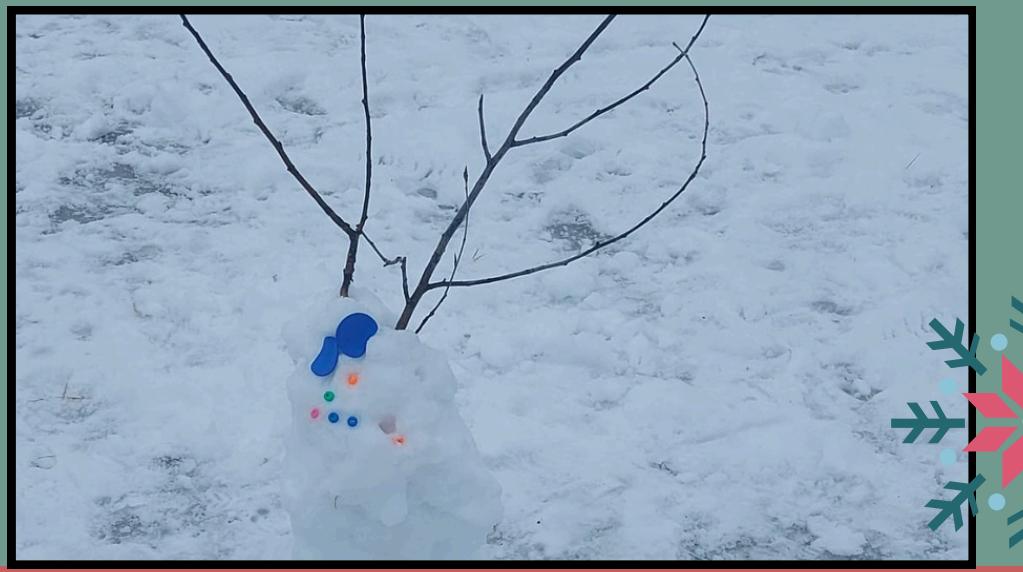
Meet Dodem the Elf on the Shelf!



On December 1st, our class read a simplified version of *The Elf on the Shelf: A Christmas Tradition* by Carol V. Aebersold and Chanda A. Bell, introducing students to this fun holiday tradition. After the story, students voted on a name for our Elf. The name drawn was “Dodem”, the Oji-Cree word for “friend.” Each day, Dodem appeared in a new spot around the classroom. Students did an excellent job remembering not to touch the Elf and enjoyed searching for Dodem each morning. Everyone’s kindness and responsibility earned a spot on Santa’s Nice List this year! Dodem has now returned to the North Pole and will visit us again in December 2026.



Land-based Snowmen



Our kindergarten children engage in meaningful land-based learning when they play in the snow and build a snowman together. This outdoor experience encourages exploration, curiosity, and joy in learning through hands-on interaction with the natural environment. As children roll and shape snow, they practice problem-solving, creativity, and early science skills by observing changes in texture and temperature. Working together to build a snowman supports communication, cooperation, and a sense of belonging. Outdoor play also promotes physical development, self-regulation, and well-being. Through seasonal land-based activities, children develop respect for nature while building skills in a fun, meaningful, and developmentally appropriate way.

Math Update:
Shapes & Snowmen!



Sorting shapes by size!

Our students have been exploring different ways to name, describe, and sort 2D and 3D shapes. We explored sorting shapes by colour and the type of shape. As well, for winter fun, we created Shape Snowmen using plastic shapes as stamps on paper snowmen. The students enjoyed these hands-on learning activities to strengthen their understanding of shapes. In January, we will begin our next numeracy unit on measurement!



Freezing Water + Free the Bears Science Experiment

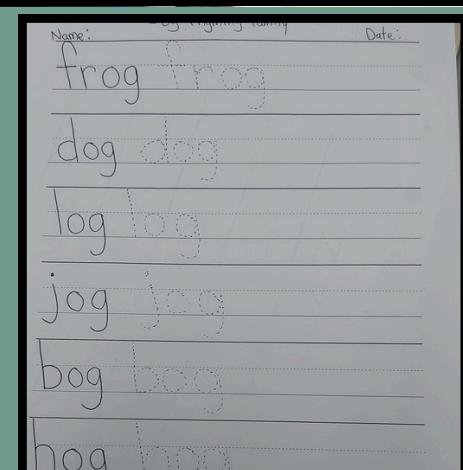
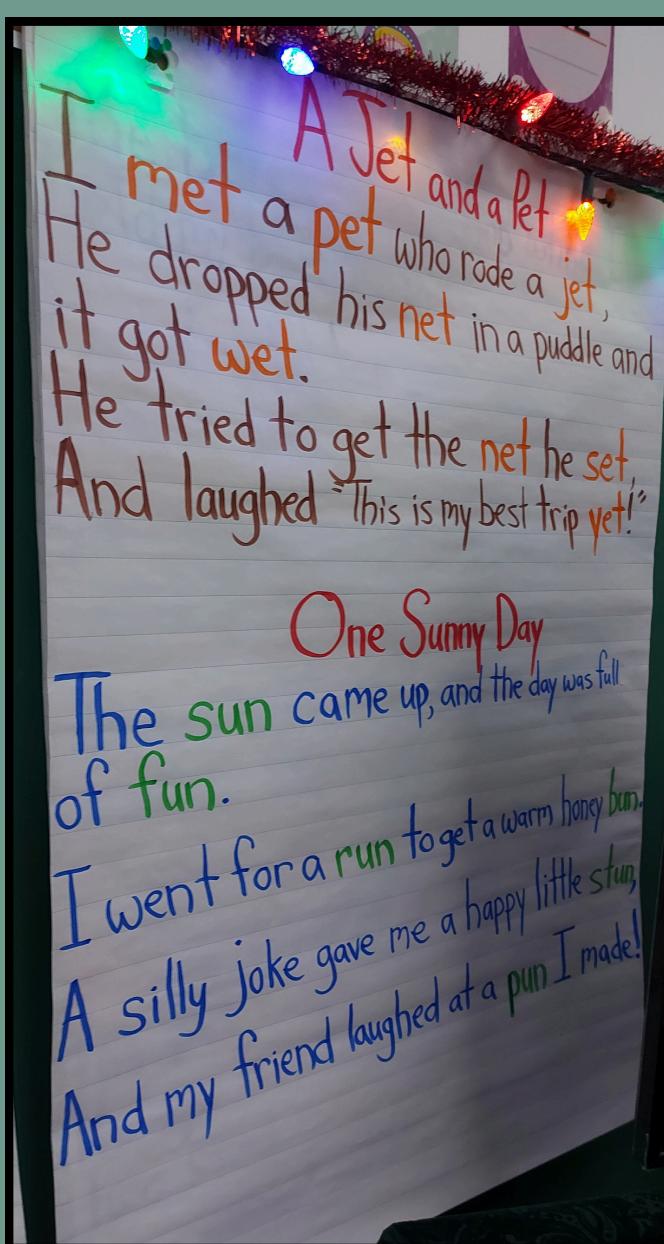


Our kindergarten children explore scientific thinking through the Freezing Water and “Free the Bears” experiment. Children place bear figures and shape objects into water and observe how they freeze into ice. They then work together to melt the ice in a polar- and Antarctic-themed water bin. This hands-on activity helps children understand cause and effect and changes in states of matter. As they experiment with ways to free the bears, children develop problem-solving skills, collaboration, and language. The sensory-rich experience sparks curiosity and supports early science learning in a playful, engaging, and meaningful way.

Literacy Update: Rhyming and Syllables



Our class finished our rhyming unit and began learning about syllables. Students practiced reading short stories together, tracing and writing rhyming words, and saying different rhymes aloud. They also worked on matching pictures with word endings to help group words that sound the same. We are now beginning our phonics unit, starting with syllables. Phonics helps children learn how letters and sounds work together, building the skills they need to become confident readers and writers.



Our kindergarten Christmas party was a joyful celebration filled with fun, creativity, and togetherness in our classroom. Our kindergarten children enjoyed playing Christmas bingo, practicing turn-taking and listening skills while having lots of fun. We shared special food together, encouraging kindness, gratitude, and a sense of community. The children also created their own Christmas ornaments, expressing creativity and pride in their work. Together, we decorated our classroom Christmas tree, making the space feel warm and festive. This celebration supported social connections, creativity, and joyful learning, creating special memories for our children and a meaningful experience to share with their families.

Classroom Christmas Party



We hope everyone had a fun, restful Winter Break! We are happy to be back! Wishing everyone a wonderful 2026!!!

