## Ms. Linda R:

In February, we did not celebrate any student birthdays; however, this did not slow us down. Our activities were filled with full-body sensory experiences and adventures. Alongside our weekly swimming schedule, we celebrated Valentine's
 Day, experienced the thrills of the Flying Squirrel trampoline park, took a public transit journey to the Children's Museum at the Forks, and, notably on February 26, our class recognized the halfway point of the school year by engaging in 100 DAY activities. It's truly astounding how quickly the school year has progressed to this halfway point. We've accomplished so much, yet there is still a lot more to learn and many more adventures to embark upon. We always look forward to what lies ahead.


## Unwrapping Joy with Candy Grams!



A candy gram is a sweet and delightful way for students to spread joy and contribute to special events. In February, students in grades 7-9 enthusiastically participated in a candy gram activity as a creative fundraising initiative to support grade 9 graduation activities. This delectable endeavour involved sending personalized messages and a sweet treat, typically a candy or small gift, to friends, classmates, or even teachers. Students not only indulged in the spirit of giving but also channeled their enthusiasm into raising funds for memorable grade 9 graduation festivities. The school buzzed with excitement as candy grams exchanged hands, creating a festive atmosphere that not only satisfied sweet cravings but also contributed to the success of the upcoming graduation celebrations.


We are thrilled to announce that student-led conferences are scheduled to take place on March 14th, from 3:30 pm to $6: 00 \mathrm{pm}$, and on the morning of March 15th, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. We cordially invite and encourage you to join us at the school during these times to gain insights into your child's academic progress and accomplishments from the last term. Appointment letters detailing specific conference times will be dispatched next week, and we ask you to watch for these important communications. Additionally, please mark your calendars for March 20th when report cards will be available online, providing a comprehensive overview of your child's achievements. Your active participation in this collaborative approach to education is greatly appreciated, and we look forward to fostering a meaningful dialogue between educators and families.

# HOW SICK IS TOO SICK FOR SCHOOL? 

Cold and flu season is here. See our tips for parents and caregivers:


## Slam Dunk Pep Rally!

In February, students at Isaac Newton enthusiastically participated in a spirited pep rally to rally support for the basketball team. The event, pulsating with school spirit and a strong sense of fellowship, served as a vibrant showcase of support for our athletes, fostering a collective enthusiasm among the student body. The pep rally featured energetic performances, team introductions, and spirited cheers, creating an electrifying atmosphere that reverberated throughout
 the school. Such events are essential for fostering a positive school culture, promoting sportsmanship, and encouraging student involvement. The pep rally not only celebrated the achievements of our basketball team but also emphasized


Thanks to all the volunteers and coaches who made this event awesome! the importance of collective support for all school endeavours, reinforcing the bonds that make our school community truly special.


# Butter Chicken Bash: Community Cooking Fiesta 



Enjoying the Butter Chicken!


Mr. Dhalla, parents, and students are ready to cook!

In February, amidst a frigid Friday evening, members of the Isaac Newton School community, comprising both parents and students, convened for a culinary workshop led by Mr. Dhalla to master the art of crafting butter chicken. This engaging and informative session not only provided participants with valuable culinary skills but also fostered a sense of camaraderie and unity within the community. The shared experience of learning and preparing a delicious dish together created a unique opportunity for parents and students to bond, reinforcing the school's commitment to a holistic educational environment that
 extends beyond traditional academic pursuits. The event exemplified the school's dedication to fostering connections and enriching the overall educational experience for its community members.



## Do not Walk, Skate, or Play on Frozen Retention Ponds

Retention ponds are never safe to use for winter recreation activities. Ice conditions can change quickly without warning, and falling through the ice can be deadly. Remind your children to stay away from frozen retention ponds. Keep dogs on leashes when walking near a retention pond so they don't run onto the ice.


Do not walk, skate, or play on frozen retention ponds. Talk to your children about staying away from the ice.


Do not place hockey nets, benches, light structures, or any other items on a frozen retention pond. To report a structure or item on a retention pond, contact 311 .


If you see someone on a retention pond, call 911.

Water from snowmelt or nearby water main breaks can drain into retention ponds. This water is often mixed with street salts, which can cause ice to melt and thin unevenly. This water enters retention ponds from underneath the ice, resulting in thinning of ice that can't be seen from the surface.

## Educational Assistant Spotlights;



My name is Fariba Nikrad, and I work as an Educational Assistant at Isaac Newton School. I was an art teacher for many years in my home country of Iran before moving to Canada in 2016. I worked in schools such as Grant Park until 2020 when I began my work at Isaac Newton. I have had the pleasure of assisting diverse students from different backgrounds in both the classroom and special programs, including Autism and EAL. I find great satisfaction in supporting both students and teachers, ensuring that students have the resources and assistance they need to succeed in their academic journey. I love the culture at Isaac Newton and strive to bring my best in cooperation with our amazing staff to contribute to the development of our students. I hope to have the opportunity to continue my work in education and make a positive impact on students' lives.

My name is Karen Ramirez, and I have been an Educational Assistant for nine years, joining Isaac Newton in 2023. I immensely enjoy working with kids. The opportunity to encourage and foster their education, personal growth, and self-awareness is an honour beyond measure. I enjoy working with children of all ages and abilities, but I would have to say that my heart holds a special place for those children with special needs. I am the parent of two children with regular abilities and two with special needs, all of whom are now adults. I truly look forward to my job every day.



Please be sure to put your cell phones away unless instructed otherwise. Your participation in class is appreciated!

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