



Adam Robertson
Elementary

APRIL
NEWS

A.R.E.S. NEWS LETTER



Spring Chicken Extravaganza



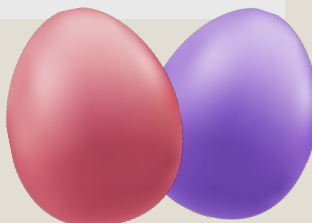
What's New?

- Spring Chicken Extravaganza
- Breakfast Program - PAC
- Shrek the Musical Jr.
- Chess Winners
- Fine Arts
- Lunch Leaders
- SEY2KT
- Kindergarten Registration
- Circle of Courage
- If I Were an Animal..
- Learning Fair

On April 11th A.R.E.S. students were treated to an afternoon of excitement. They were told in advance to bring recycling supplies for a special activity, but they had no idea 315 baby chicks were waiting outside to find their owners. We had some energetic PAC parents fill plastic eggs with tiny baby chicks and hide them all over the school grounds for this schoolwide project. No, the chicks weren't real, but these little creatures became the responsibility of each student for four days. We knew they would experience a sense of ownership, show great care and empathy, and ensure their little chickens were well cared for.

We began the afternoon with our first assembly in two-years, which the intermediate students attended. (We wanted to start small. Many of our primary children will need an opportunity for practice, since few of them have attended an assembly). We showed the older students a slideshow, reminding them of the important role they would play with the younger students, and then the Spring Chicken Hunt began. After picking up their younger buddies, the whole school ventured outside to search for their baby chicks.

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Just as we knew they would, the older students supported their younger partners to find their eggs. Back into the school they went for an afternoon of creativity. Thanks to all of the ARES families, our kids were well-prepared with such a variety of recycling, craft supplies, and natural items found outside. We were amazed at the level of engagement throughout the school. From kindergarten through to grade seven, students were focused on constructing homes for their new responsibilities.

For the remainder of the week, the students worked hard to make their pets feel safe and loved. This activity incorporated all four of the Circle of Courage values (Belonging, Generosity, Independence, and Mastery). However, learning to give, show some care, support others, and be responsible for something other than oneself, most definitely triggered the GENEROSITY domain in so many of our students. They gave very generously to their chicks (and their buddies) for four days before taking their pets home.



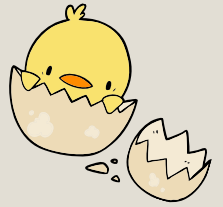
Spring Chicken Extravaganza



Generosity: When students help each other, they develop their own sense of worth. By focusing on being caring, loyal, empathetic, and supportive, we teach the value of contributing to a larger group.



House Building An Afternoon of Engagement





Our A.R.E.S. Breakfast Program



Our ARES students are very fortunate to have a daily Breakfast Program, which is organized by our PAC parents. Between 8:15 – 8:45, all students have the option to visit the gym, where they choose from a selection of healthy food to start their day. We have sixteen volunteers who rotate throughout the week to provide a mixed menu of pancakes, hot and cold cereal, toast, scrambled eggs, smoothies, parfaits, yogurt tubes, muffins and the all-time favorite --- Grilled Cheese! In addition to this selection, there is always an option of fresh fruit and milk to choose from.

Thanks to Pealow's Your Independent Grocer, this program is funded by community support. When you purchase your groceries and donate to the PC Charity Grant, all proceeds remain in our community for local programs, such as our ARES breakfasts. We are also fortunate to have weekly donations of eggs from Sunshine Valley Farms and Crimson Hackles, twenty loaves of bread from Golden Flour Bakery, and two to three crates of milk from Kootenay Meadows.

The Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) is a vital part of our school. They organize our hot lunches, popcorn sales, special events, breakfast program and are quick to step in when we need support with schoolwide activities. The new playground, that will arrive in August and require set up, is the result of this group's dedication to our school.



PAC
Parent Advisory Committee

We will be losing our PAC Chair and Secretary in June, as their students move onto high school. We also hope to increase our number of PAC volunteers in an effort to share the workload, since the PAC is such an important part of our school community.

If you want to play a greater role in your child's schooling and be an active participant at ARES, PAC is a perfect way to serve the school and community. We are looking for a new Breakfast Coordinator, Secretary, Chair, and many more volunteers for the breakfast program, hot lunches, popcorn sales, and special events. We also require a parent to pick up our milk from Kootenay Meadows each week, which is a great option for a Lister resident.

Our next PAC meeting is on **Wednesday, May 4th at 7:00 PM**. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend, or please email Darryl or Tanya if you are interested in becoming a PAC volunteer.





A.R.E.S. Drama Club

We have 70 students performing in our Spring Musical and many others who will be helping with props and set design. Thanks to **Mrs. Hamm** and her team for initiating this amazing opportunity for ARES students. We appreciate the extra time you have dedicated to this valuable experience.

The SHREK Team

**Mrs. Delcaro, Ms. Ellert, Mr. Percival,
Mrs. Doeleman, Mrs. Vandenberghe,
Mrs. Cote**



Tickets are now on sale!!! \$5.00 each
Performance Dates: May 6th & 7th



Chess Tournament

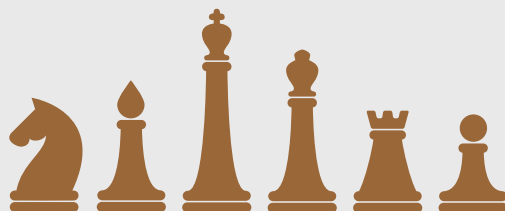
Grade 6 Winner

Olexa Felitsyn

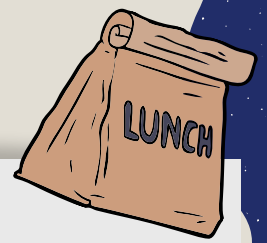
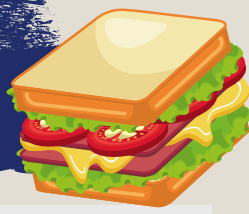
Grade 7 Winner

Zack Smith

Grade 4 to 7 winners will go on to compete with the winners from other schools



Thanks Mr. Blick for organizing



Did you know that we have
volunteer
Lunch Leaders?

Our Lunch Leaders

At ARES, we have a staggered lunchtime for our Primary and Intermediate students. This means, that while our older students are enjoying their outside time, our younger students are inside eating. At 12:35, they switch. Not only does this staggered lunch allow for more space and supervision outside, it also creates an opportunity for leadership. We have 19 grade 6 and 7 students who help supervise primary classes during their eating time. They lead games, help open packages and containers, chat, and prepare them for their outside time. The younger students LOVE when they have older students helping in their classrooms and we also appreciate their support as well.



Thank you to our Lunch Leader Volunteers

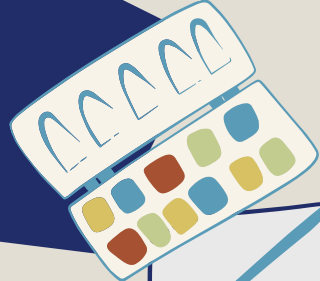
Makayla Butz, Trey Jackman, Lucas Johnson, Corbin Miller, Dakota Robert, Chloe Roussell, Kaitlyn Sandoval, Lily Spears, Shayla-Rae Staite, Ali Storm, Tyler Vigna, Ava Huscroft, Micheala Berry, Leah Jones, Violet Moreton, Ceili Ray, Aveya Balawakula, Tina Mackay, Julie Johnson



Pokémon Club



Grades 5 – 7: Every Friday at 12:15 in the Library

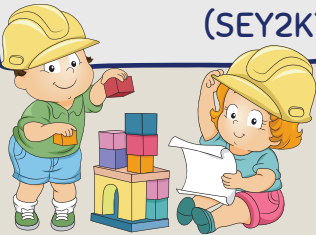


Fine Arts at A.R.E.S.



Mrs. Cote's Grade 1/2 Class

Strengthening Early Years to Kindergarten Transition (SEY2KT) ~ Play Time



SEY2KT is a community and school district partnership that works collaboratively to support families. Their focus is to provide experiences and information to strengthen early years to Kindergarten transitions.

On April 22, ARES hosted the second session in the Play Time Series from 9:00 – 10:30. Children ages 3–6 had the opportunity to spend time in a kindergarten classroom, meet the ARES Staff, play outside, and enjoy snack.

Please email

strongstart@valley.services for more information on future events.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Don't forget

Kindergarten
Registration
opened in
January

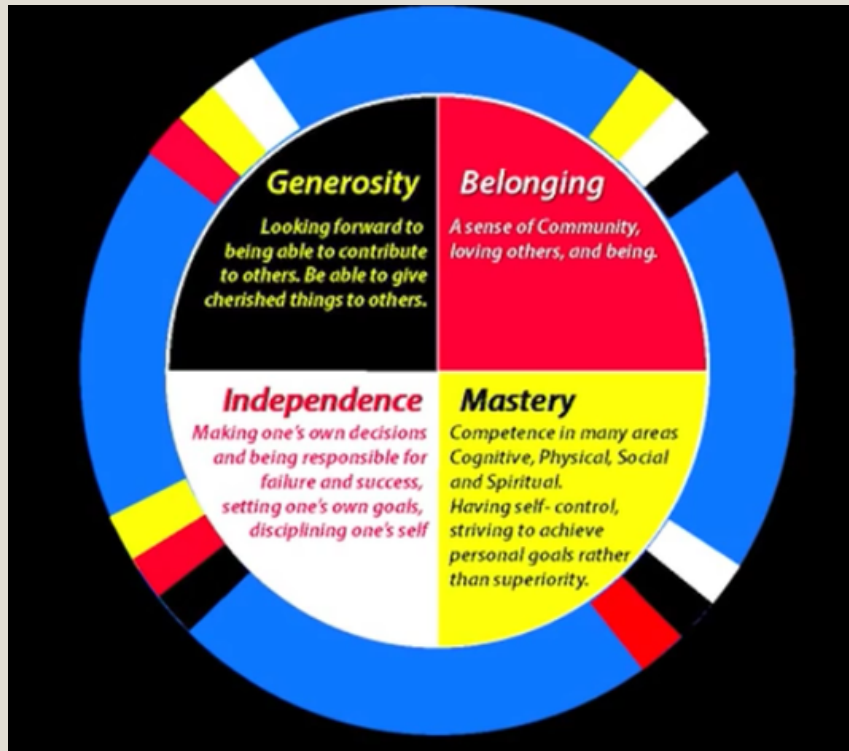


If your child turns 5 by December 31, 2022, he or she can start school this September. Pre-registration is required so please visit the ARES office.



Thanks Mrs. Miller
& Simone Stanley
for organizing!





The Circle of Courage and the Importance of Belonging

A sense of belonging is a crucial need of all people. When youth feel connected and attached, this core strength can protect them from many social challenges. We are working hard to create a safe environment at ARES in which our students feel supported and connected.

Students need healthy attachment and belonging in order to self-regulate, join in with others, develop empathy, accept diversity and be respectful to themselves and those around them. In fact, belonging is so important that unless children feel it, their ability to engage in learning activities and positive behaviour can be challenging.

Our long-term vision at ARES is to support the development of RESILIENT children who can thrive in any community. We know that resilience is significantly enhanced when a child feels cared for, protected from threat, encouraged to take responsible risks during the learning process and recognized as an equal within our school. For this reason, creating a sense of belonging for our students, is our greatest priority.



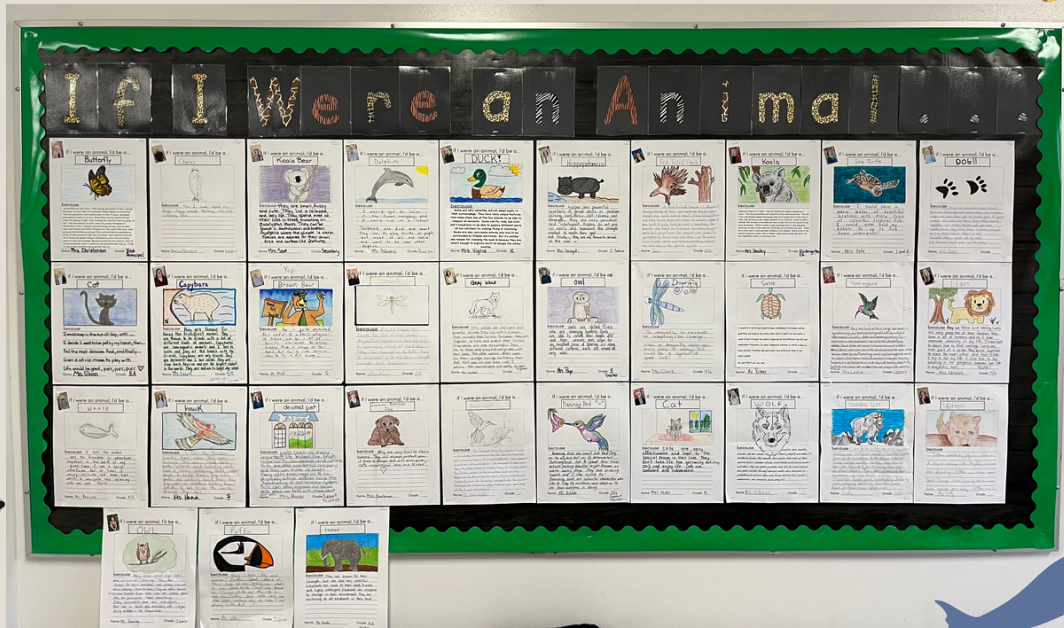
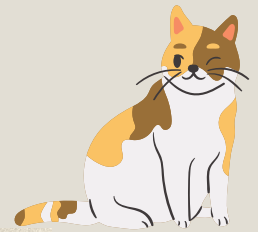
ARES Vision

To support the development of RESILIENT children who can thrive in any community



School Wide Activity

If I were an animal...




In order to create a sense of belonging for our staff and students, we try to incorporate activities that everyone participates in. We asked the question, "If you were an animal, what would you be?" The staff completed the activity first. The students loved to read our responses on the entrance bulletin board and find answers to the "mystery question," which we asked during the announcements each morning. Later, we had students work with buddy classes to complete their own response to the same question. We took ALL of their work and found commonalities. For example, there were 32 staff and/or students who would be cats if they were an animal, so we displayed all of the cats together. We also highlighted uniqueness. There were some very creative and individualized responses, such as a Buffalo. We created daily questions and students searched for the answers by looking at the animals displayed all around our school. This activity connected everyone. Regardless of our age or artistic ability, we all completed the same task and learned a lot about one another.

Santo Morse is a gifted artist. He is currently designing the poster for SHREK the Musical Jr.



If I were an animal, I'd be a...

BUFFALO



because My first word was buffalo. I am also strong like a buffalo. My hair is like a buffalos hair. The buffalo is my favorite animal. Buffalos are more clody than a bear.

Name Santo Grade 6

"The things that make me different are the things that make me."

A.A. Milne

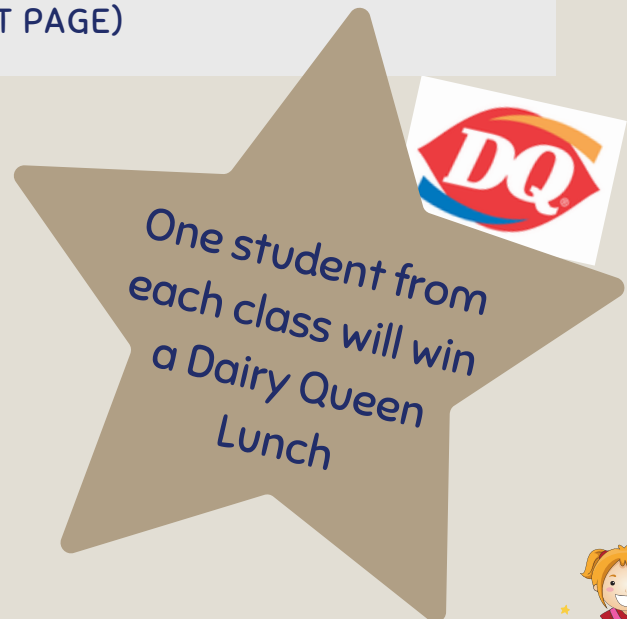
MASTERY: A positive school climate is created when there is a belief that everyone is capable of success. The most natural way to work on mastery is through mentorship. When children observe the adults around them taking risks, they strive to do the same. When success is achieved, the desire to achieve more is strengthened.



Please come to our first Learning Fair

We are excited to welcome families back into our school so you can share in the celebration of your child's success. Our first ever Learning Fair is an opportunity for A.R.E.S. students to have a voice in communicating their learning to you. What are they proud of? What's going well? What engages them at school? Where do they spend their day? It's your chance to see authentic evidence of their learning.

Once students are dismissed at 1:50, make arrangements to meet your child (or children) outside. If you are unable to attend, students head home at 1:50 like they normally do at the end of each day. (Busses will arrive one hour earlier). Your child will be your tour guide and lead you into the main entrance of the building where you will pick up a Punch Card and begin your journey through A.R.E.S. (SEE NEXT PAGE)



Wednesday, April 27th
or
Thursday, April 28th
1:50 – 2:50



Learning Fair Tour

What to Expect



In the **Library**, Mrs. Walker will have stations set up so that your child can demonstrate their skills with technology: Bloxels, M-Bots, Bee Bots, Osmos, Code.org, Kodable, Makey Makey/Scratch, and students can also show families the canoe they made for our schoolwide Pink Shirt Day activity.

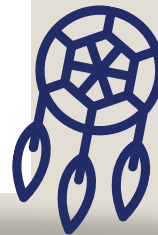
In the **Gym**, aside from viewing some large samples of student learning, PAC will have coffee and tea for you to enjoy throughout the tour. You will also have the opportunity to view the plans for our **NEW PLAYGROUND**, which will be installed at the beginning of August.

In our newly renovated **Fine Arts space**, Mrs. Vandenberghe will have some student work displayed, a quick activity for you and your child to complete, and you can also purchase tickets to **SHREK the Musical Jr.** for \$5.00 if you choose.

Of course, you will also visit **your child's classroom** where they will have work ready to share. Although there won't be time for parent-teacher conferencing, you will get to meet your child's teacher and see the space in which they spend their days.



Don't forget to stop by our **Aboriginal Education Classroom**. Josie Fullarton will be there to share some of the fine work she does with many of our students and your child will teach you a Ktunaxa greeting.



As you enjoy navigating around the building, remember to **find the Animal** your child made for our schoolwide "If You Were an Animal..." project.

Make sure you get your card punched as you complete each station and drop it in the box on your way out of the school at 2:50. On Friday morning, we will draw one student name from each of the ARES classes. The lucky winners will have a DQ lunch with Mr. Adams and Mrs. Christenson at a later date.



We hope you can attend on one of the early dismissal days. We look forward to re-connecting with such an important component of our school – the **ARES Families!**



Dates to Remember

Wednesday, April 27 – (Early Dismissal) Learning Fair 1:50 – 2:50
Wednesday, April 27 – SHREK Hotdog sale orders due
Thursday, April 28 – (Early Dismissal) Learning Fair 1:50 – 2:50
Friday, April 29 – Hot Lunch – Pizza
Wednesday, May 4 – PAC Hot Lunch forms due
Wednesday, May 4, SHREK Hotdog Lunch
Wednesday, May 4 – PAC Meeting @ 7:00 PM
Friday, May 6 – SHREK the Musical Jr. @ KRSS
Friday, May 6 – PAC Hot Lunch forms due
Saturday, May 7 – SHREK the Musical Jr. @ KRSS
Friday, May 13 – PAC Hot Lunch – Chilli
Thursday, May 19 – Class Photos
Friday, May 20 – PAC Hot Lunch – Pasta
Monday, May 23 – Victoria Day – No School
Wednesday, May 25 – Welcome to Kindergarten 9:30 –11:00
Thursday, May 26 – PAC Hot Lunch – Pizza
Monday, May 30 – School Planning Day – No Students

Check out our ARES website:

www.ares.sd8.bc.ca

Please contact us if you have any concerns, thoughts, suggestions, or ideas. If you are interested in becoming part of our Parent Advisory Committee (PAC), we would love to hear from you.

**NEXT PAC MEETING: Wednesday, May 4th @ 7:00 PM
EVERYONE WELCOME!!**



Darryl Adams | Principal

Email: darryl.adams@sd8.bc.ca



Adam Robertson
Elementary



Tanya Christenson | Vice Principal

Email: tanya.christenson@sd8.bc.ca

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Adam Robertson
Elementary

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED
AUG 3 - 6**



**HELP HAVE OUR
PLAYGROUND
READY FOR
SEPTEMBER
2022**

- Aug 3 – 6: We need 30 parent and community volunteers each day
- Mid-July: We need help with ground preparation & concrete work



CONTACT: ARESPLAYGROUND2022@GMAIL.COM