

About Us

Southwood School originated in 1947 and currently has 600 students, 35 teachers, 21 educational assistants, 2 secretaries, 1 library clerk, and 3 custodians.

Our mission is to ensure that students learn and grow in a caring environment. We focus on literacy and numeracy and becoming positive contributors to a wonderfully diverse school community. We take a balanced approach, knowing that students learn best when they feel safe to explore and engage with each other. In addition to our classrooms, we learn in other spaces, an outdoor learning classroom including our gardens, our nature playground and of course our playground.

As part of Hanover School Division's Priorities, we have made a strong commitment to improving our pedagogical practices that incorporate community partnerships, technology, experiential learning. . We believe this provides a richer and more relevant learning experience for students.

Above all, the staff of Southwood School recognize the impact that meaningful relationships have on the social, emotional, and academic development of each child.

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announcements. .

- Grades 3 and 4 students learned how to contribute to their community by reading with elderly community members.
- Grade 3 students participated in planting and caring for a community garden.
- Teachers created classroom treaties and agreements with their students about how to treat each other and grow in our skills to interact at school.
- Teachers spent time learning about Indigenous history, treaty history and then brought this knowledge to their classes, incorporating the 7 Teachings into our work on social and emotional literacy. All students participated in Orange Shirt Day events, learning about the impact of residential schools, as well as the contributions of Indigenous people in our communities.
- Students all worked through the Project 11 lessons, learning about maintaining good mental health through friendships and community.
- All students participated in collecting food for local food bank services and fundraising for the Terry Fox Foundation and the Heart and Stroke Foundation among other fundraising events, learning about how these activities contribute to the wellbeing of our neighborhood.

Southwood School

Community Report for 2024-25



Care. Learn. Grow.

Planning Priority #1 -Literacy

Accomplishments

- All teachers implemented a literacy program which includes all the strands of the reading process.
- Students all engaged in learning phonics to ensure students understood strategies for tackling unknown words.
- All students grew in their literacy skills. Students learning English demonstrated reading skills as well and some presented what they had learned to our HSD school board.
- Grades 3 and 4 students partnered with our nearby senior citizens homes to read with their GrandBuddies on a monthly basis.
- Teachers participated in professional development to learn how to assess student's reading challenges and plan for effective interventions and instructions.
- Literacy Support teachers worked in partnership with every classroom teacher to provide reading instruction to every student requiring additional support.

Planning Priority #2 - Numeracy

Accomplishments

- Students learned to do math in a variety of ways – visually, in hands-on activities, through counting objects and creating patterns to increase number sense and mental math skills.
- About 1/3 of our students worked in small groups with our Numeracy Teacher to solidify mental math strategies and other concepts.
- Teachers reviewed old and learned new strategies for teaching number concepts using manipulatives and hands-on learning activities.
- Students participated in special numeracy challenges during Numeracy Month
- Teachers used revamped assessments to ensure that their lessons met students at their individual instructional levels.

Planning Priority #3 -Social and Emotional Literacy

Accomplishments

- Throughout the year, students focused on CARE. LEARN. GROW daily citizenship goals. Grades 3 and 4 students shared their goals during