



Spotlight on Learning – Composition 11

Using Socratic Discussion Circles and the novel *The Kite Runner*, **we explored how text and story deepens our understanding of diverse, complex ideas about identity, others, and the world.** Students studied a portion of the text in depth, developed thoughtful open-ended questions and had meaningful student-led discussions. During the discussion circles, student “coaches” tracked their team members use of discussion strategies and provided feedback after each round. We built towards this through small group discussions based on shorter passages, and an informal practice round. While many students were nervous to try this activity most made a concerted effort to contribute either by “coaching” or suggesting questions in the discussion.

Students were asked to reflect on this activity after both the practice and the formal discussion. When asked what they learned from the experience, students commented, “I learned a lot about what others' perspectives were on the questions and got some ideas that I had not thought about previously” and “I learned that other people's way of thinking was different from mine, and I got to see the novel from others' insights.” When asked what they were proud of one student replied, “I am proud of the way I am able to defend my position using evidence from the text and how well I can remember the content of the book.” Students were also asked for areas for growth and how they would prepare for the next session. Many suggested strategies like reviewing summaries, taking notes, discussing with other classmates. Although many students were nervous about the group discussion, several commented that once the discussion started the nervous feeling went away. One student commented, “Even though I think it is very difficult for me, I have to try. For the next one I feel much more confident and I hope to do better.” We will revisit this activity later this semester to see how they've grown in their literary analysis and discussion skills. This assignment was adapted from the Institute of Play: Socratic Smackdown (<https://clliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/SocraticSmackdown.pdf>).





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WJ Mouat Winners at The Flood Stories UFV

WJ Mouat students won big at the UFV Flood stories project that took place this month. The following is an excerpt taken from UFV's website to describe the event:

Led by Dr. Michelle Superle, the Flood Stories project engages farmers in the Fraser Valley who were affected by the November 2021 extreme flooding events, inviting them and their families to share their experiences in spoken, written, and artistic format. The project uses a narrative approach (developed in consultation with narrative therapy expert, Dr. Stephen Madigan) to better understand how Abbotsford farmers have been affected by floods and what they need to begin thriving again.

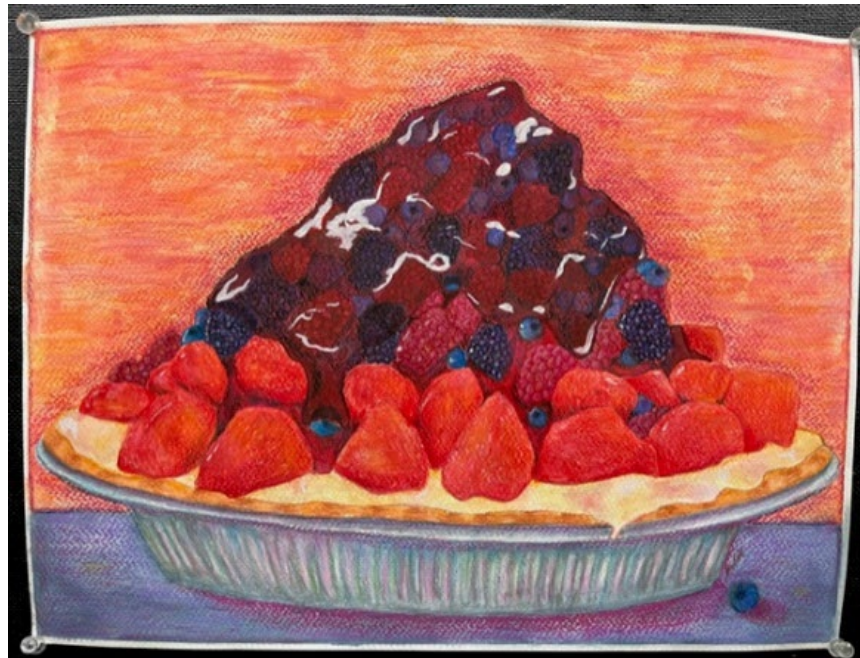


Jessica Boon (Gr 11) won first place in the grade 8-12 Visual Art Category



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Julia Janzen (Gr 12) won second place in the grade 8-12 Visual Art Category



Finn Toews (Gr 12) won third place in the grade 8-12 Visual Art Category



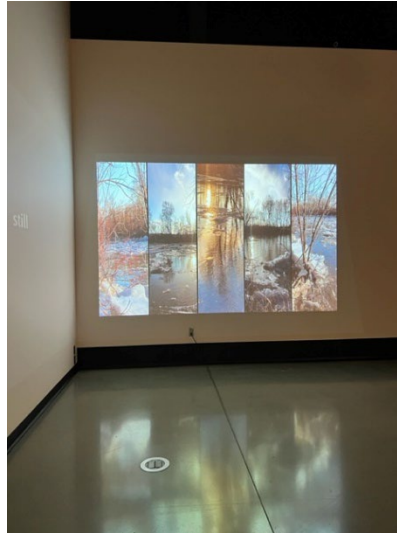
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Extended Day Art – The Reach Gallery

Extended day Art Students were on a field trip to the Reach Gallery this week to check out their current exhibition: Giving Spirit to the People, New Age Warriors and becoming[un]becoming. Students photographed their favorite pieces and on Monday will share their learning and discuss the art work the class viewed. We are so fortunate that this world class gallery is so close by!



Multi-Cultural Week

This past week, WJ Mouat leadership students organized a multi-cultural week. On Monday we had an international carnival in the cafeteria at lunch, Tuesday was Rock your Mocs day, Wednesday students were encouraged to wear cultural clothing, Thursday was an international Food truck festival where we had four food trucks attend: Slavic Rolls, Wingerz, The Crazy Gringo, and The Fishing Panda. Finally on Friday, our theater hosted students at lunch for an international short film festival.

Thank you, Mouat Leadership, for continuing to find ways for us to celebrate our diversity!





Spotlight on Learning – Get Started In a Career Today! (with updated Pictures)

This Spotlight in learning was in last week's issue but we have updated pictures of our students to highlight!

Many of our WJM students have been getting a head start in their careers by participating in the Abbotsford School District Career Programs. Students are not only getting early admission but are also taking advantage of tuition-free post-secondary education. The spotlight this week is on the trade programs in partnership with UFV Chilliwack Campus. Students will earn dual credits (high school and Industry) towards their high school diploma and in the trade. WJM has six students participating in the Level 1 Electrical program, four in the Welding program and one in the Auto Service Technology program. The students are engaged in their learning and many plan on getting their Red Seal certification with the Industry Training Authority (ITA). After finishing the trade programs, our students are offered well-paid employment opportunities with some of the local businesses.



Lt to Rt Electricians Von Pitzel, Blair Charron-Franken, Thomas Bilodeau, Pheonix Pham-Boutell, Colin Ip, missing Vinay Waraich



Welding: Liam Wiebe

Our students are also enrolled in district career programs at Abby Senior. We have nine students participating in the Carpentry program, three in the Professional Cook Level 1 and Level 2, and three in the Hairstylist program.

For more information about the amazing opportunities please view the Abbotsford District Career Program website www.careers.abbyschools.ca or contact Mr. P Gill paul.gill@abbyschools.ca



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WJM Welding Lt to Rt: Ryan Frenken, Mackenzie McClelland, Micah Toews, Liam Wiebe



Welding: Mackenzie McClelland



WJM Auto Service Technician: Patrick Peralta



Lt to Rt Electricians: Pheonix Pham-Boutell, Blair Charron-Franken, Thomas Bilodeau, Von Pitzel, Colin Ip



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November PAC Meeting

Parents and guardians of Mouat students are invited to our next PAC meeting this Monday, November 21st at 7pm in the Mouat Library Learning Commons. PAC meetings are a great way for parents to meet other parents and learn about past and future events happening in our school. We hope to see you there!

PAC Fundraising

Don't forget to support your PAC (and our school's arts, athletics, and clubs) with your empties, purchases from Cobs Bread, and a donation of your gently used clothing, shoes, stuffed animals, and linens. We appreciate your support.

Character Word of the Week: Teamwork

Teamwork is working collaboratively and cooperatively to attain a shared goal.

How it can look when put into action:

Participating in class and school activities.

Challenging yourself.

Supporting and encouraging others.

Considering how to accommodate the needs of others.

Providing leadership.

Being willing to follow.



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COMING UP THIS WEEK

Monday Nov 21 – ABCD

- Self Care Mondays
- Grad Convocation Meeting

Tuesday Nov 22 – CDBA

- Rock Band/Guitar Hero Tournament
- Counsellor/Admin Meeting

Wednesday Nov 23 – BADC

- World Cup Viewing Buy-out
- Rock Band/Guitar Hero Tournament
- District School Safety Meeting
- Indigenous Education Meeting

Thursday Nov 24 – DCAB

- Grad Council Meeting
- Rock Band/Guitar Hero Tournament
- Thrive Leadership Meeting

Friday Nov 25 - ABCD

- Tutorial time (8:10am-9:30am)
 - If students are signed up by their teachers, attendance is required