



Adam Robertson
Elementary

JUNE
NEWS

A.R.E.S. NEWS LETTER

National Indigenous Peoples Day



On the summer solstice – June 21 – we honoured National Indigenous Peoples Day through a schoolwide event. School District No. 8 embraces the First Peoples Principles of Learning, so our reconciliation committee worked hard to incorporate as many of these principles into the student-centered activities that were planned.

We all gathered in the gym for a short assembly before embarking on the wuqanqankimik Walk for Reconciliation around Creston. Wuqanqankimik is a Ktunaxa word that means "to walk with long strides...to take big steps" and at ARES, we continue to take steps toward reconciliation.



Thanks to Ms. Josie, many students made their own leather pouches. It is an Ktunaxa tradition to give away the first pouch you make. Therefore, intermediate students gave their younger buddies a pouch before working on one for themselves.

What's New?

National Indigenous Peoples Day

Chess Tournament Finals
Mr. Percival's Publishing
Grade 7 Farewell Luncheon

ARES Choice Award
Fine Arts Performances
Kindergarten Graduation
Visual Arts at ARES
Circle of Courage - Pride Pack
The Green Team

D8 Kootenay Lake Aboriginal Education

wuqanqankimik
run walk wheel for reconciliation
June 6-10 2022

wuqanqankimik is a ktunaxa word that means
"to walk with long strides..
to take big steps"

School District 8 Kootenay Lake ISPARC Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity & Recreation Council





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The students learned some indigenous games, participated in a Ktunaxa language scavenger hunt, painted rocks, joined a pow wow sweat, and read indigenous stories with their buddies.



We are grateful to PAC for supplying popcorn, which is – believe it or not – a food that originated from the indigenous people. Thank you to our Reconciliation committee for organizing this special event.

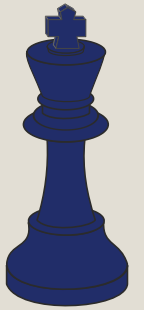


For generations, many indigenous people and communities have celebrated their culture and heritage on June 21 due to the significance of the summer solstice as the longest day of the year.





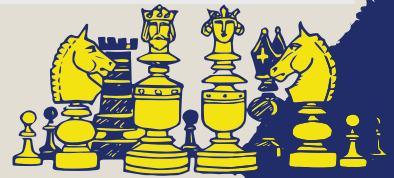
ARES hosts the Chess Tournament Finals



On Friday, June 10, the winners in each of the Creston elementary schools came to ARES to compete in the Chess Finals. ARES came out on top, with each winner from grades 4-7 being from our school. Thanks to Mr. Blick for organizing this event.



- Grade 4 – Justin Xu
- Grade 5 – Ben Catherall
- Grade 6 – Olexa Felitsyn
- Grade 7 – Lochlan Gratton



Mr. Percival's Grade 5/6 class recently finished their story writing unit. Their published books are now in our school library to be enjoyed in the years to come. This year's themes included: Animals, War, LGBTQ+, Sci-Fi, Fantasy, Drama, and Action. The large variety of topics speaks to the diversity and uniqueness of the students in our school.

Mr. Percival's Publishing



"The Circle of Courage philosophy encourages thoughts about the importance of courage in the lives of children and young people – the courage to face what life offers and the resilience to handle life's challenges."

Goodbye



Grade Seven Farewell Luncheon

Together with the ARES staff and grade seven students, we said our farewells to one another on June 20th at a special luncheon organized by parents. We were treated to Tacos in a bag, watched a slideshow filled with grade seven memories, and students received their Grade Seven completion certificates.

Mr. Adams also presented the special ARES STUDENT CHOICE AWARD. This recognition is given to a grade seven student who exemplifies kindness, academic effort, and schoolwide citizenship. What makes the award especially important is that the winner is chosen by peers. Each grade seven student voted anonymously to select a classmate who demonstrated these qualities. This year, the successful recipient was Leah Jones. Not only is Leah well respected by her peers, she works hard in school and always offers support to the younger students, volunteering around ARES wherever she can. Three other students who received honorable mentions for having similar qualities received a certificate of recognition: Austin Huscroft, Violet Moreton, and Lily Douma.

June 23rd will be the last day for the grade seven students before they head off to Kootenay River Secondary School. At our 11:00 Final Assembly, we will do our official send-off. The grade sevens will run through our staff arch and continue their very last lap through our ARES hallways before heading out the main doors and onto bigger things in life. We wish them all the best.



"You're off to Great Places!
Today is your day!
Your mountain is waiting,
So... get on your way!"



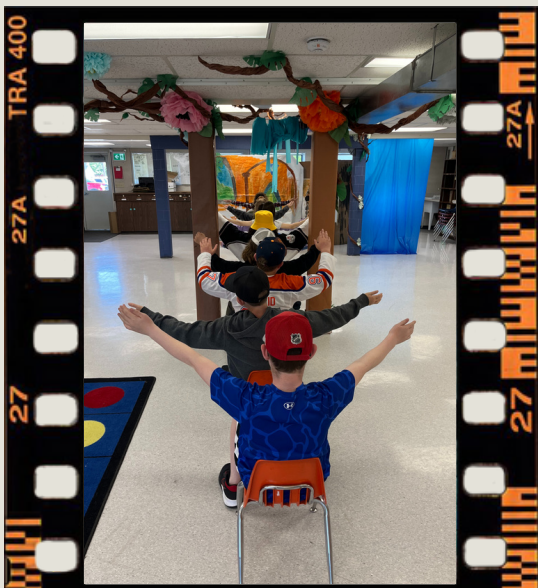
— Dr. Seuss, Oh, the Places You'll Go!



Fine Arts at ARES

A.R.E.S. Performs

Mrs. Vandenberghe has been busy creating performance opportunities for ARES students. Mrs. Doeleman's class presented "Cinderella Outgrows the Glass Slipper" and Mrs. Page's class shared their version of the "The Emperor's New Hair." Parents were invited to both of these afternoon performances, which took place in our downstairs Fine Arts space. Primary students also attended a special assembly to watch Mrs. Delcaro's class perform the Stick Dance.



Mr. Palmer's class synchronizes 'mirroring' in their Drama class with Mrs. Christenson.

Performing arts encourages children to explore their emotions, expand their imagination and helps them develop their own, unique voice. Each discipline of music, dance and drama engage a child's brain, body and emotions in different ways to encourage their confidence and find joy in self-expression

Kindergarten Graduation

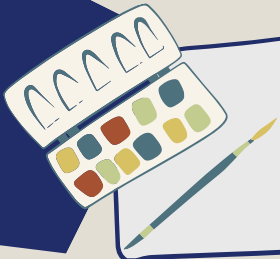


June 17th was a BIG day for our two Kindergarten classes who celebrated their graduation. It was refreshing to have our gym filled with parents and ARES students to watch this very excited crew take center stage. Thanks to Ben Catherall and Mason Reid for being the MC's and to Ms. Ellert's class for decorating, greeting families, and taking such a positive leadership role with their kindergarten buddies. Each student was thrilled to receive their certificate from Mrs. Vigna and Mrs. Miller, as Mr. Adams announced their names. Onto Grade One they go...

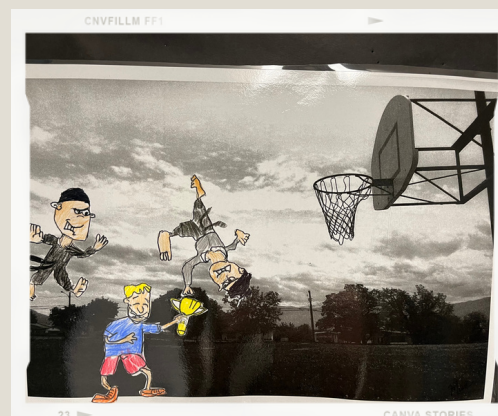
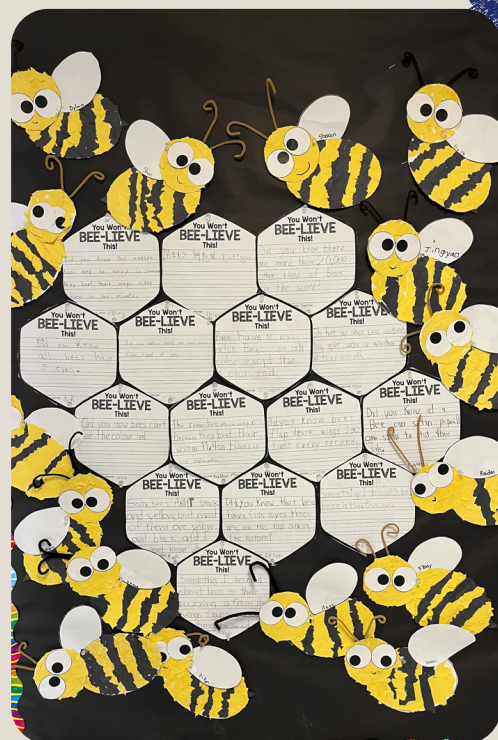


All I really need
to know I learned in
kindergarten





Visual Arts at A.R.E.S.



“Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up.”

—Pablo Picasso.



One of our goals at ARES is to actively incorporate the Circle of Courage philosophy and the four universal needs of all children (Belonging, Independence, Generosity, & Mastery) into our school-wide culture. Feeling a sense of belonging is essential to the academic development and well-being of all children. By focusing on inclusion, we strive to cultivate a sense of safety and acceptance for each individual, respecting and responding to the varied learning needs, interests, diverse identities and strengths of our students.

B.C.'s new curriculum includes the topic of gender and self-identity, which encourages staff and students to value diversity and respect differences. We have a large group of intermediate students who have expressed interest in forming a Pride Committee. This extra-curricular group will be our student voice to broaden SOGI-inclusive education efforts at ARES and to help ensure authenticity and responsibility as we sensitively expand awareness. Thanks to Mr. Palmer, Mr. Percival, Mrs. Hamm, Ms. Ellert & Ms. Sonntag for beginning this important work.



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



ARES Green Team

The students in Ms. Ellert's Grade 5/6 class formed a Green Team this year. Their focus has been on caring for our schoolgrounds. Once they completed their GREEN TEAM badges, they went out in force to collect garbage around the school property. They have most recently been seen Yarn Bombing our front fence and weeding the front garden beds to improve the overall visual appearance of our school. We love when students take the initiative as leaders at ARES.

Thanks Ms. Ellert and Ms. O'Brien for supporting students with this initiative



2022 - 2023

Green Initiatives

Next year, we hope to refocus our GREEN INITIATIVES, since COVID restrictions prevented us from maintaining this environmental priority. Students will lead some new efforts to reduce waste at ARES.

Ideas & Possibilities???

- Litterless Lunches
- Juice Box Recycling
- Incentives to Reduce Classroom Waste



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.

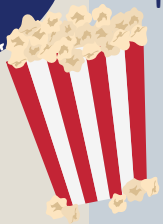


THANK YOU PAC

We are extremely grateful to the following parents for their volunteer contributions to our school. From counting money, working at our Breakfast or Hot Lunch program, making and delivering popcorn, buying groceries, handing our freezies, planning for our track meet, helping at special events, coordinating a new playground, or being part of our PAC Executive, we could not have had such a successful school year without you.

Greg Wanke, Crystal Stankevich, Kelly Benko, Dana Roch, Diane Johnson, Kylie MacVicar, Nikki Lohrer, Karla Navalainen, Sally Blick, Fouzia Qazi, Lauriane Mehrer, Carla Ahern, Tara Sandoval, Kristi Wray, Candi Huscroft, Alaina Carrington, Carol Brown, Stefanie King, Dana Dodge, Jill Phelps, and Becky Catherall.

And an extra GIANT thank you to Jen Felitsyn, who coordinates all of the above!



"Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world."

- Desmond Tutu



We would like to thank our students, staff, and families for making the start to our new roles as Principal and Vice Principal so successful. We are very lucky to have such a strong ARES team supporting what we do. The staff have taken on many leadership roles this year, whether its coaching, extra-curricular clubs, performing arts opportunities, committees, or supporting student-led initiatives, we always have teachers and EA's who step up to the plate without being asked. Aside from dedicating their time and effort to their classrooms, they go above and beyond to provide opportunities for our students. Our PAC is continuously growing, and we have parents back in our school supporting field trips and volunteering whenever possible. We also have students who look after one another, demonstrate leadership and responsibility, and continually display kindness. We are a small part of a large school-community and look forward to working together again in 2022-2023. Thank you all!

Darryl Adams & Tanya Christenson

Thank You

Dates to Remember

Wednesday, June 22 –
Schoolwide Paper Airplane
Competition 9:30

Wednesday, June 22 –
Schoolwide Water Day 1:00
– 2:50

Thursday, June 23 – Final
Assembly @ 11:00

Thursday, June 23 – Last
Day of School for Students
– Dismissal @ 11:50

August 3 – 6 – Volunteers
Needed to assemble ARES
New Playground

Tuesday, September 6 –
First Day of School



Darryl Adams | Principal

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ADAM ROBERTSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
2021-2022



Tanya Christenson | Vice Principal

Email: tanya.christenson@sd8.bc.ca



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