



Graduation

On Thursday, June 23rd we celebrated five students who will be transitioning to new schools in the fall. To our graduates, Lucien, Noah, Enrique, Ethan and Rama, congratulations on your achievements! You've worked hard, persevered, and grown so much throughout your time at JMSA. The school authority wishes you the best of luck in your future endeavors at your new schools. May your graduation from JMSA be the beginning of many more achievements in your lives.

Year End Assembly

Our year end assembly was the first school event in over two years where students' biggest supporters and cheerleaders, their families, could attend in person.

Thank you to everyone who joined us as we showcased the accomplishments our students achieved during the 2021-2022 school year. Each class shared a video of some of the amazing things they've learned, memories they made, goals they achieved, and the laughter that they shared this year.

We look forward to having more opportunities to celebrate our students and share in their learning with families next year!

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Gardening Boxes

This spring, each class received a raised garden bed so students could plant and care for a sensory garden. Each class' garden is blossoming with colourful flowers, and fragrant plants and herbs. Classes have been nurturing their gardens diligently and can be seen tending to their crops, making comparisons to other plants and exploring other sensory gardens.



Challenger Baseball Field Day

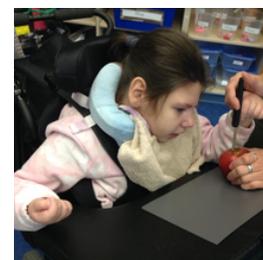


Let's Play Ball! JMSA staff and students were excited to travel to the Farrow Riverside Miracle Park for a fun day of baseball and activities. Miracle League baseball fields are custom-designed with cushioned rubberized surfaces and accessible dugouts to accommodate wheelchairs and walkers. During our field trip, each class had the opportunity to play a game of baseball against another class. With music, cheering, and announcer Mrs. Sue on the mic, each child rounded the bases with smiles and laughter. There were also a variety of field day activities set up for the students to participate in, including the accessible playground, giant Kerplunk, chalk, bubbles, baseball themed tattoos, and squirt gun painting. Thank you to the Jay's Care Foundation for providing us with Toronto Blue Jay's shirts and hats to remember the day and to the Miracle League for loaning us your field! It was a day we will not forget!

Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds

Thank you to Greater Essex County District School Board (GECDSB) for inviting us to participate in the Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds grant sponsored through Sobeys. Each class received a variety of kitchen supplies (e.g., cups, bowls, cutting boards, apple corer) and ingredients to create healthy snacks. For the month of April, students made weekly recipes by following a step-by-step directional video filmed by students at Westview Freedom Academy. On the menu was apple pizzas, apple oat bars, energy bites and pizza. The students enjoyed making and tasting all the delicious recipes. A special thank you to Oven 360 for donating individual pizza kits to each student.

The Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds program also included weekly fitness opportunities. For the first two weeks, students got to participate in Yoga with Coco, an accessible yoga instructor in our community. We ended the month with Pound Fitness, a drum workout using pool noodles. Everyone had a great time exercising their bodies through new experiences.



The Benefits of Birding



Thanks to a generous donation from Pelee Island Bird Observatory, our school has engaged in birding throughout the last several months. We received a "birding backpack" filled with bird feeders, sets of children sized binoculars and bird identification books. Class 1 also made a bird watching kit for each class which included two window bird feeders, bird seed, a bird's nest, tactile visuals highlighting the salient features of birds, birding bingo and a scavenger hunt. Even our amazing nursing staff got involved with Nurse Kelly making a flip book titled "Our School Birds." All of these efforts inspired many of our classes to take weekly walks through Malden Park to search for birds. The children loved hearing different calls and songs and were surprised to learn how many species of birds live around our school. Some classes even met fellow bird watchers and got a look at the cameras they use to capture beautiful images of birds up close. The students have loved being able to see and hear birds feeding right outside our classrooms. A few of our favourite birds have been: Northern Flickers, Common Grackles, Baltimore Orioles, Blue Herons and baby Geese.

Class Pets

Spring is a perfect time to explore the life cycle of animals. Throughout the last several months, each class at JMSA has welcomed pets into their rooms to help explore science, literacy, communication and math concepts.

Class 1 is learning about brown-lipped snails. The students enjoyed observing Stewie, Dandy, Jr and Turbo munch on clover and lettuce and crawl across their hands or trays. They even found eggs inside the aquarium so it looks like more snails may be joining Class 1 soon.

Class 2 excitedly monitored 12 eggs in an incubator for 21 days. It was such an exciting day when the chicks began to hatch. Chips, Spicy Buffalo and Bear Paw instantly became the talk of the school! Class 2 cared for the chicks for their first few weeks of life and loved watching them grow and change.

Class 3's pets include frogs, tadpoles, worms and butterflies. Students enjoyed watching Taco jump all over his aquarium and they explored the unique patterns and texture on his skin. They also used their hands and Zoomy, a digital microscope, to touch and see worms up close.

Class 4 learned all about caterpillars and butterflies through their class pets. After eating most of their feed, the caterpillars grew in size before entering into their chrysalis. Students continued to observe this stage of their cycle until they transitioned into butterflies. Once the butterflies were ready, class 4 released them outside. One butterfly did not want to leave and landed on Mia's nose!

Class 5 also raised tadpoles and caterpillars. Using light, students were able to spot and track both animals and notice changes in their features. Students used celery leaves grown in their indoor classroom garden to feed the tadpoles. Overtime, they excitedly grew legs and Class 5 is hoping they turn into frogs within the last few days of school.

School News

Class Pets Continued...



Gari the Goat

We excitedly welcomed a special visitor, Gari the goat, to JMSA. Students spent the morning petting her soft fur, feeding her grains and hay, and touching her hard horns. It was an exciting day for all!



The Cock-a-Doodle Doo Cup

Students went on a global adventure like the rooster in "The Rooster Who Set Out to See the World" by Eric Carle. Each class selected a country to travel to and then participated in a STEAM challenge to build boats out of recyclables, natural objects or food. Then we gathered outside as a school community to participate in the Cock-a-Doodle-Do Cup! Students placed their boats in water tables and engaged in friendly boat races against their classmates. Congratulations to the winners from each country!

This book also encouraged classes to explore various countries around the world. Students explored the music and high-fashion of Italy, and even starred in their very own fashion show! Our Australian adventure took students "down under" to the Great Barrier Reef, the Outback, and finally to the high seas. In France, students enjoyed many sensory activities incorporating French culture. Our globetrotters enjoyed exploring different continents, listening to music from around the world, and exploring positional concepts using world-famous landmarks. Thank you to Class 6 for organizing this adventure!



That's a Wrap

The 2021-2022 school year has come to an end! Despite many challenges, we still had so much fun and learned a lot. We hope everyone has a safe and relaxing summer and we will see you in September!
