

Return to Learning at Kelsey School!

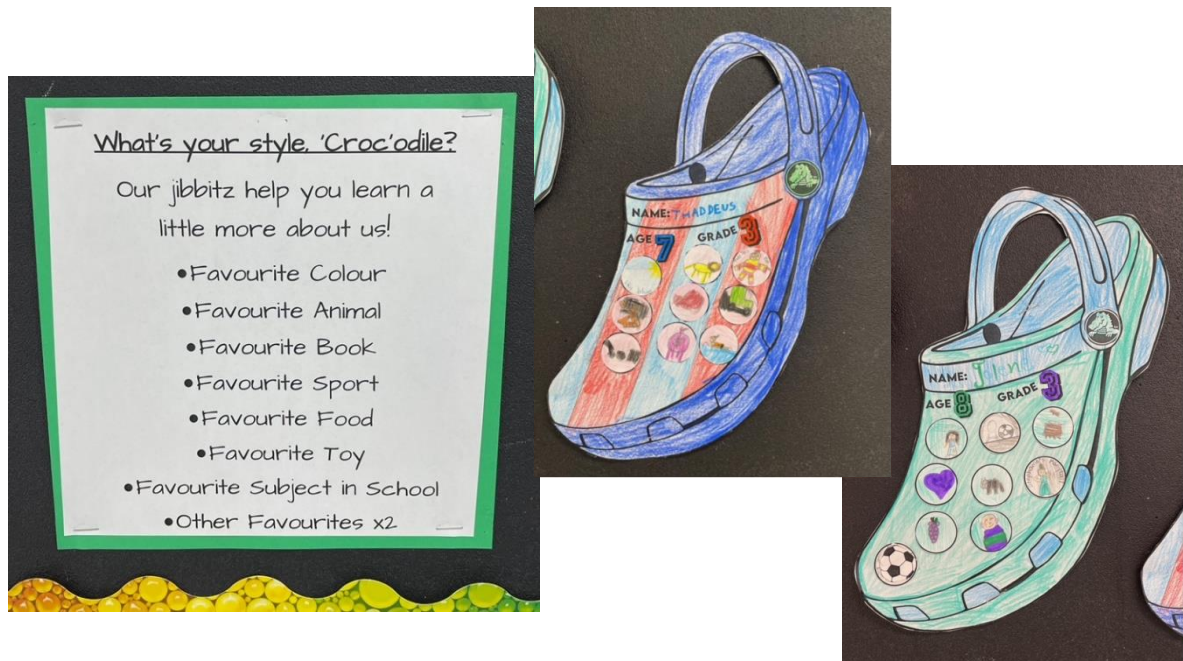
September flew by quickly with back-to-school routines, starting new classes, new topics, and assessment. We are well underway with learning in every subject and are settling into a good routine.

Early years

Our elementary students are getting back into the swing of things and school routines.

Our new seven kindergarten students are learning school routines, expectations and learning their ABCs and 123s in English. They are learning pencil grips, colouring control, scissor safety and how to look at and listen to stories. Mrs. Coutu is grateful for Miss Leah and all of her kindergarten expertise! Our grade two and three kindergarten buddies are eager to translate when needed, show the littles how we do things and help make school a fun place to be!

What's Your Style, 'Croc'odile? is an activity designed to share a little more about you. What are your favourites: colours, animals, books, sports, food, toys, snacks/treats and subjects? Student Crocs are decorated with Jibbitz to represent their favourites and help you to learn just a little more about them.



Our *All About Me* paper bags and poster pages help to fill in any missing details and finish up our bulletin board quite nicely!



STEM Challenges

This year we are incorporating STEM activities into our weekly schedule for all students in grades two through nine. STEM is an acronym that stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. It's an approach to learning that integrates these areas and encourages students to develop skills like problem solving, creativity and critical thinking. And, in our case especially, it encourages team work, cooperation and learning from other students, both younger and older than you. We are all smart in different ways, and STEM activities give you a chance to showcase your skills and teach others in your mixed grade group.

Our first STEM task was to build the tallest card tower possible in a given amount of time. All groups were given a standard deck of 52 cards, a carpeted surface to build on and were asked not to bend any cards. In science, we have learned that a triangle is a very stable shape, with a strong base. Students encountered challenges such a curvy card, slippery surfaces, bumping tables, windy talkers and other things that made their towers

tumble down. When the bases were built wider and stronger, it was easier to layer the flat cards for the next level. Keeping calm and trying again when the cards spilled was encouraged and each team kept trying in the time given. We were able to build towers that were four, three and two layers tall. Some used more cards than others, but this task was looking for the tallest tower. Great teamwork!

