



Adam Robertson
Elementary

SEPTEMBER NEWS

A.R.E.S. NEWS LETTER



Playground Grand Opening & Family Picnic

On Wednesday, September 21st ARES families gathered together to officially celebrate the opening of our new playground. PAC provided a large cake, which was shared amongst the crowd, and families brought their own picnics to enjoy on our new picnic tables and on the school grounds. NUMEROUS hours went into the planning and construction of this new addition to ARES, spearheaded by our playground committee – Laurianne Mehrer, Kelly Benko, and Carla Ahern. For several days in August, a crew of volunteers arrived and together we built the playground. How fortunate our ARES students will be for many years to come.



What's New?

- Playground Grand Opening & Family Picnic
- Orange Shirt Day
- Bike Education Program
- STEM at ARES
- Counselling Support
- STEM Challenge
- Community Wings
- Juice Box Recycling Program
- Circle of Courage at ARES





Orange Shirt Day



On September 29th we honoured Orange Shirt Day at ARES. Buddy classes worked together to create small paper shirts, which they coloured orange and attached to sticks. Each student was encouraged to write their name, followed by the word "matters" on their paper shirt, after learning the significance of this historical day. Following the buddy activity, students gathered in the gym and we listened to Phyllis' Story. To the sound of drums, the staff and students had a moment of silence before leaving the gym for a community walk. The rows of orange shirts worn by students, as well as the paper shirts they waved in their hands, was a deeply moving visual reminder to keep the "All Children Matter" conversation alive.

The date is significant because it is the time of year in which children were taken from their homes and sent to residential schools. The Orange Shirt Day commemoration first began at the St. Joseph Mission residential school in Williams Lake, BC, Canada, in the spring of 2013. It evolved from Phyllis' story, a young indigenous girl who had her new orange shirt taken away on her first day of school at the Mission.



The orange shirt is a symbol of Indigenous peoples' suffering caused by residential schools, which operated from the 1830s to the 1990s. The event led to the annual September 30th Orange Shirt Day as a means of remembrance, teaching and healing.



Orange Shirt Day





Bike Education Program



We had four classes (Mr. Blick, Mrs. Delcaro, Ms. Ellert, and Mrs. Doelman) participate in a 2-session Safe Cycling Program offered by Kootenay Mountain Biking. The goal of this program is to provide students with the skills needed to bike to and from school and around the neighborhood safely. Students in the four classes received lessons on bicycle maintenance, proper helmet use, key traffic laws, how to stay safe on a bike, and school-ground practice of bike handling and traffic safety. It was a valuable program, enjoyed by many students. Thanks to Mr. Blick for organizing and to parents who helped transport bikes to and from school.



Bike Check: ABCDQ

Air – Brakes – Chain – Drop – Quick Release

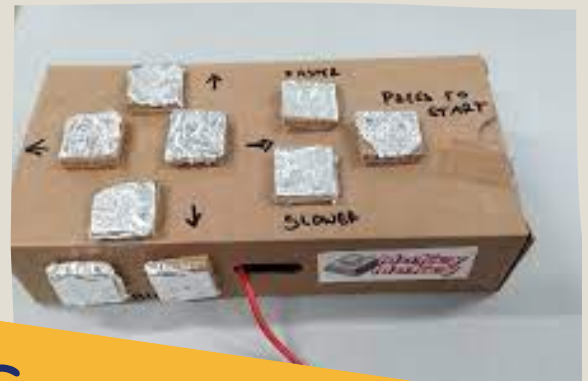
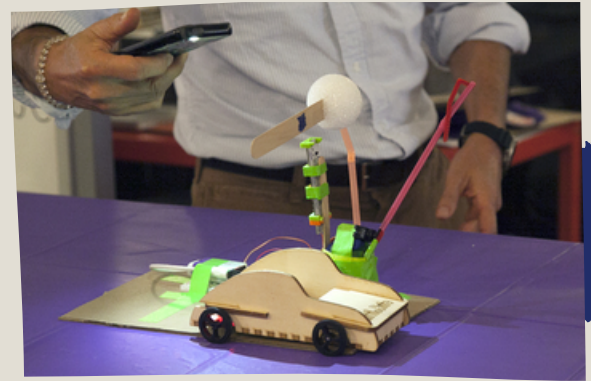




STEM at ARES



Here at ARES, we have been building our STEM Program so our students have opportunities to create, explore and use technology. To add to our resources and creative inventions, we would greatly appreciate donations of different materials. See the list of suggested items that we could use. If you are able to donate anything, we would gladly accept it at our library in the near future as well as throughout the school year. Thank you.



Supplies Needed

SCIENCE
TECHNOLOGY
ENGINEERING
MATH



Cereal/Cracker boxes

Scrapbook Paper

Wrapping Paper

Twist Ties

Buttons

Material/Fabric

Yarn or String

Paper Towel Rolls

Incomplete decks of cards

Game Pieces

LEGO Bricks

Counselling Support

At A.R.E.S. we offer individual and group counselling to students and to parents or families when the issues concern the child. Parents/guardians or school staff may refer students for counselling, or students may request support themselves. The goal of this service is aimed at supporting students within the school community to improve their education, socialization, and to empower individuals toward positive change. If you believe your child requires support, please reach out to Tanya Christenson, School Counsellor, via phone 250- 428-2051 or email tanya.christenson@sd8.bc.ca. A School Counselling Informed Consent form (located at the office) must be signed by parents/guardians before short-term counselling can take place.

OTHER MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORTS

[Canadian Mental Health Association](#)

[Kelty BC Children's Hospital Mental Health](#)

[The Foundry \(students 12+\)](#)

[Kids Help Phone](#)

SUPPORT

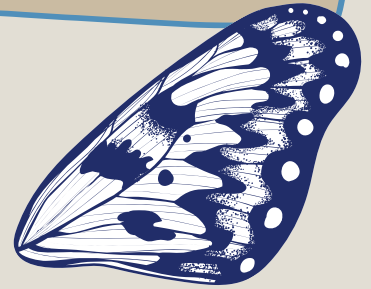


Around A.R.E.S.



'Belonging to the Community' ~ Wings

In Fine Arts with Mrs. Vandenberghe, all students added their hand to create the wings.



STEM Challenge

Thanks to Mr. Palmer for organizing a STEM Challenge for the Grade 6 & 7's. Students were not allowed to speak, had to use all materials as a team, while trying to keep their egg alive as it dropped from the ladder. The students participated with so much focus, creativity, and collaboration. 3/10 eggs survived the drop and everyone had a blast!



Reducing Waste at ARES

Ms. Ellert's grade 5/6 class has started a Juice Box Recycling initiative, with the goal to reduce the number of boxes used at ARES.

Each week they will collect juice boxes from classes, tally the amount they gather and then take the juice boxes to the recycling depot.

As a class they will create a graph that shows the number of juice boxes collected. We hope to see a reduction in juice boxes throughout the year.

OUR GOAL:
Waste Free
Lunches



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.

Circle of Courage



ARES Staff

Our Interactive Bulletin Board

Thank you Beth Swalwal from the Art Barn for this amazing quilt to hang at our school.

A Safe & Caring School Culture

What we can do....



BELONGING

Create an environment in which all people feel as though they belong

GENEROSITY

Establish caring school practices

INDEPENDENCE

Define roles for responsible behaviour

MASTERY

Develop opportunities for small successes



ARES Vision

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



Important Dates



- **Friday, September 30** – National Day for Truth & Reconciliation – No School
- **Friday, October 7** – Terry Fox Run @ 2:00 – 2:40
- **Monday, October 10** – Thanksgiving – No School
- **Thursday, October 13** – PAC Meeting @ 6:30 PM
- **Thursday, October 13** – Photo Retakes
- **Thursday, October 13** – Fire Drill @ 11:15
- **Thursday, October 20** – BC Shake Up Drill @ 10:20
- **Friday, October 21** – Provincial Pro-D Day – No School for students
- **Tuesday, October 25** – Lock Down Drill @ 1:30



Darryl Adams | Principal

Email: darryl.adams@sd8.bc.ca



Adam Robertson
Elementary

Adam Robertson Elementary School
421 9th Ave N.
Creston, BC
Office: 250-428-2051
Web: www.ares.sd8.bc.ca



Tanya Christenson | Vice Principal

Email: tanya.christenson@sd8.bc.ca