

## Past, present, future... Holy Trinity School Reads... at Holy Trinity School

Holy Trinity School Annual Reading Program kicked off with fun and enrichment activities for students in grades K to 5. Following this year's theme Past, Present, Future... HTS Reads, students are learning about the history of Holy Trinity School over the past 100 years, as well as the history of the United States. The students will be reading through the decades and time-traveling through books. Through enrichment activities, the program encourages children to be creative, curious, imaginative, original, and even find history fascinating. Children are looking forward to accomplishing their reading goals. Students will then be awarded prizes, such as: bookmarks, pencils, stickers, free themepark tickets, and books. There is also a Recess Incentive that awards an extra recess for each grade who reaches the team class goal at the mid-way point and by the end of the program. Children motivate each other to keep reading more and more. Parents keep a reading log at home. Each week, parent volunteers keep track of each student, including class totals which are charted in each classroom. The program has been a tradition for many years at the school as an effective way to help students embrace reading as a life-lasting habit.

Every year a school mural is prepared and displayed in the main hall, as a collaborative work including students from kindergarten to grade 5. But since this is our Centennial Celebration, all the students (from kindergarten to grade 8) were involved and actively participated in the project.

Mrs. Murphy, art teacher for grades 3 to 8, came up with the concept and led the project. The mural uses the techniques/style of artist Chuck Close. The mural was composed square by square. Students in grades 6 to 8 painted square by square, choosing the right shades of color and deciding their own geometrical pattern for the square. They worked on this during art classes from November to January. Students in grades 3 to 5 drew the students (whole body) that you can see on the playground. Students in Kindergarten to grade 2 drew their portraits (faces) in their art classes with Mrs. Pawlak. The K and 1 children are boarded on the school buses and the second graders are watching from their own classroom windows.

The mural is one more example how our school comes together and demonstrates what a beautiful and thoughtful community we are.



