

report

to the community



Strathmillan School

2022-2023



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The Early Years (K-5) provides a nurturing environment where children are encouraged to investigate, create and discover. Children develop their competencies in language and literacy skills, thinking and problem-solving skills, social and emotional development, independence, creativity and knowledge in preparation for becoming responsible citizens. Instruction in the following curricula: Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Physical Education/Health and the Arts is focused on meeting the unique needs of Early Years students. Instruction focuses on the integration of subject matter and hands-on activity-based approaches to learning.

Last Year's School Accomplishments (2021-2022)

Strathmillan's professional staff rebooted their analysis of student writing samples and subsequently planned for the next steps in teaching.

- ✓ Revisited writing continuums to determine accepted exemplars of typical and exceptional writing skills at all grade levels.
- ✓ Literacy Support teachers continued to offer support to classrooms.
- ✓ Used inservice day and staff meetings to implement grade level writing samples analysis.

Strathmillan's professional staff looked to improve student problem-solving skills by developing an instructional focus to directly teach and model strategies.

- ✓ Students were regularly exposed to open-ended and closed problems.
- ✓ Teachers used activities/resources from the Professional Learning Hub and divisional numeracy coach.
- ✓ Grade level teams used PLC time to examine student problem-solving analysis.

Our Vision Statement

We are STARS!

Our Mission Statement

Through the shared commitments of students, caregivers, and staff, the mission of Strathmillan School is to create a nurturing environment that produces responsible citizens who are life-long learners.

School Profile

Number of teachers: 20
Number of students: 305
Grade levels: K-5

School Highlights

These include:

- Reading Recovery – Grade 1
- Math Enhancement – K/Grade 1
- Enrichment
- Strong Literacy
- Reading Buddies
- The Integrated Arts
- Restitution
- Roots of Empathy
- Choir
- Varied Co-curricular Activities
- Student Leaders/Student Voice
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Celebrating Our Priorities

Literacy: Our 2021-22 goal was that by June 2022, 100% of students will use the skills of good writing to articulate thinking, deepen understanding and communicate ideas.

Term 3 Report Card data indicated particularly good gains in writing skills in the primary years. The percentage of students indicating good/proficient level of skills in writing increased approx. 12%. The data for the intermediate grades (3-5) showed less movement as the already strong skills being demonstrated remained steady at 81-86% of students indicating good/proficient skills in writing. The data does indicate there is still work to be done, especially when working with some of our struggling learners and with getting already proficient writers to still show a year's growth rather than plateauing. Work on writing skills will continue to be a focus in the upcoming school year.

Numeracy: Our 2021-22 goal was that by June 2022, 100% of students will become confident problem solvers through discussion-based opportunities, sharing solution strategies and writing about math understandings.

Term 3 Report Card data revealed that the % of students demonstrating good/proficient problem skills either only increased slightly and in some cases decreased slightly as the year progressed. While the % of students demonstrating good/proficient problem solving-skills is high (75-83%), the slight decreases indicate that as the complexity of the problems increases, some of our students are not progressing as strongly as we would like. A focus on problem solving will continue in the upcoming school year.

Planning & Goal Setting

School goals are created using the Divisional Strategic Plan as a guideline (www.sjasd.ca/Documents/stratplan_2016-21.pdf). The goal setting process began in the Spring and included input from students, teachers, and the community. Goals were developed around the needs and direction of the various subject areas with student progress and achievement and our mission and vision statement as our focus.

This Year's School Goals and Priorities (2022-2023)

By June 2023, 100% of students will have demonstrated growth with their reading and writing skills across multiple content areas.

By June 2023, 100% of students will show growth in their confidence and ability in problem solving and numeracy skills.

Strathmillan School Staff and students will continue to focus on understanding of their basic needs, relationships with others, and their own overall wellness using the three R's: Respect, Responsible and Ready (to Learn).