



Adam Robertson  
Elementary

# JANUARY & FEBRUARY NEWS

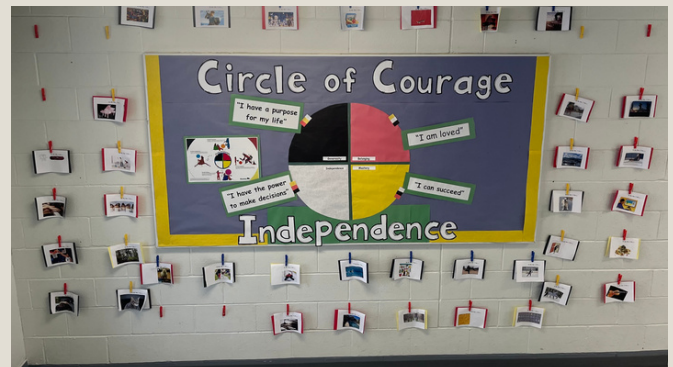
## A.R.E.S. NEWS LETTER

### What's New?

### A.R.E.S. staff wear orange each Wednesday

At Adam Robertson Elementary School we continue to center activities around truth and reconciliation. We have a committee who meets regularly to plan events and activities. Our staff wear orange shirts each Wednesday to keep the "Every Child Matters" conversation ongoing. As students observe the orange theme each week, they ask questions. This is one way for us to continue honoring the children who survived residential schools and remember those who did not.

Staff Displays  
Kindness Kudos  
Pink Shirt Day  
Readathon  
Truth & Reconciliation  
Basketball  
Drama Club  
Battle of the Bands  
Scholastic Book Fair



We created a scope and sequence, which closely aligns with the Circle of Courage model. Opportunities, both school-wide and within individual classrooms, integrate the principles of belonging, generosity, independence, and mastery. We know that, in order for individuals to become emotionally healthy and resilient adults, they must experience these crucial growth needs, therefore, these core principles are embedded into all that we do at Adam Robertson Elementary School.

# Staff Bulletin Board Displays



## Circle of Courage

### Extra-Curricular Activities

Drama Club

Basketball

Battle of the Bands

Chess

Our January display, "When I was a Kid," focused on each staff member as a child. Students enjoyed reading about the staff and looking at their childhood photos. Our February display connected with our Circle of Courage theme - Mastery "I Can Succeed." Students learned what skills, interests, or talents staff members have worked hard to achieve in their lives. These displays help students feel more connected with staff and create a sense of unity in our school. During morning announcements, we share a daily mystery question, which encourages students to read the board and find information.



Did you know we raised \$2580 at our Scholastic Book Fair?

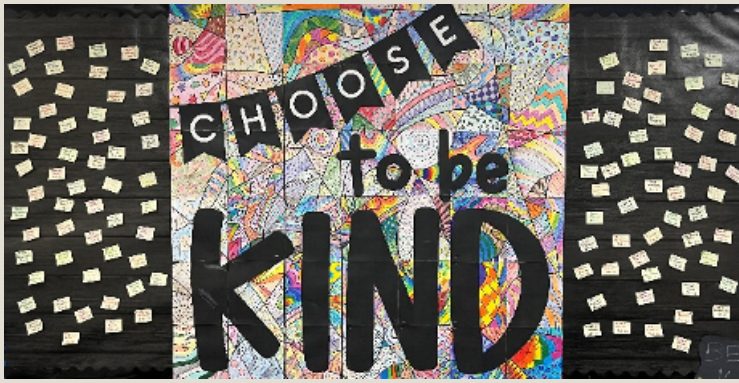
This money will go directly to support library resources, students, activities, and programs at ARES.



## ARES Vision

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





# Kindness Kudos

Kindness Kudos: On our morning announcements, we recognize students who were noticed performing acts of kindness without being asked. Both staff and students leave notes in our office mailbox to recognize others. Student names are added to our office Kindness bulletin board.

# Readathon

Our Teacher Librarian, Tracy Walker, created a Minecraft Readathon, with the goal to earn enough points by the end of February, driven by Alex's quest to defeat the Ender Dragon. The students were given eight reading challenges that consisted of a set number of reading minutes. These minutes provided Alex with 'health' to survive her many obstacles and challenges needed to defeat the Ender Dragon.

Alex took the students to the different biomes of the Minecraft world where she collected her materials and battled mobs. This started with helping Alex survive the ice lands in search of the forest biome. Once she found the forest, she gathered the materials needed to build a home base. The student's reading minutes then helped her to collect the materials she needed to make potions and enter the aquatic biome to find a treasure of diamonds. She was now equipped with diamond armor and potions, ready to take on mobs and create a portal that took her to the Nether biome. Here, she used her health and defeated the Ender Dragon.

At the beginning of the month, each student was given a Reading Minute Calendar to record their reading minutes at home and school. Although the goal was for each student to read for at least 20 minutes per day, students far surpassed this because of their motivation to help Alex. Each class was assigned a grade seven helper to tally minutes and both staff and students were recruited to be the character voices in the videos. In addition to the updates and videos, weekly activities were provided so that classes could work together with their buddies on some in-class tasks. In lieu of prizes, readers were recognized during the morning announcements.



# Pink Shirt Day

February, 23



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On February 23rd, we started our day with a zoom assembly and Chief Jason Louie and our Aboriginal Education Support Worker, Josie Fullarton, shared the importance of the Sturgeon Nose Canoe within the Ktunaxa culture. They talked about how the canoe must be paddled with another person in order to propel forward successfully, requiring both time and patience. They spoke about working together, which tied in the theme of “Moving Forward with Kindness.” Following the assembly, classes met with their buddies and created their own sturgeon nose canoe. Together they reflected on the words they heard in the assembly and wrote a sentence about kindness. Finally, they added themselves into the canoe, wearing pink shirts of course, and attached their finished products to our library mural of the Kootenai River.



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, March 2 @ 9:00 – EVERYONE WELCOME!!**

Darryl Adams | Principal

Tanya Christenson | Vice Principal

Email: [darryl.adams@sd8.bc.ca](mailto:darryl.adams@sd8.bc.ca)

Email: [tanya.christenson@sd8.bc.ca](mailto:tanya.christenson@sd8.bc.ca)

Adam Robertson Elementary School

421 9th Ave N.

Creston, BC

Office: 250-428-2051

Web: [www.ares.sd8.bc.ca](http://www.ares.sd8.bc.ca)