



WESTON SCHOOL

February 2024

Hello Weston families,

Where has January gone?! Our school focus continues to be on creating learning targets with students so that students know **WHAT** they are learning and **WHY** they are learning it. The targets are making learning visible for the whole learning community. Please ask your children daily to tell you what their learning target is, this is a great way for them to continue to focus on their learning at home! We are also prioritizing writing within our Writer's Workshop throughout the grades. Students will be concentrating on learning the craft of informational writing to add to our library. We are excited to see all of the student improve in their writing!

This month is also I Love to Read so students will be exploring various books and listening to speakers about the World of Work. Each week is a different theme: Our first week will be about work related to animals, the second week will be about Helpers in the Community, the third week will be focused on the World of Technology and the last week will be on skills and trades. Each day there will be a scheduled program, guest or parent who will be reading to a class or group of classrooms. They will be focused on explaining what they do, read a book regarding the job and then highlight areas of school that help them do what they do! It will be very exciting. We will also be having dinner and a movie based on a book for our evening event! Stay tuned- we will let you know more about that!

If you are interested in reading a book to your child's classroom please contact the teacher, we would love to see you! A reading calendar will also be going home so that you and your child can do reading activities together each and every day.

As you can see we will be busy learning! Please make sure that your child/children don't miss out on these learning opportunities, we would love to see all of our Weston students here each and every day! Attendance Matters! Missing a day of school here or there may not seem like much, but absences add up!

Here are some facts to think about:

When a student misses 2 days a month... They will miss 20 DAYS a year. They will miss 30 HOURS of math over the school year. They will miss 60 HOURS of reading and writing over the school year. They will miss 1 YEAR of school by graduation
When a student misses 4 days a month... They will miss 40 DAYS a year. They will miss 60 HOURS of Math over the school year. They will miss 120 HOURS of reading and writing over the school year. They will miss over 2 YEARS of school by graduation.

When students come late or come in the afternoon rather than the morning, we are happy they are here yet they are still missing valuable learning time. I challenge everyone to send your children to school each and every day. I challenge the entire Weston community to work towards having perfect attendance this month! I promise you that your child will succeed academically and socially if they are!!!

Here are strategies that you can use to help your children get to school every day:

- √ Be sure your child gets plenty of sleep and rest. Getting a good night's rest will sharpen focus and improve working memory
- √ set the last hour before bedtime to be technology free. This is a great time to read with your child, do quiet activities with them, this will relax their mind and their body.
- √ Set a consistent time to wake up each morning and then create a daily schedule for your child to follow. Forming morning habits can help students become independent and feel successful right from the start of the day!
- √ Last but most importantly, remind your child how incredibly awesome they are and how much you believe in them and then let them know you love them! 😊

Two things to remember:

We are still outside as our Gym continues to be renovated. Please work with us to ensure that your child has appropriate and warm outdoor clothing on so that they can be successful during Gym classes and recesses throughout the day!

Secondly, remember if you have any questions/concerns reach out to your child's teacher, they are here to help. If you wish to speak to me please call. Remember that it takes a village to raise a child!

In partnership,

Lisa Richardson

Weston Principal

PARENT COUNCIL

The next Parent Council meeting of the year will be held on Wednesday, February 14th at 3:30 PM. All parents are welcome, so please join us. This meeting the focus will be on library focus, lunch program, Parent Programs and Community Programs.

**This years meeting dates
March 12th, April 9th, May 14th**

Weston Parent Centre February Events

February



2024

Weston Parent Centre

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	
			1	No Classes	2	3	4
5 Ribbon Skirt Making 1:00	6	7 Mobile Vision Clinic All Day	8	9 Dental Clinic 12:30 pm	10	11	
12 Girls Club @ lunch Ribbon Skirt Making 1:00	13	14 Valentine's Day Party	15	16	17	18	
19 Louis Riel Day No Classes	20	21 Positive Discipline 1:00	22	23 Nutrition Bingo 1:00 pm	24	25	
26 Girls Club @ Lunch Ribbon Skirt Making 1:00	27	28 Positive Discipline 1:00	29				

Nutrition Bingo

Parents/Guardians and their little ones (not yet in school) are invited to join us Fridays, Jan 12th & 26th @ 1:00 pm. Come out and win FOOD! Everyone is a winner!

Ribbon Skirt Making

Mondays, Feb 5th, 12th, 26th. Join us to create your own Ribbon Skirt! All supplies provided. Must pre-register.

Positive Discipline Parenting

Parenting is HARD! We can all use a little help sometimes! Join us to learn ways to support your child's development and guide their behavior in a respectful, effective manner. Contact Kim to register!

Valentine's Day Party

Wednesday, Feb 14th Wear red and come celebrate love with us! Crafts, games, snacks and fun! Wed. Feb. 14th @ 1:00

Girls Club A club for

Grade 6 girls. We have fun doing art to explore a variety of themes. Mondays @ lunch (except Feb 5)

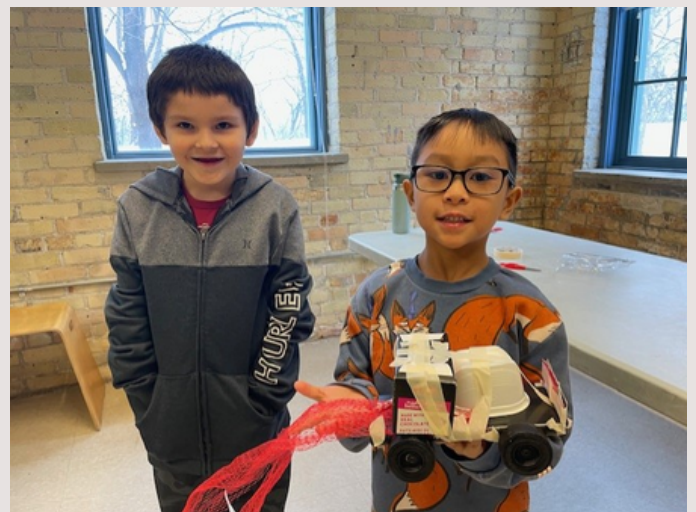
Room 5 - Mrs. Anciro

We started the first week of 2024 with a field trip to the Children's Museum. We explored, learned, and most of all...we played! It was such a fun day listening to all the learning conversations about trains, structures, force, motion, colours, crafts, and many more!

In February, we are learning about the people around us and The World of Work. We will explore and learn about the different jobs in our community. We will also learn about our needs and wants.

February is also I Love to Read Month and we have started our home reading as well. We will switch books in our book bags every Friday. Thank you very much for supporting our love of reading inside and outside the classroom.

Mrs. Anciro



FIRST GRADE NEWS

Mrs. Horst's Room



WE ARE LEARNING ABOUT:

- Parts Whole & Magnitude
- Our Senses
- Needs and Wants
- Non-Fiction Writing



IMPORTANT DATES

February 2-
Inservice - No School

February 14 -
Valentines Day Party



We had an amazing time at the Children's Museum on our recent field trip with Rooms 5 and 7. We explored a train, a water station, craft station, huge slide. We worked together and built a teepee and talked about what they were made of and how they could be moved to new locations. Did you know the teepees were made from the hides of the bison and that they even used the bones for parts of the tent as well. The students favourite exhibit was the pasta tower and many climbed all the way to the top.

It was a day filled with adventure.



Valentines' Math Puzzle

Use your math skills to find the value of each symbol and the "?"

$$\text{Heart} + \text{Heart} + \text{Heart} = 27$$

$$\text{Heart} + \text{Cupcake} + \text{Cupcake} = 29$$

$$\text{Candy} = \text{Cupcake} - \text{Heart}$$

$$\text{Heart} + \text{Candy} + \text{Cupcake} = ?$$

Write your answers:

 =	 =	 =
---	---	---

CONTACT ME

Mrs. Horst

jhorst@wsdl.org

204-775-2591





**CAN YOU SOLVE
THIS?**

$$_ + _ = _ - _$$

**USE ANY OF THE DIGITS 1 - 9 TO
CREATE A TRUE EQUATION.**

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

**WRITE DOWN YOUR ANSWER AND
BRING TO SCHOOL. IF IT'S CORRECT
YOU WILL EARN A GOLD COIN!**

Adventures with Room 7 and Mr. Storey

What better way to start our year than with a field trip to the Children's Museum at the Forks. In the middle of our first week back, Room 7 joined Rooms 5 & 6 on a fun and education filled journey. Room 7 got a whole bus to ourselves! After a very excited 20 minute drive, we arrived there. First, we needed to listen to a safety talk by a museum worker. Don't run! Have fun! Be safe! Then the kids got 2 hours of playtime. Some kids immediately went to the water area. Who knew that a plume of water could hold a tennis ball in the air in the same place? The play structure was a favourite place followed very closely by the massive, very real train. Suddenly, imaginations were active! The train can't stop! How do we stop it? What do we do?

After lunch, Room 7 went to the Green Room for our STEAM activity. We got to design the bodies of go-karts and see which body design made the kart go faster. The kids were enthusiastic with trying to make their karts streamlined with enough weight for it to travel a long distance. Much fun was had! But sadly, our time ran out and it was time to go back to the school. For many of our students, this was their second time going to the museum, as they also went last year. But still, they had so much fun and had a great learning experience as well.

A big thank you to all of our volunteers who helped make our trip such an amazing experience!



Room 10 - Ms. van Ginkel & Mrs. Mallari

Hello again everyone!

January has been such a busy month!

The students in room ten started the year off by creating an amazing presentation for the first assembly of the year. They were amazing! Their performance included three skits that demonstrated the roles that the Kindness Crew play at recess and how they are such a wonderful help to the other students in the school.

The students have also demonstrated great teamwork creating structures together in the snow outside at recess. They use whatever they can find to create.

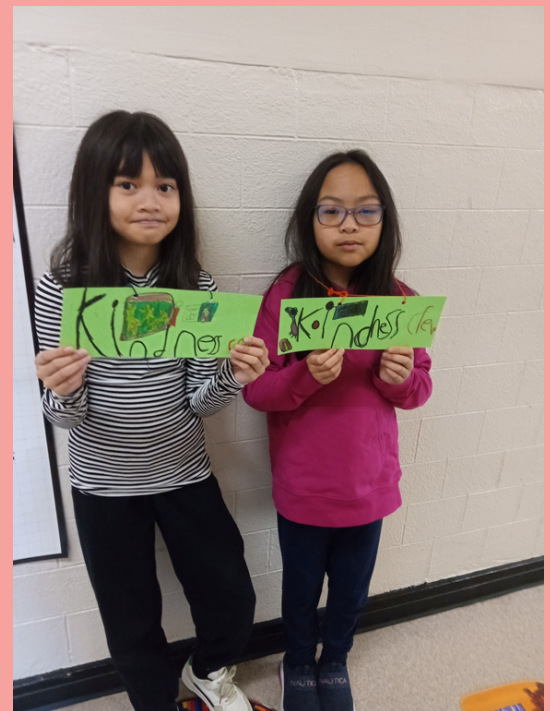
Math is getting to be so much fun as the students try out and share their strategies. Ask your child to explain the open number line or the parts whole box.

Our latest project is coming along very well. The students are using their informational writing skills to research something Canadian that they find interesting. Please ask them what they are writing about.

I can hardly wait until our next writing celebration where they will be sharing their learning!

Until next time,

H. van Ginkel



Room 11 - Mrs. Tokarz

The class was very busy in January practicing the daily routines and exercising our brains by learning new things!

Here is what we were working on that my students had to say...

Raiden- Me and my class worked on division and math and we also researched on countries around the world.

Moatey-We reviewed fractions and created a class puzzle piece mural.

Iris- We had a few indoor recesses.

Pakawas-We were learning lots of our Benchmarks in Math!

Nicko-We did lots of guided reading with Ms. Tokarz and Mr. Hammed. We are supposed to do some guided reading with Room 10 too!

Francis-We worked on Razkids and Dreambox!

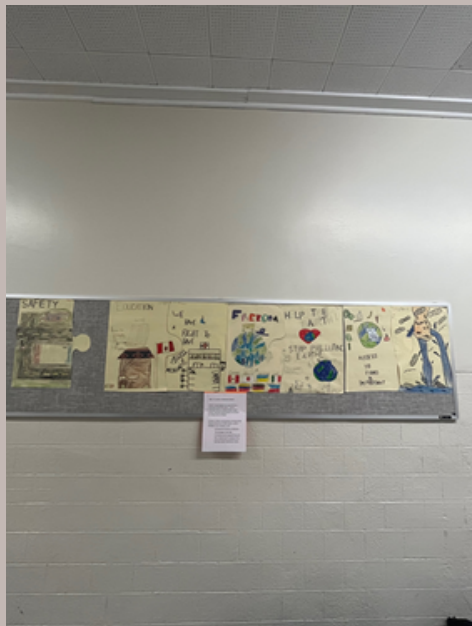
Genesis-I had Art Gallery! It was fun!

Ysabella-We participated in the Mirror Image game and the Rock Star Game as building teamwork.

Jade -We identified the 7 continents!

Wow! Lots of fun learning activities! I am looking forward to exploring I love to Read Month in February with your child!

Just a friendly reminder for your child to dress in warm winter clothing (ski pants, hat, mitts, and boots) so that they can have a fun and safe gym and recess!



Stay warm,
Mrs. Tokarz



Room 12 - Mrs. Goncalves

Here is my newsletter, you will have to turn some of the pictures around.

In January, we had a very special guest, Mr. Wilfred Buck, who came to share his knowledge and stories about the sky. We had already watched and read many of Mr.

Buck's stories when we were studying the solar system in December. Mr. Buck brought a portable inflatable planetarium with him so students were able to look at the night sky while listening to Mr. Buck's teachings. Some of the things that students said they really enjoyed were:

Seeing the planet Saturn close up - Mason

When the caribou was spinning around and made it look like there were lots of caribou - Caleb, David

When he told us the story about the big bear (Mista Muskwa) - Ocean, Maddux
The story about the 7 birds - Miguel

Listening to Mr. Buck talk about tuktu (the caribou in Inuktitut) - Charlie

Watching how the North Star doesn't move it is always in the same place- Aniyah

Looking at the Apollo 11 mission - Nathaniel, Matthew

If you would like to know more about Wilfrd Buck and his stories and teaching please visit his website <https://acakwuskwun.com/>

Reminder: Gym classes are currently being held outside, unless the temperature is -28 or lower. Please ensure your child brings with them the necessary clothing to be outside including mittens, hats, ski pants, jackets and boots.

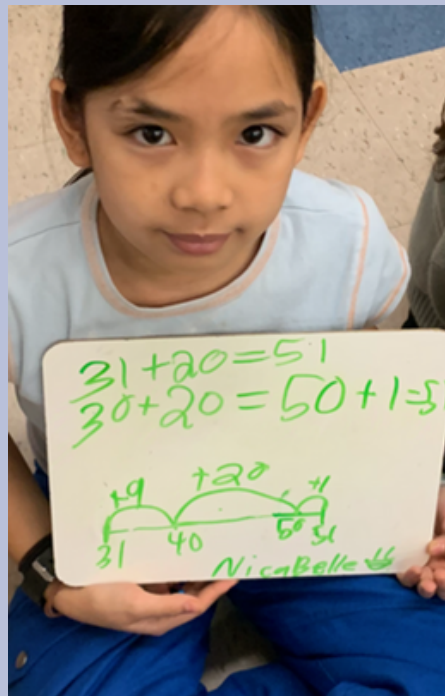
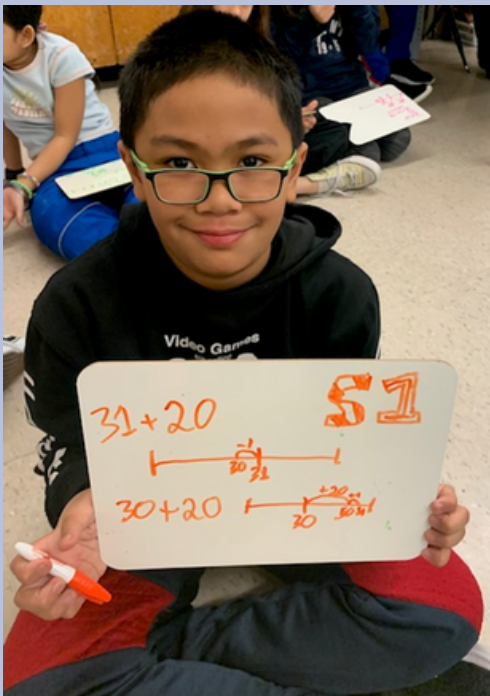


Room 14 - Ms. Massey

Rm 14 has jumped right back into learning with an inquiry-based project on a topic of their own choosing.

Boys and girls were encouraged to think of a topic they truly wonder about and are interested in learning more about. We chose topics from how cars work, to the deep ocean, to UFO's to Silverback gorillas. The conversations that erupt between students and adults in the room are awesome during our time for inquiry. As students follow their fascinations in their research and develop their Google Slides presentations, they are building skills for the 21st century, communicating, collaborating, creativity and critical thinking while being totally engaged.

On top of that students are continuing to grow their confidence when it comes to sharing their ideas during our math talks. For 15 minutes during each day, we focus on developing our number sense and strategies to help us solve problems in our head. Students learn from each other as they listen to their classmates and solidify their own ideas as they teach their peers.



With all that learning taking place we have found it helpful to take a little time for some peace and quiet at the end of our days. We gather in a circle and share the things we've learned, noticed or wondered and what we found fun during our day. Then we lay down and practice calming our bodies with a guided meditation before clean-up time.

Way to go Room 14! We are doing GRRREat!

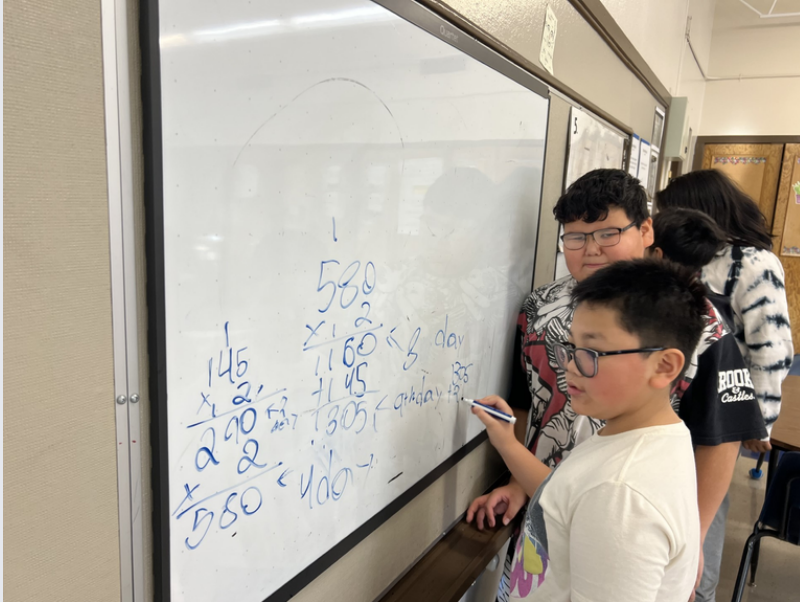
Room 15 - Ms. Vo

From room 15,

After winter break, the students in room 15 started the novel study named “The Great Bear” written by David D. Robertson. We are extremely excited to learn and practice Cree words that are used in this book. We will integrate social studies in our informational writing this term. In science, we will explore and do research on Flight. We will also do many experiments and mini projects relating to flight topic. In math, we are working on whole number using a variety models and strategies to represent whole numbers and to solve problems.

It is getting colder and colder outside. Now most of our gym classes have been outside since our gym has been renovated. Therefore, please make sure to remind your child bringing their winter gear to school to keep them warm outside.

Stay warm every one!



Ms. Bogan

A note from Ms Bogan:

The internet can be a scary place. From a school perspective, we are seeing an increasing number of students engaging in unsafe behaviour online. These behaviours include bullying, threatening behaviours and posting hurtful and harmful messages about others.

Many youth report that they have been cyberbullied before. Cyberbullying hurts, and can have a negative impact on the self-esteem, relationships, and future lives of those involved.

There are things families can do at home to ensure that youth are staying safe:

- Regularly communicate with kids at home. Ask open-ended questions such as what they do online, what sites they go to, who they talk to, and what information they've come across. Teach your kids to be good online citizens. Remind them of the importance of being respectful and responsible online. Keep your conversations non-judgmental and non-confrontational.
- Don't be afraid to set strong passwords and privacy settings when there are devices that you don't want your kids to access. In the same respect, do not hesitate to remove technology as a consequence for irresponsible online behaviour. Using a cell phone or tablet is a privilege.
- Have a public space in which your kids use computers, phones and other technology, so they can be monitored regularly.
- The minimum age for a Tik Tok user is 13 years old and DOES NOT use any age verification tools. For Instagram, users have to also be at least 13 years old, however accounts that represent someone under the age of 13 must clearly state in the account's bio that the account is managed by a parent/guardian. Online video games have age classifications, but no restrictions.
- Talk with older kids about the personal content they post online. Social networks such as Facebook, Instagram, Tik Tok and Snapchat can be positive ways to connect with other people, but kids need to consider carefully what they post on these sites. Reinforce the message that the internet is FOREVER and that information they post can be shared with ANYONE!
- Teach your kids to stop communicating with someone who is sending insulting, hurtful or disturbing messages through social networks, emails, videos, and/or text messages. If the messages continue, ask your child to save them and then block that person. Then they need to tell a parent or trusted adult.

There a number of safe and trusted Canadian websites available to help teach your kids how to be safe online. Weston school also teaches this frequently and will continue to do so. Let's keep our kids as safe as possible. If you would like support with resources, please contact me (Lauren Bogan) at the school.

Physical Education

Mr. Fontaine

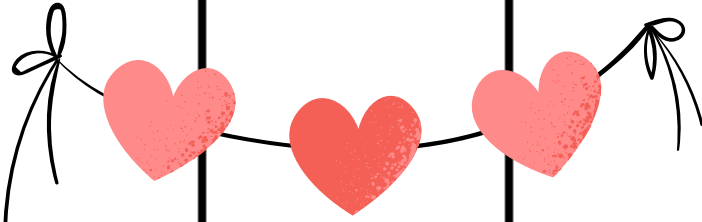

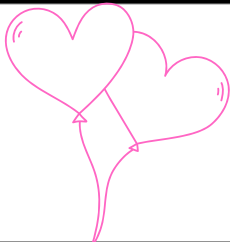
Greetings to all tuning into your Weston Phys Ed newsletter update!

The month of January has been jam packed with unique and challenging new activities and skills for the students to learn. With January being such a cold month, we spent a good chunk of our Phys ed time inside the Library. While the Library isn't quite the gym (well not even close) we were still able to get busy with an introduction to the sport of speed stacking! Speed stacking is an individual sport that has grown lots over the years and involves stacking cups in a variety of different sequences as fast as you can. The students had a great time with speed stacking, and they could tell you all about the different sequences they learnt this month! While staying indoors on the colder days we also got around to some yoga and mini golf with some awesome equipment donated to us by the First Tee organization. On the warmer days we went outside and participated in some Indigenous games structured around building strength and speed!

As we continue into February, we will continue our split between using the Library on the colder days and going outdoors on the warmer days. Indoors we will be transitioning into some virtual workouts where students will learn about the different ways to train our bodies, such as aerobic workouts, anaerobic workouts, and strength training. Outdoors, we are continuing towards a multicultural unit where students will learn about games from around the world, and to wrap it up we will be doing a "create your own game" activity where students will have a few lessons working in groups to create and present a game based on their knowledge they have learnt seeing these various types of games!



February 2024

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			Day 1 1 Run&Read 3:30-5:30	Day 2 2 PD DAY No Classes
Day 3 5	Day 4 6 sewing club @ lunch Can U - Afterschool Program	Day 5 7	Day 6 8 Run&Read 3:30-5:30	Day 1 9
Day 2 12	Day 3 13 sewing club @ lunch	Day 4 14  Parent Council 3:30	Day 5 15 Run&Read 3:30-5:30	Day 6 16
 19 Louis Reil Day No School	Day 1 20 sewing club @ lunch	Day 2 21	Day 3 22 Inner City Soccer 11-2 Run&Read 3:30-5:30	Day 4 23
Day 5 26	Day 6 27 sewing club @ lunch	Day 1 28	Day 2 29 Run&Read 3:30-5:30	

Important Dates at a Glance

- February 2nd - PD Day no classes
- February 19th- Louis Riel Day No school
- March 13th - Report Cards go home
- March 14th & 15th - Parent Conferences
- March 25th - 29th - Spring Break
- April 1 - First day back to school
- April 19- PD Day No class
- May 6 - PD Day No Class
- May 20 - Victoria Day No School

Parent Council Meetings

The next Parent Council meeting will be held on February 14 at 3:30