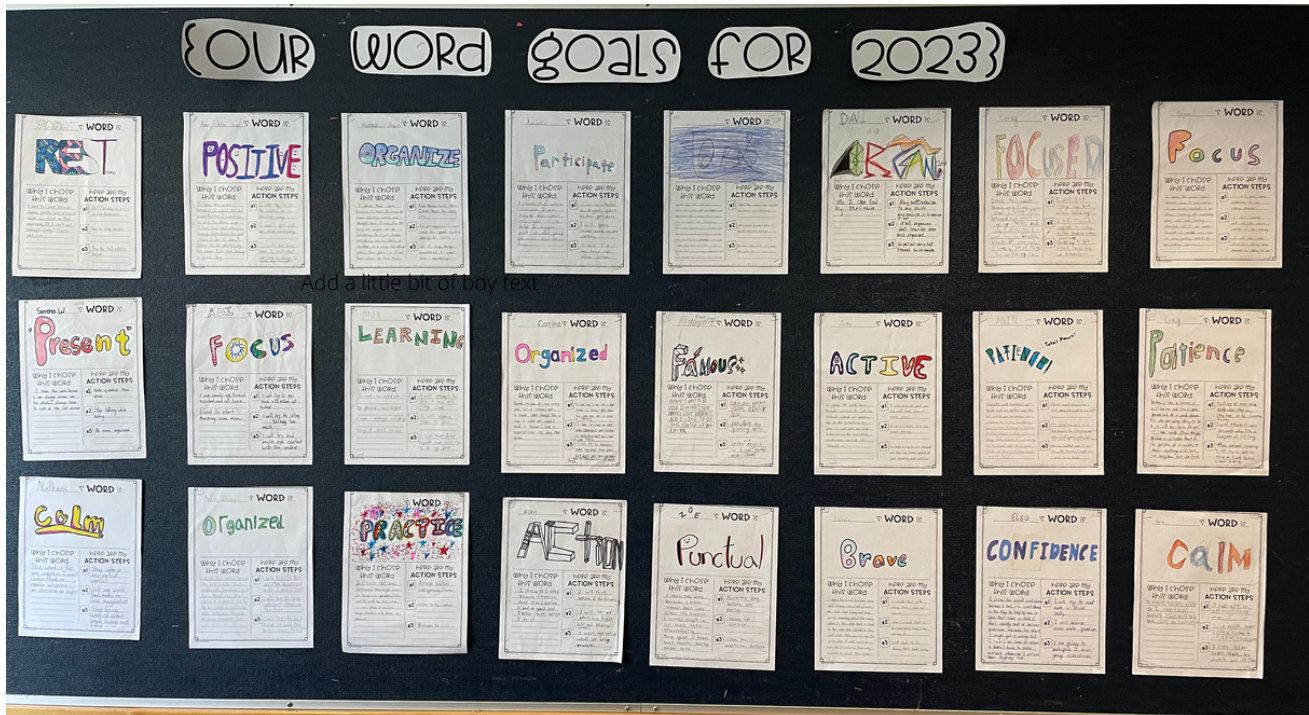


Learning Highlights

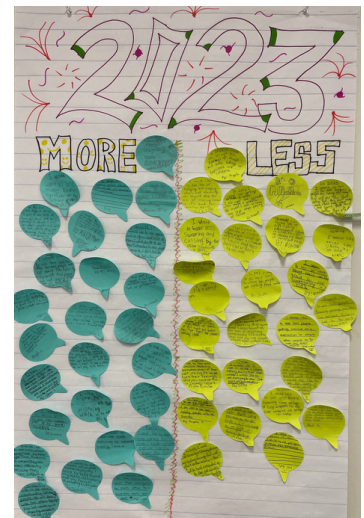
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Students that are personally aware and responsible demonstrate self-respect, persevere in difficult situations, and exercise responsibility. The student takes steps to ensure their well-being, set goals and monitors progress, regulate emotions and manages stress. Div. 3 chose a word to focus on as a new year begins.

Blair Cares.... in 2023

Division 4 had a class discussion about what they would like to see **More of...** and **Less of** in 2023 at Blair School. Some of the comments were, "I would like to see more caring for place." "I notice that there is garbage outside that is not put in the garbage can". "I would like to see less teasing, even if they are joking. Teasing can hurt your feelings". "I would like to see less feelings of doubt and more feelings of confidence and happiness".



Connections to the Curriculum

Social Studies: World Cup 2022 Projects

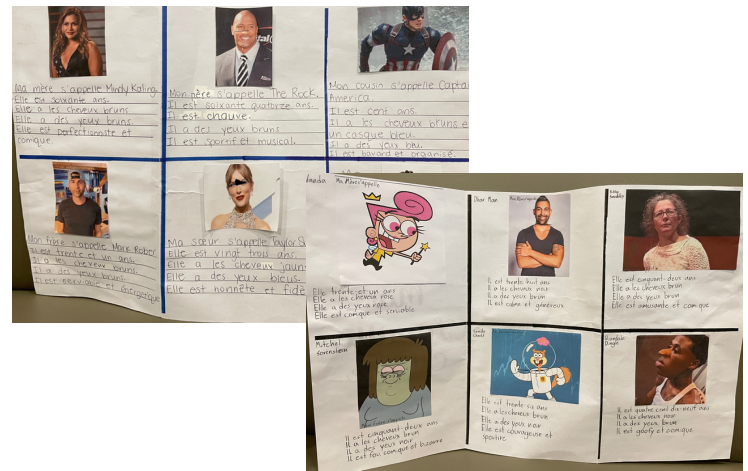
Students in Div. 2 each chose a country that was participating in the World Cup. They learned some basic facts about their countries and then they chose their own inquiry project topics. Everyone presented their learning in a form of a brochure.



***Required Elements:** Title, Introduction, Focal Point, Visuals and Effective Use of Space.

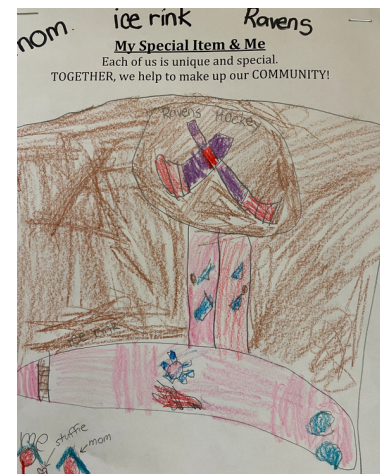
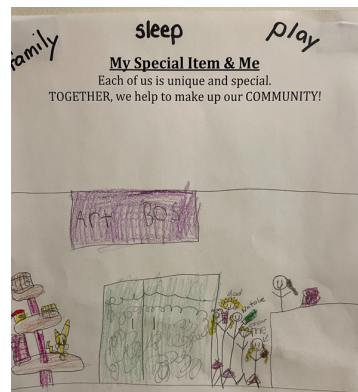
French: Ma Famille Célèbre

Students in the grades 4-7 learn to speak, read and write in French. Students in Div. 3 were learning about "Family" and were challenged to use family vocabulary that they had learned to describe their family- if they could choose anyone they wanted to be in their family!



Sharing our Stories by Division 10

Each student in Div. 10 brought in a Special Item to share with the class. They shared the story of their special item. By sharing stories the students learned about each other and made connections to similarities and differences that they have with each other. This activity promoted a better understanding and appreciation of the diversity among classmates.



Connections to the Curriculum

Fine Arts: *"Creative expression is a means to explore and share ones' identity within a community."*

Studying Light with Oil Pastels: Div. 1

The students used burning candles as a subject to create their oil pastels versions. The focus was on creating the illusion of light and using gradient shading techniques.



Seasonal Round Artwork in the style of Kenojuak Ashevak- Div. 8



The students in Div. 8 are studying a variety of artists. They had to include the cardinal directions and their connections with the seasons, as well as the positions of the sun and moon.

Art Experiences as a Community!



Our Student Leadership group planned some winter art stations for the primary students and prepared and taught the craft to them. It was a wonderful leadership opportunity and the primary students loved making the various crafts.

Our PAC organized some Chinese New Year stations where students tried some calligraphy as well as make some Chinese lanterns. The students completed these stations with their buddy classes.



Winter Trees! By Div.9



We have so many beautiful trees on our Blair grounds. The students in Div. 9 observe our trees throughout the year to observe the changes during the 4 seasons.

Social Emotional Learning

Our school continues to focus on our current school goal: **What social and emotional skills and strategies do our learners need to help them to thrive and learn in school and in life?**

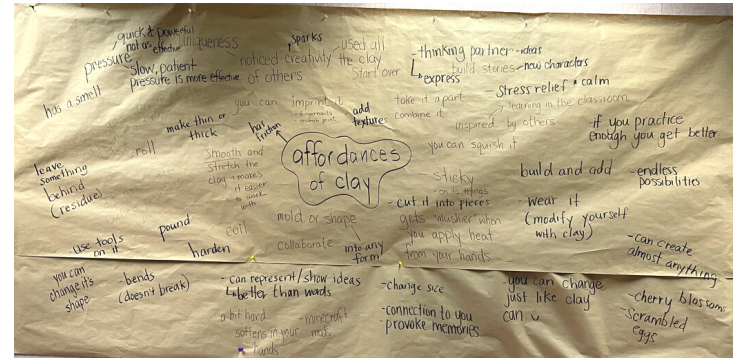
Why does this matter?

Developing strong social intelligence and emotional intelligence helps take us beyond rote learning of academics. It helps develop our resiliency, our ability to self-assess and set goals and to work collaboratively. Explicit connection of our school Blair Cares language and how it is affecting learning and thriving helps us improve our practice.

Next Steps: Nurturing and Nudging

We are going to focus more intentionally on specific classroom strategies that students' can see will make a difference in their learning. We are also curious to see if working with different materials will help to make the concepts in the Blair Cares framework come alive.

*Exploring clay..." You can change its shape."
"It can represent your ideas.."*



We will start by exploring Clay in our Blair studio to see if this makes a difference for our learners. We have transformed our old computer lab in a Studio space to explore different materials.



Div. 5 photographed their creations by using an iPad in the Studio



Experiencing art is a means to develop empathy for others' perspective and experiences.