

KIMBERLEY JR P.S. SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR KIMBERLEY FAMILIES

JUNE 2023

THANK YOU FOR A GREAT SCHOOL YEAR!

**THANK
YOU!**

When the four of us volunteered to be on Kimberley School Council way back in September, it's safe to say we didn't 100% know what we were getting ourselves into. Two of us had not been on a school council before, one of us had only been on a different school's council and just one of us was on the previous year's Kimberley School Council (thank you for staying, Erin!!). However, from the beginning, our collective goals were clear: represent the interests, concerns and priorities of Kimberley's parent/caregiver community; focus on diversity, equity and inclusion in all that we do; enhance communications to increase engagement; provide meaningful, no-cost opportunities for families to build community; and support teachers with funding for classroom supplies and extra-curricular activities. While there is always more to be done, we hope you feel that we have achieved these goals. (Check out page 3 to see where your fundraising dollars were spent this year). We would love to see more parents wanting to be on school council next year so we can do even more! If that's you, please consider running for school council. Positions are for one year with an election held every Fall. You can also drop us a line anytime (kimberleyjpscouncil@gmail.com) with questions about how to get involved and we'll keep you informed with any news for next year's planning. Have a great summer and we'll see you around in the 'hood!



Ellisa Glad, Chair
Lsan Tzadu, Treasurer
Erin Tilley, Secretary
Laura Flanagan, Communications

Left to right: Laura, Erin, Ellisa and Lsan

JUNE CELEBRATIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN



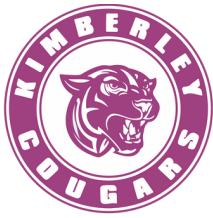
This month and every month, we celebrate and amplify 2SLGBTQ+ experiences and stories. Check out recommended resources at kimberleysc.com/learning-resources



National Indigenous History Month is a time to celebrate and learn from Indigenous Peoples about the diverse cultures, histories, experiences and achievements of First Nations, Metis and Inuit people. Visit [@UIEC_Tdsb](https://twitter.com/UIEC_Tdsb) on Twitter to learn more.

A LOOK BACK AT 2022-23 IN PHOTOS





How your fundraising dollars helped Kimberley!

We are proud to share some highlights of what Kimberley School Council accomplished this year with your support.

Together, we...

hosted **11 pizza lunches**



had **3 super-fun movie nights**



promoted reading with our **read-a-thon**

celebrated artwork with **art cards**



+

held an amazing **Fun Fair and Parents' Night Out**



All of this allowed us to support Kimberley by...

funding **\$2,000+** of **classroom enhancements**



supporting intramural sports with **\$500+** worth of **equipment**



providing **\$650+** of educational opportunities for parents on **DEI and mental health**

supporting **\$2,000** of school activities such as **art club, skating day** and the **ski trip**



enriching our kids' education through **Scientists in the School and Family Math Night**

+

setting aside **\$3,500** for **future yard improvements**

Thank you!

SAYING THANK YOU AND FAREWELL



**TEACHING IS A
WORK OF HEART**

Kimberley-Beaches is saying thank you and goodbye to three special educators as they retire at the end of the school year: Ruweida Hassan-Bismilla, Carol Comeau and Elizabeth Kevill. Here they share with us some of their thoughts ahead of retirement (Ms. Kevill declined to be featured).

CAROL COMEAU

Grade 2/3 teacher (room 201)

How many years have you been a teacher? My first Grade 3 classroom was in 1980-81 in a village near my hometown of Fredericton, New Brunswick.

How many years have you been at Kimberley? I started out as a Kindergarten parent in 1993 as both my sons are Kimberley alumni. After a number of years running a group piano program at K/B, teaching piano privately in the neighbourhood and supply teaching, I joined the Kimberley staff fulltime in 2005.

What do you enjoy about being a teacher? I have enjoyed the challenge of creating a welcoming, inviting space and program for my students, where hopefully, working hard and having fun went together every day. I loved the wisdom that an 8 year old often shared with me in conversation.

What will you miss? I will really miss finding some of the newest and best picture books to add to my classroom library and watching my students reading together every day. I'll also miss singing and enjoying music together both in the classroom and when running the K/B Choir with Mrs. Cullen.

What are you looking forward to doing in retirement? I look forward to actually finishing a cup of coffee and the many books I have started, and especially having more time to be with family and friends.

How do you hope your students (throughout the years) will remember you? I would hope to be remembered as a teacher who tried to be kind and caring each day and whose classroom felt like a welcoming, stimulating space where they were happy to spend their days.



RUWEIDA HASSAN-BISMILLA

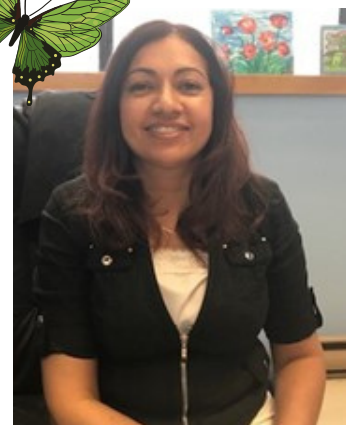
Principal of Kimberley/BAS for three years, in education for 30 years

What do you enjoy about being an educator? The thing I enjoyed most about being a principal is getting to know so many students, staff and families. I loved being a teacher and being a principal is a teacher on a larger scale. I enjoyed visiting classes, seeing what students are working on, and hearing their stories.

What will you miss? I am going to miss the students, their smiles and their "You know what ...".

What are you looking forward to doing in retirement? I am looking forward to doing the things that I enjoy which is travelling, gardening, and spending time with my family. I am going to really enjoy waking up in the morning, having my coffee and reading.

How do you hope your students (throughout the years) will remember you? As an educator, I wanted to make sure that I provided everyone with a safe and nurturing learning environment, empowered them to achieve their goals, promoted inclusiveness and was a fair and kind individual. I hope that I am remembered for that.



TEACHERS' FAVOURITE MEMORIES FROM THE YEAR



With the 2022-23 school year wrapped up, we asked Kimberley teachers to reflect on their favourite memories from the last 10 months of school. Here's what they shared.

Ms. Arraial (Grade 1)

One of my favourite memories from this school year was witnessing how my first graders wholeheartedly embraced learning about different heritage months. From exploring Chinese heritage during the Lunar New Year to delving into Jewish heritage during Hanukkah, it was a joy to see my students immerse themselves in these cultural celebrations. I am incredibly proud of their hard work and dedication in learning about a variety of global artists and their unique styles. From Frida Kahlo to Kenojuak Ashevak, my students eagerly explored different traditions and developed a deep appreciation of artistic expression. Their passion for learning and embracing different cultures has been a true highlight of this school year.

Ms. Bruney (Grade 4/5)

A favourite memory from the school year was when my class was learning about "Contributions" from our *Truth and Reconciliation In Canadian Schools* resource, they were eager to learn about Indigenous Peoples' contributions to Canada. They all were intrigued by the numerous contributions made, such as popcorn, snowshoes and hockey. We also explored Indigenous stories and knowledge of the constellations...They really enjoyed creating their personal sky pictures.

Mrs. Cullen (Grade 4/5)

My favourite memory from the school year was when my grade 4/5 class listened to a story read by Indigenous author David A. Robertson about a belief shared by many Indigenous Peoples, that if you whistle at the Northern Lights, they will come down and get you! We watched videos where members of Indigenous communities recounted the versions of this cautionary tale that they had been told as children. We watched a video about the scientific version of what causes the Aurora Borealis. Then we read all kinds of wonderful, funny, sad and scary beliefs about the Northern Lights from people all over the Northern Hemisphere. These included sleighs flying through the skies on the way to a wedding, warriors and dragons fighting in the sky, a firefox, and the comforting presence of ancestors watching over us. The students were enchanted, and drew illustrations of their own favourites, which are now displayed colourfully in our classroom, under the title, "Borealis Beliefs Booklets."

Mr. Bruce (Grade 5/6)

One of my favourite memories from the school year was our first excursion this year to the Ontario Legislative Building. The students were impressed by the rich, carved wood – including the new Seven Grandfather Teachings carving – and green upholstery, the professionalism of the media centre and the aids walking the halls, and the size and weight of the building and its history. One student enthused, as we took worn stairs between floors, "I'm walking where the Queen walked!" The trip really helped give students a place to anchor their understanding of government.

WHAT STUDENTS ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS SUMMER... (1/3)

For many kids, the countdown to summer began weeks ago! We asked Kimberley students to share what they are most looking forward to this summer.



Room 210 (Ms. Arraial's Grade 1 Class)

- ☆ Overnight camp. I want to try rock climbing, and I want to eat PB&J sandwiches. - *Taylor*
- ☆ Going to Scotland with my family. We are going treetop trekking and sleeping in a Scottish castle. I also am going to have high tea with my family. - *Madeleine*
- ☆ Camping. We swim in the lake every summer. I can't wait to try the new paddleboard! It will be so much fun! - *Jack*
- ☆ Going to the cottage. We get to go to the lake and see our friends. We also go on paddleboards, which are so fun! - *Anara*
- ☆ My birthday. I am turning 7 years old. I can't wait to go to the pool with my friend, Margaret! - *Guin*

Room 201 (Ms. Comeau's Grade 2/3 Class)

- ☆ Going to British Columbia and seeing big slugs there. - *Freddie*
- ☆ The Indy 500 with my Mom and Dad and watching the cars race really fast. - *Teddy*
- ☆ My first airplane ride to Banff! I am also going to the Calgary Stampede. - *Remi*
- ☆ Getting ice cream, relaxing, watching TV and going to a sleepover camp with my friend and sister. - *Ella*
- ☆ Spending time with my loving family at my cottage and swimming in the lake. - *Wes*



Room 203 (Ms. Cullen's Grade 4/5 Class)

- ☆ Going to my friend's house this summer. He moved six months ago, and now he lives in Saskatoon. I like to spend time with him, and he lives close to a waterpark! I'll be going on a plane by myself. I hope the plane ride will go by quickly! - *Magnus*
- ☆ Rearranging my room! I will be changing a few things including painting my walls and getting new wallpaper. It will be hard work, and it will take a long time, but it will be exciting! - *Iolani*

WHAT STUDENTS ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS SUMMER... (2/3)

☆ Going to a resort called Lumina, where my family and I go every summer. I love going because I have made a lot of friends there, and they don't live close to me, so I can only see them one week of the year. At Lumina, my friends and I love to go on amazing adventures. One time we found 12 baby frogs and one mom frog in a well, so we helped them out! - *Lola*



☆ I am soooooo excited for camp! This year, for the first whole month of summer, I'm going to a sleep away/sleepover camp. This will be my third year! Two of my wonderful friends are coming with me for a week. Camp is so fun! We do stuff like high ropes, horseback riding, rock climbing, archery and much more! That's why I'm excited for camp! - *Flo*

☆ My neighbour's cottage this summer! The reason why is because I can go tubing down the rapids and have a campfire in the woods, and because it is far out in the country. This normally keeps me up very late, so I walk really sleepily up to the cottage. - *Liam*

Ms. Bruney's Grade 4/5 Class

☆ Swimming, going to the cottage, and spending time with my friends! I am also looking forward to collecting shells! My friends and I catch crayfish and go kayaking every summer! We go to this place called Buttermilk Falls. I am really looking forward to the new cottage we are going to instead of Buttermilk Falls. - *Ava T, Grade 4*

☆ I'm looking forward to multiple things during summer. One of those things is going on a trip to Ottawa with my mom. I'm going to speak French while I'm there and I'm going to explore tourist sights, eat different food and watch lots of movies. Another thing I'm looking forward to is getting a dog! My parents said if I do a three paragraph essay on why to get a dog they would say ok. I can't wait until summer! - *Andrew F, Grade 4*



☆ I am going to Wet And Wild this summer. I think I'm going to go with my brother. The last time I went there was last summer when I went to Center 55 camp. I went on a really big water slide called 'The Drop' - it was really scary! My brother and I are going to go on it while there. I am also looking forward to relaxing and going to the beach. This summer is going to be amazing! - *Eli F, Grade 5*

☆ I think I will really enjoy this summer. I am looking forward to an overnight camp. This will be the first time I will go to an overnight camp. I am going to overnight camp two times - one at the beginning of summer, and the other near the end of the summer holidays. I am really looking forward to going to overnight camp. I think I will make happy memories! - *Jack R, Grade 5*

WHAT STUDENTS ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS SUMMER... (3/3)**Room 204 (Mr. Bruce's Grade 5/6 Class)**

☆ Going to Banff, Alberta. I really hope I will be able to go on the gondola, because the scenery is going to be very worth it. The sky will probably look like the ocean with little fish dancing in the sky as the clouds, and the mountains will be like big boulders that fell out of the sky. The other thing I really hope to do is to just enjoy the scenery: I bet the scenery will look like a watercolor painting, with the paint brush just dashing on the canvas as if it were the last time. I can't wait! - Amy




☆ Going to a KOA campsite with some of my friends, I'm excited because we will be able to do a bunch of fun things like playing in the park, doing campsite activities, and roasting marshmallows. It's going to be great making some new memories. - Nathalie

☆ This summer I'm looking forward to going to many camps! I'm going to three camps this summer. The camps that I'm going to are called art camp, photography camp and volleyball camp. They are going to be so much fun and I imagine that I will like them! The next thing I'm looking forward to is cottages. I'm going to two cottages. Both of them are my best friend's cottages. Both cottages have lakes, so I get to swim! - Charlee

ENJOY THE SUMMER

from Kimberley School Council

P.S. I have to say a huge THANK YOU to Ms. Arraial,  who has taken photos and written content for the "In the Classroom" section of this newsletter Every. Single. Month. Thank you for your energy, kindness and willingness to go above and beyond. We are so lucky to have you at Kimberley! -- Laura