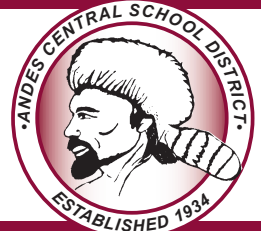


Andes Central School Mountaineer News



Volume 14, Issue 4 • November 2023

ANDES, NEW YORK 13731

Students & Staff are back!



... and so is our Drama program!

Our first musical since 2019, Willy Wonka Jr.!



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Andes Central School Community,

As the new Superintendent of the Andes Central School District, I am happy to report that I have been welcomed with kindness along with a generous spirit of cooperation and enthusiasm by faculty, staff, students and community members alike. I love being at this incredible school and learning from both students and staff all about what the Andes CSD has to offer our children.

So far this school year I've been to many school events, with each opportunity learning and taking it all in so I can understand fully what it is that makes Andes such a special place. Earlier this month, I enjoyed attending our wonderful school play, *Willy Wonka, Jr.* The level of talent we have here at Andes is notable. Through the year, I aim to visit many events at school and look in on many activities taking place in the Andes classrooms. Thank you to the educators and staff who open their classrooms and other spaces for these visits, and to everyone who reaches out with updates, concerns and suggestions to support our district's continuous improvement.

I look forward to the coming school years and growing my understanding of how to best support and broaden the opportunities available to our Andes Central School students.

Thank you for your continued support of our students, staff and school.

*Sincerely,
Dr. Brigid Collins*

ANDES CENTRAL SCHOOL WELCOMES NEW STAFF MEMBERS!



***Samantha Candrea -
Director of Guidance &
School Business Manager,
District Treasurer***



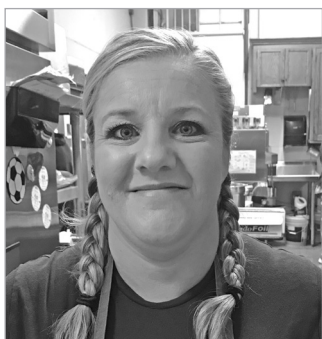
***Mary Pelletier
Elementary Teacher***



***Kirsten Malloy
Teacher's Aide***



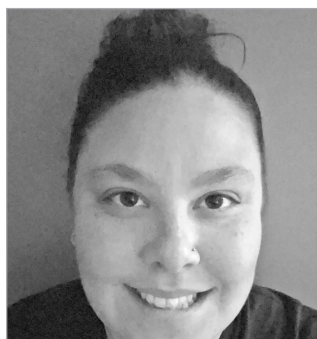
***Josias Mejia
Teacher's Aide***



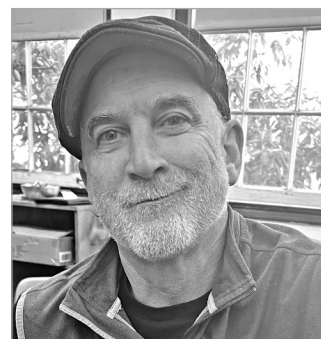
Julie Nelson - Cafeteria



***Sal Ventimiglia - Building
Maintenance Mechanic***



***Samantha Falco
Part-time Cleaner***



***Dennison Joyce
Counselor***

***Photos not available: Jennifer Gardner - Elementary Teacher, Joe Lauriere - Bus Driver,
Alexandre Sazonov (Sasha) - Journeyman, Cleaner, Painter***

CLASSROOM NEWS

PK/KINDERGARTEN

We have been very busy in the PreK room! We started the year making new friends and learning all about schedules and rules. Things we have been working on daily include colors, letter identification and phonetics, counting, name writing, taking turns, and fine motor skills. Some themes we have worked on thus far are Apples, Leaves, Fall, Community Helpers, and Pumpkins. The students have been learning to be scientists and use the scientific method to make predictions before conducting experiments. Some fun observations were the sink/float experiments conducted with apples and pumpkins. Students were amazed that our 13.5 lb pumpkin floated! During pumpkin week, the students also measured the circumference and height of pumpkins, using linking chains and Unifix cubes, and completed an all about pumpkins book which included the life cycle of a pumpkin, as well as what they need to grow. For a fun art activity, we painted pumpkin shapes with puffy paint that we made. We concluded the unit with a visit to the Andes Pumpkin Patch. We would like to thank the Guy and Gladstone families for their generous donation of pumpkins to our class! We had such a fun time visiting the pumpkin patch and seeing all the different types of pumpkins we had read about. What an experience to see them all in real life!

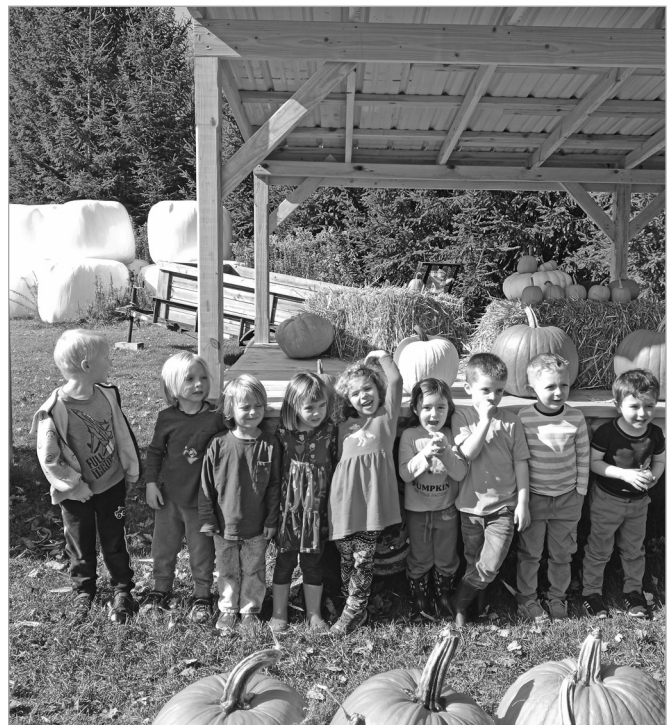
A great follow up to our book *Ten Apples Up on Top* was a STEM activity where the students created apple trees from various materials, such as paper tubes, craft sticks, shredded paper, etc. and saw how many apples (pompoms) we could get to stay on the branches. This unit also came with a fun apple tasting session!

Our fall unit brought about a fun story, *The Scarecrow's Hat*. The students liked the story so much, we did a reader's theater in class. Each student chose a character to be and then acted out the events of the story. They had so much fun reenacting the book, they did it a few times over!

We also learned why leaves change color and why some trees are green all year. We made leaf mobiles, scarecrow pictures using different kinds of shapes, and leaf rubbings to celebrate the season.

Our Community Helpers unit brought a visit from the Andes Fire Department where we learned all about fire safety. Students loved making firefighter puppets to recall the safety procedures our firefighter friends taught us.

—Mrs. Lisa Valkavich



CLASSROOM NEWS

SECOND & THIRD GRADE

We have been very busy in the first few months of school. In ELA, we have been reading and learning about what makes people interesting and how it is okay to be different. We also learned about how people can use words in different ways to communicate, such as writing letters. We even read a few stories with words from a different language. It was fun to learn some new vocabulary from other languages. We are currently learning about US Symbols and how they represent our nation's beliefs.

In writing, we just finished writing stories about our summers and started to draft letters to our future selves. We are all very curious and excited to see what the future has in store for us, and it has been fun to imagine it.



In science, we finished our first unit about engineering. We engineered our own Aid Packages to protect an egg from breaking when dropped, be waterproof, and float. All teams did a great job, and it was a lot of fun. We have many fun and exciting things in store for us this year!

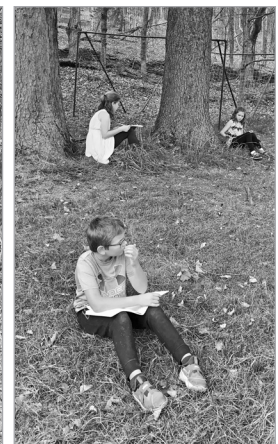
—Ms. Morgan Sullivan

FOURTH & FIFTH GRADE

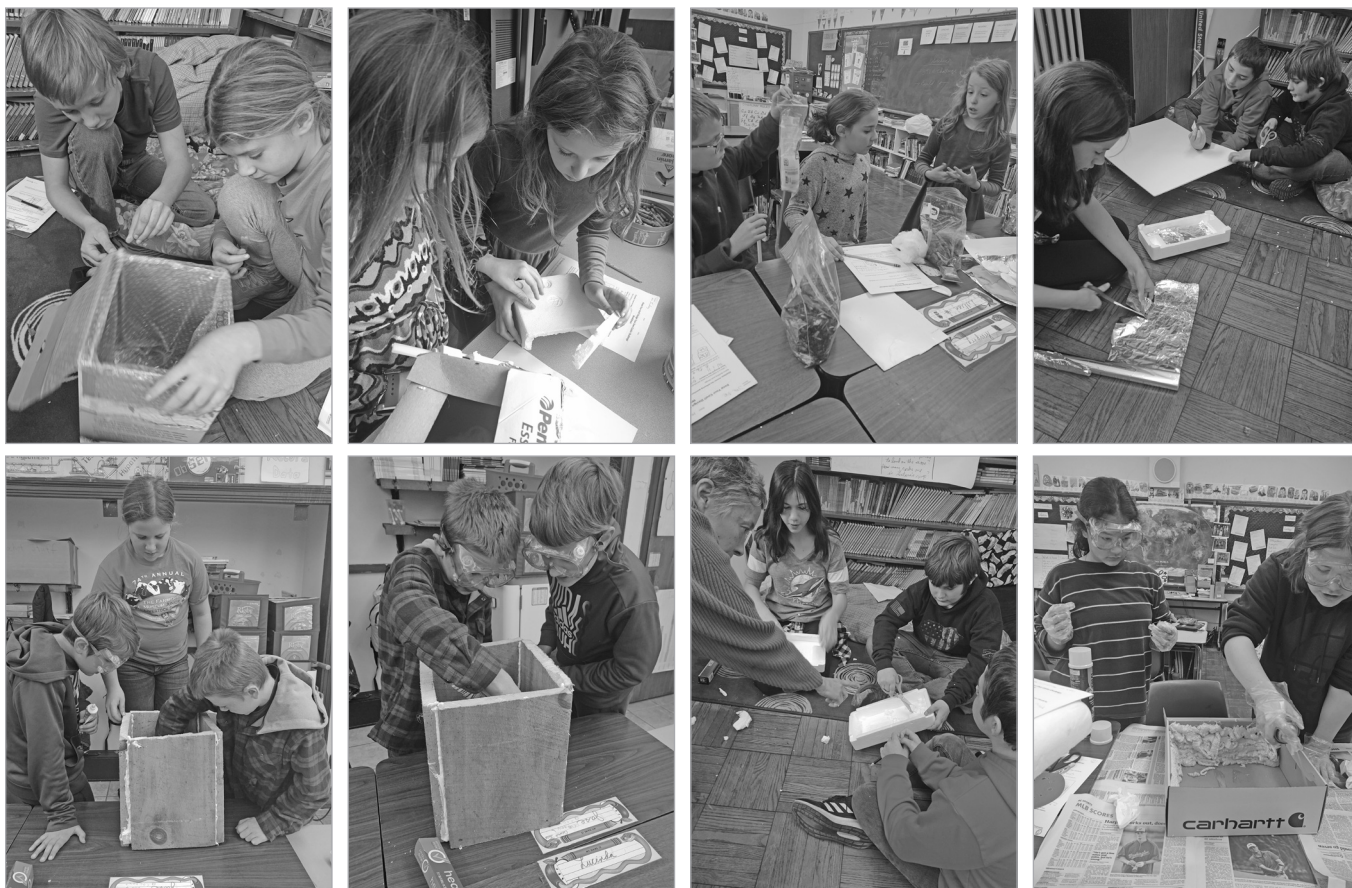
The fourth and fifth graders have 'adopted' a tree for the school year! In our ELA, Science, and Social Studies classes, we talk about how we can notice the world around us and use sensory details to describe our observations. We have been going outside periodically to practice our powers of observation —while practicing descriptive writing skills like how to add amazing adjectives and vivid verbs to make our writing sound more interesting. Once the students list what they see, hear, and feel at their tree, then they extend their writing to

pretend they ARE the tree. Some students have started writing stories using their imaginations to create a fictional world around their tree. Some journal entries include facts about the type of tree and sketches of what the bark, leaves, or needles look like. Each student chose their own tree in September and will visit their special 'adopted' tree throughout the year to observe and explore the effects of the changing seasons and how to write about it!

—Ms. Pelletier and Ms. Basovsky



MRS. WHITE'S CLASSES



MRS. WHITE'S CLASSES

The ACS 4th, 5th and 6th graders have jumped right into the new school year this fall with a great deal of enthusiasm. We are enjoying our new reading series, “*Into Reading*”, and the 5th grade class is taking on this new challenge with lots of energy. In addition, novels are being read for homework time, with the class reading titles including *Frindle*, *Hitler’s Daughter*, and *I am Underdog*.

Math classes are moving along with topics such as place value, operations with decimals, ratios, and order of operations (PEMDAS). The students are working hard, as always, and I am pleased with their progress.

Science has already started with a bang for our students. We began our year with a study of the universe in 4th/5th grade and ecology in 6th grade. Fifth graders learned about our eight planets and how far they are away from the Sun. They also studied different constellations and discussed what makes a star appear bright or dim in the night sky. Then, we made a model of the phases of the moon with Oreo cookies . . . yum! The class enjoyed eating up all of the leftover cookies, that’s for sure. The sixth graders have been studying what constitutes the living and nonliving parts of our world, and we are completing a fun activity dissecting owl pellets

in order to see what these amazing creatures eat in the wild. Students will then recreate a complete mouse skeleton with the bones that they find inside the pellet. An online version of the dissection will complete the activity. Cool!

Once a week, the 4th, 5th, and 6th grade science classes are having a rotating “STEM Challenge” during which the students will use their 21st Century skills in order to solve various “Science/Technology/Engineering/Math” situations. The first challenge is to create a way to insulate a cold bottle so that the least amount of temperature is gained. We will be testing all of the prototypes during the first week of December, and we can’t wait! I am constantly amazed at all of the ideas our little geniuses come up with.

We are once again continuing the “Put Ups” program in class, which spotlights positive and caring behaviors that our students display each day. Our board is covered with close to fifty “Put Up” slips already, and the reports of sincere and thoughtful acts of kindness come pouring in each day. Way to go 6th graders! We are very proud of our wonderful students here at Andes Central School.

Have a safe and enjoyable holiday everyone!

—Mrs. Robin White

MRS. WHITE'S CLASSES

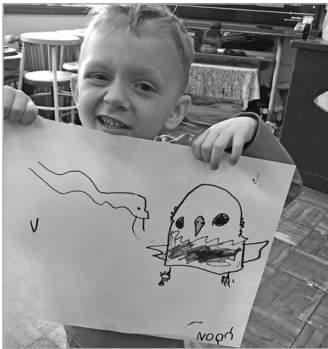


ART SHOWCASE

PreK created quiet critters...to help quiet their minds



Students created patriotic eagle artwork to be made into placemats and decorations for our Veterans Luncheon

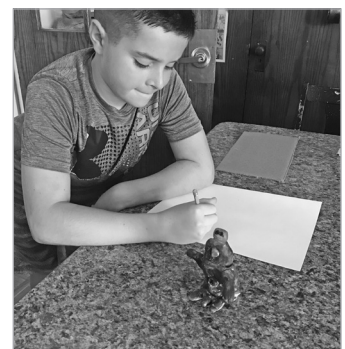
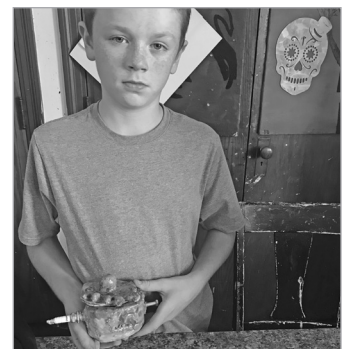


Even though this has been a whirlwind of a fall, I am trying to instill a peacefulness through creating art. Hopefully it's working.

Peace and Creativity from

—Ms. Sharon Tucker

Sixth graders create clay monsters inspired by the artist James DeRossa



MRS. BACON'S BITS



Sixth grade ELA kicked off the year with our new Into Reading curriculum. Our first module theme was about the pathway to success and how it involves inspiration, goals, and overcoming obstacles. The favorite selection in this unit was an article called “9 Young People Who Changed the World.” It was very interesting and inspiring. Students created their own Vision Board that included their top three goals for the school year. Then, we moved on to our second module about what makes a story worth reading. We read a variety of selections from different genres, including an adaptation of Shakespeare’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* that the students enjoyed acting out. In our third module, Designing the Future, we explored what inspires amazing inventions. We read about the boy who invented TV, lots about 3D printers (did you know they can print pizzas?!), and about a boy in Africa who invented Lion Lights to keep his cattle safe from lions! Students are building their vocabulary, practicing their reading comprehension skills, reviewing grammar, and honing their writing skills. It’s been super engaging and educational!

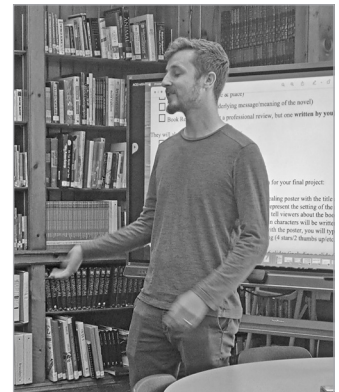
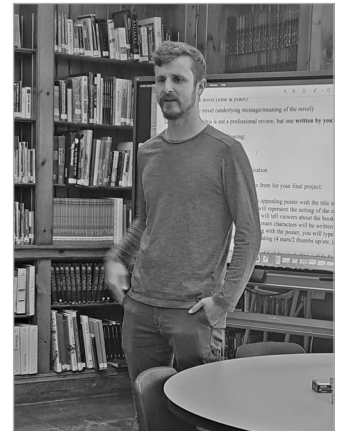
For homework, the sixth graders read either *The Lightning Thief* or *The Red Pyramid*, both by Rick Riordan. Students got to enjoy these exciting adventures inspired by Greek and Egyptian mythology while practicing the skills they were learning in class. These stories followed the archetypal hero’s journey and inspired the students to write their own hero’s journey. Their stories were very creative, varied, and fun to share.

English 7/8 learned about the theme of survival as they read *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen. We paired this novel with *Guts: The True Stories Behind Hatchet and the Brian Books*, Paulsen’s autobiographical novel. It was very easy to see how Gary Paulsen was able to write so descriptively about the scenes in *Hatchet* since he used some of his firsthand experiences as inspiration. As we explored author’s craft and Paulsen’s style of writing, students wrote their own scene for the novel trying to mimic his writing style. They also wrote an essay showing how Paulsen developed the theme in *Hatchet*.



We had a surprise visit from ACS graduate, Paul Beeman, who happened to be in town. The timing was perfect since Paul’s senior project, about wilderness survival, was inspired by *Hatchet*. Not only did he share some of that experience with the students, but he also shared about his work in Africa and his fond memories of the Andes community. What a great surprise! To top off our survival theme, we will be trying our hand at starting a fire using flint and steel just as the main character, Brian, did while he was stranded in the wilderness. Let’s hope that goes well!

The Freshman Seminar class kicked off the year by going on an on-site “field trip” with Jonathan LaFever, (LaFever Excavating) and Ben Dates, Jeff Russell and Graydon Ditcher (Delaware county Soil and Water) to learn about the stream project happening in front of our school. It was super informative, and we even had a chance to go down in the stream bed to see the work that was going on. We are super grateful for this opportunity and want to thank all of them for taking the time to teach us about the work they do. The ninth graders have also been talking about goals and future plans as we work through *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens* by Sean Covey. Habits 1 and 2 have taught us to Be Proactive and Begin with the End in Mind. Students worked on creating mission statements for their lives to keep



MRS. BACON'S BITS *continued . . .*

them on track with their end goals. They have also completed some career interest surveys that match their interests and skills to different careers to help them start exploring different options. They will be researching three different careers this year and presenting them through three different formats. The first will be an oral presentation using Google Slides as a visual aid. This will give them a chance to practice their research skills, public speaking skills, and how to put together an effective slide presentation. I am looking forward to seeing their presentations!

Library classes have also been busy. Kindergarten through third grades have been exploring topics such as creativity, individuality, emotions, kindness, and sharing through fun and lively read-alouds. Fourth and fifth graders have learned about how to use the online library catalog, as well as the library databases. They are quite good at navigating. They also have been busy working on their Dewey Decimal Passport which has them exploring sections of nonfiction they might not otherwise check out. It's always fun to see the different books that grab their interest.

The library is a busy, exciting place to be. Wishing for happy and healthy holidays for all of you!

—Mrs. Grace Bacon



ACS ATHLETICS



The fall soccer season was an impressive success for our Andes Central School student athletes. At the varsity level, junior *Shane Edwards*, and sophomores *Lilly Temple*, *Faith Sass*, and *Gabriellah Bene* had incredible seasons. The Andes/SK boys varsity soccer team led the Delaware League, with a 16-3 overall record, and went undefeated in the league at 8-0. In addition to the regular season, the varsity boys won the NYSPHSAA Section IV Boys Soccer Class D championship game 1-0 against Edmeston to advance to regionals. Unfortunately, the boys fell to Poland in the NYS Class D regional game. *Shane* scored 4 goals this season and had 4 assists. He was an integral part of the Andes/SK team's success.

On the girls' side, the Andes/SK varsity team made it to the opening round of the NYSPHSAA Section IV Girls Soccer

Class D tournament, but eventually fell to Charlotte Valley. The girls had an overall record of 8-6-1.

We also had several students represent ACS at the modified level. Our modified boys included *Abel J. Weaver*, *Tristan Weaver*, and *Kingston Bottoms*. Modified girls included *Laney Mondore* and *Myaleigh Rabon*. Congratulations to our newest student athletes on your modified season.

Thank you to the coaches, parents, guardians, transportation staff, and teaching staff who support our student athletes in and out of the classroom. We have several students planning to participate in modified, JV, and Varsity basketball during the winter season, so be sure to go and support our student athletes at their games!

~Mrs. Megan Shelton, Athletic Director

MUSIC MINUTES

For the past couple of months, our ACS music students were hard at work putting together our first musical since 2019, *Willy Wonka Jr.*! Everyone was so excited to bring back theater to ACS, and the talent could be seen from the start of the audition process. After the cast was selected, we began rehearsing both during and after school. Mrs. Tucker created our amazing set with the help of students and parents, and we also rummaged through our basement of costumes to complete the look and feel of Wonkaland. Every student who wanted to participate joined forces to make it happen, from the behind the scenes stage hands to the little chefs and squirrels.

Our production came together after a few obstacles, but, like always, the show must go on! We are so proud of our amazing students, thoughtful parents, and supportive teachers. If it wasn't for our ACS family, we could not have made this happen. Special thanks to Amber and Jason Mondore who stepped in on the sound and Kristy and Chris Bottoms who made the lighting of our production look spectacular. The support of Principal Aguirre and Superintendent Dr. Collins was unbelievable! We are so lucky to have an administration who wholeheartedly supports the arts. Excited to see how our theater program will grow!

Our next event is our Winter Concert on Wednesday December 13 at 7:00 p.m. Please come support our wonderful musicians!

—Yasmin Reshamwala & Tamara Titch



And a very special shout out to Mrs. Reshamwala for making this happen!





The game of “Goalball” is played exclusively by individuals who are blind or vision impaired. It was invented in 1946 to help rehabilitate veterans who lost their sight during the Second World War. Players must wear opaque eye shades at all times, ensuring fair competition. All international athletes must be legally blind, meaning they have less than 10 percent vision, and are classified as a B3, a B2, or a B1 – totally blind. Teams are made up of six players, with three members playing at any one time. The object of the game is to roll a ball past the opponents and into their net to score points. Players stay on their hands and knees to defend their net and score against their opponents.

The 7th and 8th graders had the option to participate in this fun, slow-paced game to experience the adaptive side of physical education. They used blindfolds to simulate not being able to see while rolling the jingle bell ball (Goalball) to the other team, hoping to score a goal.

Students in grades 9-11 had the opportunity to participate in an archery unit this fall through the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP). NASP promotes instruction in international-style target archery as a part of in-school curriculum, to improve educational performance and participation in the shooting sports among students grades 4-12. Ms. Nocella, along with Mrs. Jennifer Finkle who came back to help, are both certified as Basic Archery Instructors.

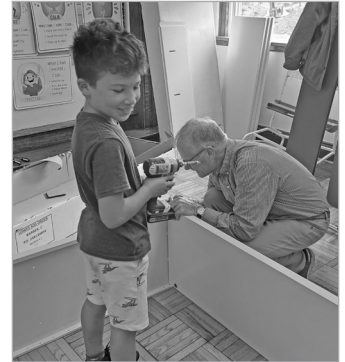
~ Ms. Corra Nocella



C R O P



A special thank you to Jim Stewart and Ed Bacon (along with their handy assistant, Christopher), for volunteering their time to assemble our new CROP storage cupboards!



The CROP After School Program has really taken off this year! We had 40 students register to participate various days of the week from 3-5 p.m. Students begin each day with a quick snack and then transition into homework time. After working on their homework, with help from the activity leaders and student peer leaders, students have recess time outside (weather permitting) or in the gym. Finally, students participate in activities provided by our activity leaders or outside partners, such as Hanford Mills and Roxbury Arts Group.

It was a big transition to not have Mrs. Finkle with us. Mrs. Finkle not only began the CROP program at ACS but was the CROP Site Coordinator for 20 years. Thanks to her hard work over the years, the CROP program is well-established and the transition has been a fairly smooth one. Thankfully, I also have two full-time activity leaders, eight high school student peer leaders, subs, assistants, and supportive administrators who have helped make my new role as site coordinator much easier.

Lisa Valkavich is the leader of the K-4 group . . . all 25 of them! She kicked off the year with some SEL (social emotional learning) activities to help the students focus on getting to know each other and thinking about what makes them special. They explored some super hands-on science activities while learning about trees, bats, gravity, and sound waves. STEM challenges are always a favorite. They participated in STEM Brain Teasers, a Paper Chain Challenge, creating their own STEM transportation, designing marble mazes, and even math STEM centers. Some Thanksgiving activities rounded out this

quarter with students thinking about what they are thankful for, creating cool turkeys, and completing turkey themed centers.

The 5-8 group is led by Belle Bourke. They have participated in a wide variety of activities over the past couple of months. They've learned how to better take care of themselves through activities on the four dimensions of health and healthy eating with My Plate, as well as fire safety & prevention lessons. They also took a turn at caring for others by making cookies for all of the teachers for World Teacher Day. STEM activities included their own Paper Chain Challenge, a Leaf Drop activity, and experimenting to find out why the Harvest Moon is red. Miss Belle has tested their problem solving skills through challenging number puzzles, a digital escape room activity, and a couple of mysteries for them to solve. Students displayed their musical talents through rhythm lessons in preparation for the Blue Man Group trip to NYC. They sounded great!

Many of our CROP students participated in the school drama production of *Willy Wonka Jr.*, so there was a lot going on during the last couple of weeks leading up to the show. We are thankful for our parent volunteers who came in to help with supervising students during rehearsals, as well as helping with homework. Our partners from the Hanford Mills Museum also visited this fall and facilitated a team building activity and a pollinator activity with both groups. They have several other activities planned for our CROP kids over the next few months. It's been a very busy and exciting fall!

~Mrs. Grace Bacon

GUIDANCE NEWS

We have had a great, and busy, start to the new school year. The eighth graders went on a visit to BOCES in November. Students spent approximately 20 minutes in each of the six programs that BOCES offers. It was a good way for them to see the programs and begin to get an idea of whether or not they would be interested in attending.

Two of our juniors attended the first of three student leadership workshops held at SUNY Oneonta focused on building community through leadership and service. This series of training is to give each student the opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of their personal leadership style, connection to community, and use these skills to develop a meaningful service project in our school community.

The 10th and 11th graders took the PSAT to prepare for their future SAT. The seniors took their final SAT for college entrance and financial scholarships, and grades 10-12 completed the ASVAB Career Exploration Assessment. Juniors and seniors also traveled to SUNY Cobleskill. Students enjoyed touring the college campus and were able to speak with many college representatives at the College Fair.

College and University in-person visits are important when students are planning for the future. Finding an institution that has a good feel and fits your individual needs is critical to ensure students have the most successful transition. We encourage students to attend open houses and visit colleges during their junior and senior year of high school.

TAKING A COLLEGE VISIT:

Why visit?

Visiting a college campus is the best way to determine whether or not you will want to spend the next two to four years of your life there. Different people are happy in different places. Every post-secondary school is a community unto itself. Activities such as touring a campus, talking to faculty members, sitting in on a class, and speaking with students give you an authentic feel for the campus and community.

SCHOOL TRIP TO NYC!

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of Mrs. Sharon Tucker, the entire school had the opportunity to take a trip to NYC to see the Blue Man Group on November 17. Students, staff, and parents boarded the coach buses in the morning, enjoyed lunch at the Mid-Hudson buffet, took in the city sights, and enjoyed a great show. Thank you, Mrs. Tucker!



Remember: **YOU MUST TEST DRIVE BEFORE YOU BUY!**

What should you do when you call?

You want to maximize the time you are on campus, so ask for the following things:

1. Campus Tour
2. Chance to sit through a freshman level class
3. Meeting with a professor in your potential major
4. Interview—face to face opportunity to talk with an admission professional. Get a business card—this will be the person you send your application to at a later date!

You should also ask to see anything you feel will help you make an informed decision. Your goal should be to leave the campus with a clear understanding of the community and a sense of whether it is a good fit for you. When on campus **ASK QUESTIONS!**

MENTAL HEALTH

Mental health is extremely important. While it may be hard to reach out and ask for help, know that **you are not alone and we are here to help.** Here are some mental health and wellness tips that can be helpful:

- Use healthy coping skills to help overcome challenges
- When feeling angry, worried, sad, or troubled, discuss your feelings with a parent, another trusted adult, or a trusted friend
- Get enough rest and sleep (8-10 hours daily)
- Promote positive behaviors such as respect, responsibility, and kindness around you in common areas, such as hallways, cafeterias, locker rooms, and playgrounds
- Prevent negative behaviors such as bullying and harassment
- Utilize breathing exercises, visualization, and other mindfulness activities
- Explore creative outlets, such as music, drawing, or writing

QUARTER 1 HIGHLIGHTS

AN EVENING WITH JADE AMBER



On November 9, the community was absolutely delighted and awed by a performance by ACS alumnus Jade Amber Littaker. With well-known songs like “*I Could Have Danced All Night*” from *My Fair Lady*, “*If I Were a Bell*” from *Guys and Dolls*, and “*Vanilla Ice Cream*” from *She Loves Me* (just to name a few),

Jade wowed the crowd! Not only did she regale us with her beautiful voice, but she carried herself with such poise and grace, especially during the Q&A segment. Jade was candid in sharing her experiences throughout high school and beyond. She talked about how being nervous never gets easier (even on Broadway), having mentors who helped her along the way, and the importance of who you know when beginning a career like hers. Two pieces of advice from her mentors that she shared, which really resonated with some of the students in the audience, was to “be present, be here” and “there is an entire world and so many people you haven’t met.” What a wonderful night!

Some of Jade’s accomplishments include having the pleasure of joining *Pretty Woman: The Musical* (1st Broadway National tour) as a temporary/vacation replacement. When she started to receive great reviews in three different cities, they made the choice to hire her full time. Other credits include: *The Picher Project* (Off Broadway, Dixon Place), *RENT* (ACT of Connecticut), and *BARE: A Pop Opera* (Off Broadway).



It was great to see other alumni at the concert as well!

FIRE SAFETY WEEK

Thank you to the Andes Fire Department for coming in to teach our elementary students about fire safety.



BOOK FAIR

We held our Scholastic Book Fair September 27th - October 5th. Students had a fun time browsing all of the books during school each day, and it was certainly a busy place the night of Open House. Thank you to all who came and purchased books to help our Book Fair be such a success. With the credit we received from the sales, we were able to purchase \$752 in books for the elementary classrooms, resource room, and the library!

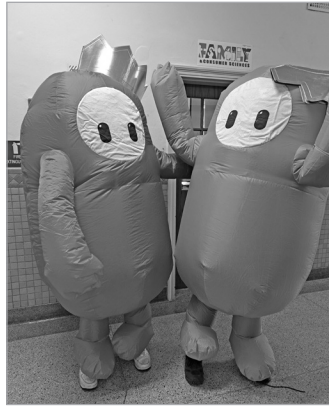


With the credit we received from the sales, we were able to purchase \$752 in books for the elementary classrooms, resource room, and the library! We are so grateful for your support and for helping us get books into the hands of our students.

QUARTER 1 HIGHLIGHTS

HALLOWEEN FUN

Lots of fun costumes and our PK-3 students had their annual parade through town to the Andes Public Library for a special storytime.



THANK YOU CONCERT!

In September, the Andes Presbyterian Church very graciously donated \$1000 to the Music Department at ACS. On Friday, September 29, our science teacher, Ed McGee, along with our music teachers, Yasmin Reshamwala and Tamara Titch, and some of their musically talented friends, put on a Thank You concert for the community. It was a laid-back, fun, music-filled evening that really highlighted our music program at ACS and our musically talented teachers. The audience even learned about instruments and got a mini music lesson from Mrs. Titch.

It was our pleasure to be able to honor our hometown veterans in this special way. Thank you so much for your service!



QUARTER 1 HIGHLIGHTS

VETERANS BRUNCH

On November 9, ACS had the privilege of honoring our hometown veterans. A special lunch was prepared by Laurie Day and our cafeteria staff. The celebration began with a former ACS student, Jade Littaker, singing our national anthem, accompanied by Jim Andrews. Kari Astrid-Haugeto, from the American Legion Post 190, did a short presentation on the constitution. She was followed by our K/1 students who delighted all by singing “*The Pledge of Allegiance*” song complete with sign language. Our National Honor Society students presented on the four pillars of National Honor Society - scholarship, service, leadership, and character - by connecting them back to the qualities our veterans embody. The middle and high school chorus, under the direction of Ms. Reshamwala, performed the Military Medley to wrap up the celebration as our elementary students presented their hand-made gifts to the veterans.

It was our pleasure to be able to honor our hometown veterans in this special way. Thank you so much for your service!

Honoring
ALL WHO
served
**THANK YOU
VETERANS**



SCHOOL CLOSINGS

If school is to be closed due to inclement weather or other emergency, our Alert System will send out a message to parents of all students. It will also be broadcast over the following: WRGB-TV, WDHI, WDLA, WBNG-TV, as well as placed on the school website and school Facebook page.

QUARTER 1 HIGHLIGHTS

Congratulations to all of the students who made the Honor Roll, High Honor Roll, and Superintendent List for the first quarter!

5th - 8th Grade

SUPERINTENDENT'S HONORS

Brielle Bottoms (7th)
Landon Colfer (6th)
Lindsey Kiley (5th)
Adelaine Moore (5th)
Lucinda Moore (5th)
Charles Orio (6th)
Abel J. Weaver (7th)

HIGH HONORS

IKingston Bottoms (7th)
Princess Lykah DePierro (6th)
Matthew Liddle (8th)
Emily McGowan (6th)
Darbey Mondore (6th)
Liem Sass (6th)
Kiara Weaver (6th)

HONOR ROLL

Benjamin Liddle (6th)
Brooklyn Maroney (7th)
Joseph Maxim (7th)
Laney Mondore (8th)
Gage Temming (6th)
Abel A. Weaver (5th)
Tristan Weaver (8th)

9th - 12th Grade

SUPERINTENDENT'S HONORS

Rylee Burton (12th)
Christina Chakar (11th)
Katherine Edelson (12th)
Erysse Elliott (10th)
Emma Robson (10th)
Lilly Temple (9th)

HIGH HONORS

Gabriellah Bene (9th)
Isis Brannen (10th)
Shane Edwards (10th)
Vincent Spanburgh III (11th)

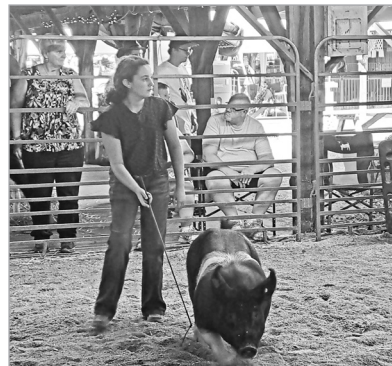
HONOR ROLL

Desmond Adorno (10th)
Halie Gardner (11th)
Gavyn Mahon (9th)

NEWSWORTHY NOTES

Eighth grader, *Laney Mondore*, and sixth grader, *Darbey Mondore*, certainly had an eventful summer and fall showing their livestock from Dar-view Farms. In August, at the Delaware County Fair, they were 4-H grand champion and first place winners with their pigs and jerseys. The girls chose to donate the money they received from the fair auction to the ACS Ski Club and Cows-to-Cafeteria program. On September 10, the Andes Hotel generously hosted a pig roast to celebrate *Laney* and *Darbey* and to raise additional money for the two programs. There was plenty of delicious food, as well as raffle items donated by local businesses. In total, \$5000 was raised! Thank you to *Laney* and *Darbey*, Derek and the Andes Hotel, and the community for their generosity and support.

But, that's not all! *Laney* and *Darbey* also had the opportunity to show their cows at the Harrisburg National Show in Pennsylvania. There, *Darbey* took first place in the Open Show. Congratulations girls!



JUST ADD FUN AT SUMMER CROP!

Summer CROP ran from 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Monday-Friday, for three weeks from July 10 through July 28. We carried over our “Just Add . . . Fun” theme from last summer with new “Just Add . . .” STEM kits that were full of exciting and fun science experiments and activities just by adding everyday items like glue, sun, and baking soda.

Each day began with Exploration Stations as students checked in, had breakfast, and transitioned to other activities. This is where they had time to explore different stations including LEGOS, K’nex, and miscellaneous materials to create or construct something that connected to the themes. There were also book bins with themed books and magazines for them to explore.

Students had the opportunity to take swimming lessons at the Andes Town Pool. They worked on getting comfortable in the water, honing their swim strokes, learning water safety skills, and even going off the diving board. While half the group was at swimming lessons, the other half participated in the main activity that connected to our theme for the week. Our first week was “Just Add Glue”, and students created their own geodes, window clings, decoupage jars, and bouncy balls. For our second week, students made sunprints, animal shelters, shadow drawings, and melted crayon paintings to go with our “Just Add Sun” theme. We wrapped up with our “Just Add Baking Soda” theme and made volcanoes, dancing gummy worms, baking soda powered boats, and even our own toothpaste!

For about an hour each morning, students broke into groups to work on literacy skills using leveled readers about America, birthdays, festivals, animals and their adaptations, and Leonardo DaVinci. Students worked on fluency, comprehension, sequencing, phonics, grammar, writing, and research . . . all while having fun and learning lots of new and interesting facts.

Of course, we had plenty of outdoor recess time to exercise their bodies and enjoy the summer weather. Students rode bikes, played on the playground, created beautiful sidewalk chalk murals, and much more. Each Wednesday, this time also included a walk to the public library where they took part in the Library Summer Program which included *Reimagining the Andes Library Landscape* with Birgitta Brophy, *Planting & Caretaking Practices* with Carla Hegeman Crim, and *Plant and Tree Impressions and Encounters* with Marguerite Uhlmann-Bower. Thank you to the Andes Public Library for a super fun time! We also had a few visits from Cooperative Extension to learn about healthy eating, participate in physical activities to keep our bodies healthy, and make yummy snacks.

After all of the excitement of the morning, we had some DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) time to wind down before lunch. Being able to share a meal with friends and chat was always a nice way to wrap up our days. With all of the activities to fill our days, the weeks whizzed by full of fun and learning! Thank you to Lisa Valkavich, Emily Andersen, Kathy Basovsky, and Vinny Spanburgh for all of their hard work to make the summer CROP program run so smoothly.



Outdoor recess time

SUMMER CROP

Cooperative Extension



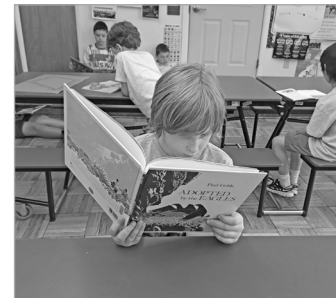
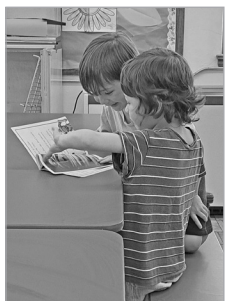
Super cool activities at the Andes Public Library!



Pool Fun!



DEAR time with friends!



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MISSION STATEMENT

Andes Central School is a small rural school district with a safe environment and a strong sense of community. The mission of the Andes school community, through a positive learning environment, is to produce self-sufficient citizens who are adaptable to changes in society and who possess the self-esteem, motivation and skills to continue individual growth and to ensure that all students meet or exceed high learning standards at the elementary, middle, and high school levels.

ANDES YOUTH SOCCER

A big thank you to Jennifer Andersen for coordinating the soccer season and Ed Bacon for coaching. We are very proud of the teamwork and sportsmanship shown by our Youth Soccer team. Each of them were also lucky enough to receive an awesome customized "Andes Soccer" Adidas backpack, given by an anonymous donor. Looking forward to the spring season!

