

HOMMA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

December 19 - January 2



WINTER BREAK DECEMBER 17-JANUARY 2



From our Homma Family to yours, we
would like to wish you all
Happy Holidays!



Sending you peace, love, and joy this
holiday season and all the best for 2023!
See you all on January 3rd.



Important Dates

Dec. 18-26 - Hanukkah

Dec. 25 - Christmas

Dec. 26 - Boxing Day

Dec. 26-Jan. 01 - Kwanzaa

Jan. 01 - New Year's Day

Jan. 03 - Back to School



HOMMA FOR THE HOLIDAYS

WINTER CONCERT

**THANK YOU
FOR ATTENDING AND
FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

We would like to thank all of the families who were able to attend our French and English Winter Concerts. It was so nice to to see everyone!

As promised, we recorded both evenings' performances for those family and friends who were unable to attend in person.

FRENCH Concert

<https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/781894114>

Password: HawkTok2022

ENGLISH Concert

<https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/781904491/privacy>

Password: HawkTok2022

Due to technical difficulties, Div 6 & Div 7 were not recorded. We sincerely apologize.

Thank You!

**Thank you for your generosity to the
Richmond Food Bank!**

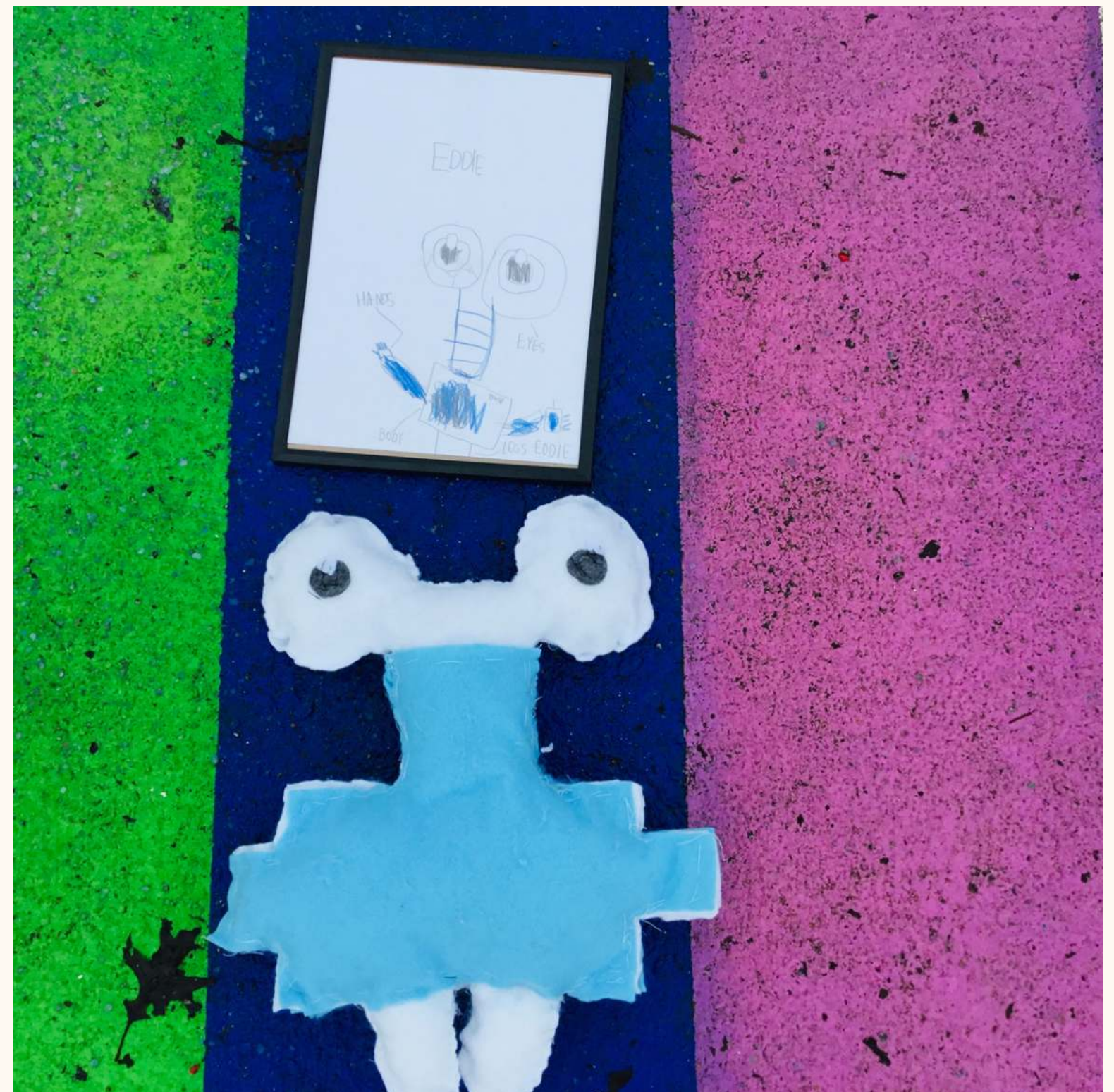
**We were able to donate over 10 boxes of
food and just under \$400 in cash donations!**

Thank you Homma Families!!



TOP SECRET

The STUFFIE Project



The upper intermediate students have been working on a top secret Applied Design Skills and Technology (ADST) project which was finally revealed this week. They took drawings made by the Kindergarten and Grade 1 students and turned them into stuffies! The stuffie makers tried to stay true to the original picture and had to make many design decisions along the way:

How do I turn a 2D picture into a 3D stuffie?

How big should I make the stuffie?

Which part is background and which part is the creature?

They then had to make a pattern and learn hand sewing skills. For most, this was their very first hand sewing project. As we pointed out to students as they embarked on this ambitious project, "You are going to do a whole lot of work only to give it away!" We hope our youngest students will enjoy these heartfelt gifts.

DECEMBER 18-26

wishing you
A HAPPY
HANUKKAH



Hanukkah, or the Festival of Rededication, celebrates the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem after its defilement by the Syrian Greeks in 164 BCE. Although it is a late addition to the Jewish liturgical calendar, the eight-day festival of Hanukkah has become a beloved and joyous holiday. It is also known as the Festival of Lights and usually takes place in December, at the time of year when the days are shortest in the northern hemisphere.

[Learn more about Hanukkah here](#)

DECEMBER 25

Marking the birth of Jesus, Christmas is a major religious holiday for Christians. For many people it is no longer just a religious festival; it has become a season of general celebration and giving presents. The holiday is officially observed on December 25, but often celebrations begin a few days earlier and last until the new year. It is one of the most colourful and festive times of the year.

One of the beloved customs of the holiday is decorating a Christmas tree with strings of lights and ornaments. The Christmas tree is thought to be the combination of two German customs. The "paradise tree" was a fir tree that was a part of the religious feast day of Adam and Eve, which was celebrated on December 24. In the same room was a wooden "Christmas pyramid." This triangle had shelves that held Christmas figures and was decorated with evergreens, candles, and a star.

[Learn more about Christmas here](#)

MERRY
CHRISTMAS



DECEMBER 26- JANUARY 1

HAPPY
KWANZAA



Kwanzaa means "first fruits" in Swahili, a language spoken in Africa, and refers to the joy and unity many Africans have when celebrating the harvest season. The holiday encourages people to honor seven principles: unity, self-determination (helping yourself succeed), collective work and responsibility (teamwork), cooperative economics (sharing), purpose, creativity, and faith.

On Dec. 26, millions throughout the world's African community will start weeklong celebrations of Kwanzaa. There will be daily ceremonies with food, decorations and other cultural objects, such as the kinara, which holds seven candles. At many Kwanzaa ceremonies, there is also African drumming and dancing.

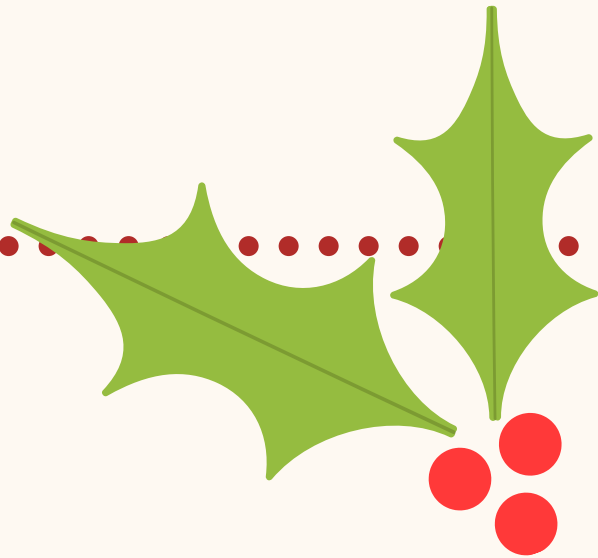
[Learn more about Kwanza here](#)



NEWS



All parents and guardians of children who attend Homma Elementary School are members of the Homma PAC and are crucial partners in creating a rich and fulfilling school experience for our children.



Happy Holidays to our Homma Families!

We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a fun and safe winter break.

As we come to the end of 2022, we want to thank all the parent volunteers for their dedicated support for the Hot Lunch Program and the winter holiday fundraisers. A very special thank you to those of you that have spent countless hours giving of your time, energy and organizational skills to make these programs possible. We are so grateful to you all!

To all our Homma families, thank you for your kind and generous support of the hot lunch program and fundraising initiatives. Thanks to you, we have the funds to support the school community, including the Artist in Residence program and two education workshops coming up this spring.

And last, but not least, thank you to our teachers, staff and Homma Admin Team for continuing to provide welcoming classrooms for our children to learn and grow. We all loved being able to come back to the school to enjoy "Homma for the Holidays" live and in-person this week. We hope you have a fun and restful two weeks with those you love.

We look forward to the new year with hope and more opportunities to connect.

Anna Reithmeier, Corrine Haer, Jennifer Tham and Marcie Beggs

The Homma PAC Executive



DROP OFF LANE AND PARKING LOT SAFETY

To ensure the safety of all students, **please do not park in the drop off lane** to bring your child into the school as it disrupts the flow of traffic.

It would be **very helpful for cars not to left turn from Brunswick Dr** into the parking lot. Cars are unable to exit the parking lot thus causing an extreme back up for drop offs.

Please pull up as far as possible in the drop off lane when coming to school in the mornings.

Street parking is available on Railway Ave.

At the **end of the day, the drop off lane is closed** to vehicles and we ask that you do not remove the parking lot chain to enter.

Thank you for your support with this.



Dress for the weather!

As our weather is changing to snow, cold and rain, it might be helpful to bring:



winter coat



rain coat



rain boots or
winter boots



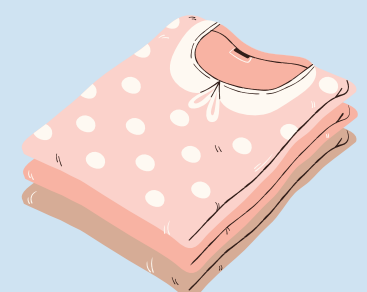
mittens



touque



scarf



extra clothing
including socks