

A.R.E.S. NEWS LETTER



McDonald's generously donated a second lunch for two classes, so we created a schoolwide challenge to choose the lucky winners. Older students paired up with their younger buddies to participate in a largescale mystery. With clipboards and pencils in hand, ARES was bustling as the halls filled with students who were searching for clues to solve the secret code. Once the mystery question was revealed ~ "What is one thing you are grateful for?" ~ older buddies supported younger students to answer the question. Mr. Adams and Mrs. C. put all of the answers in a draw, and Mrs. Feragotti and Ms. Sonntag's classes were the lucky winners. They will enjoy a McDonald's lunch on December 15th. Thanks McDonald's!

DECEMBER NEWS

What's New?

- Winter Wonder
- STEM at ARES
- Primary Grinch Day
- Volleyball Season Ends
- Primary Holiday Concert
- Holiday Coffee House
- What Does Recess Look Like at ARES?
- Winter Activities
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BeeBots & Cardboard Arcades



This month in the Library, our Kindergarten classes learned some beginner programming using BeeBot robots. The BeeBots help students learn basic coding with movement arrows, while the mats they navigate include all sorts of learning, such as letters, sounds and numbers.













STEM Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics test, in their coordinates On pressure student of their

Mrs. Page's class has been working hard to create their very own Cardboard Arcade. Each student used the STEM Design Process to plan, create, test, improve and present their cardboard games.

On presentation day, students got to play each of their fantastic creations.



Primary Grinch Day



Our primary students enjoyed a day of Grinch-focused activities on Friday,
December 9th. They wore green clothes, made Grinch hats, played Grinch Bingo and joined together in the gym for an afternoon movie ~ How the Grinch Stole Christmas. It was a very GREEN day!

















"He puzzled and puzzled till his puzzler was sore.
Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't
before. Maybe Christmas, he thought...doesn't
come from a store. Maybe Christmas,
perhaps...means a little bit more!"

~ Dr. Seuss ~







Volleyball Season Comes to an End



A lot of cheering here!

Students through grades 4–7 enjoyed a busy season of volleyball. On Thursday, December 1st, families were invited to play along with their children, as well as enjoy ice cream. Thanks to Dairy Queen for helping to supply the treats and to Mr. Blick for coordinating the event.

Students in Grades 6 and 7 also played against the staff last week and many classes came to cheer the players on.

Thanks to our ARES parents for supporting our students in this extracurricular activity.











On December 13th, our primary students treated families to a holiday concert for the first time in several years. Students in Kindergarten, to grade 3/4 shared songs and short skits to entertain the audience. Thanks to Mrs. Vandenberghe, our Fine Arts teacher, for coordinating this evening and to Mrs. Doeleman for her musical expertise. Each of the primary teachers worked hard with their students to practice songs and plays, create props, as well as provide decorations for the gym. Thank you ARES families, for the spectacular turn-out.











Holiday Coffee House

On Wednesday, December 14th, families enjoyed a special evening of entertainment and refreshments, as groups of intermediate students performed. Thanks to Mrs. Hamm, who came up with the concept of hosting an evening Coffee House. While enjoying coffee, tea, and goodies, families watched short performances of Reader's Theatre, singing, skits, choral reading, and even joined in on a sing-a-long.





















What Does Recess Look Like at ARES?

So many opportunities...

It's always interesting to watch our students initiate and organize their own fun.

















"We don't stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing"

~ George Bernard Shaw ~



Winter Activities at ARES

Snowshoes

for ARES

ARES Ski

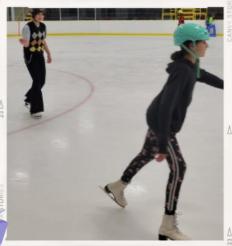
ARES Ski Program this year for students in Grades 4 – 7. We have sent out Surveys of Interest to families to determine whether or not we can make this opportunity happen once again. We have tentatively planned for each intermediate class to participate in TWO ski trips. With new Field Trip guidelines, we will require a lot of parent support, but we hope we can make this work.

We are excited to share that ARES now owns TWO class sets of snow shoes.

This equipment has been on our wish list for many years. Thanks to PAC, who generously paid for half of this equipment, we can now have a primary and intermediate class snow shoe together. What a great buddy activity!

Mr. Percival & Ms. Ellert's Classes enjoy Skating









There is no such thing as too much snow!

Classes enjoy Bowling



Art Around A.R.E.S.





Mr.Blick's Grade 4/5 Students

Mrs. Gardner's K

Mr. Percival's Grade 6 Students



Mrs. Page's Grade 2/3 Students





Intermediate Fine Arts with Mrs. Vandenberghe



Mrs. Cote's Grade 1/2 Students



A Week of Spirit!

Students



















Each of the students below were noticed when they performed an act of kindness without the expectation of acknowledgement.

Tobias Ashton, Jayde Byrne,
Taz Haines, George Longpre,
Carlotte Oakson, Frankie
Byrant, Emily Richards, Mabrey
Winsor, Raelynn Urquhart, Avri
Merrill-Brown, Ben Catherall,
Kate Darby, Madison Lankhaar,
Chensi Lo, Kenya McIntyre,
Desmond Moreton, Jaida
Waldner, Mylee, Wall, Hailey
Wobshall, Mason Reid, Sam
Bayley, Lane Maddess, Shaela
Meszarosi, Vinayak Saini,
Cameron Semancik, Tiang
Tanapima, Karissa Taylor

Thank You PAC for Our Amazing Breakfast Program









We are grateful that all of our students have the opportunity to eat a healthy breakfast before they start their school day. Thank you to our daily volunteers who prepare and serve this food each morning.

Thank
You
Families!



Our First Year

January – December



As we complete our first year as a team, we want to thank our ARES families for being an integral part of this experience. With a shared vision 'To support the development of RESILIENT children who can thrive in any community,' we incorporated the Circle of Courage philosophy and the four universal needs of all children (Belonging, Independence, Generosity, and Mastery) into our schoolwide culture. Together as a staff, we are learning about this model and find that it is a perfect means to support our core beliefs. If our staff feel valued and connected, they can in turn care for and support our students. If our students feel safe and happy and enjoy coming to school each day, then we know we are making positive strides toward this long-term goal. We definitely have an amazing staff, who go above and beyond to support our students. We are very fortunate!

Our ARES families are another key part of our vision because you make up the final piece in our school community. We appreciate each of your contributions to the greater whole. Whether it is reading the monthly newsletter, volunteering, communicating with staff, or supporting your child each day to arrive at school, you all play a significant role in ensuring ARES is a healthy place for our students to spend their days.

As we begin the winter break, we want to make sure that all of our families have their needs met. If you do not have the food or resources you require for the holidays, please email Darryl or Tanya and we will ensure that you are confidentially supported.

As always, we appreciate you turning to us first when you have concerns about anything at ARES, so that we can act promptly. Please reach out when you need to.

Thank you for making our first year such a positive experience. Darryl Adams & Tanya Christenson



From all of us ~ We wish our ARES families a safe and restful holiday.



Important Dates



- Friday, December 16th Spirit Day PJ Day
- Friday, December 16th PAC Hotdog Lunch No Charge (Thank you PAC)
- Friday, December 16th Ho Ho Ho Assembly @ 2:00
- Friday, December 16th Last Day of School
- Tuesday, January 3rd School starts
- Wednesday, January 11th Percival/Ellert Skiing Whitewater Nelson
- Thursday, January 12th PAC Meeting @ 9:00
- Monday, January 16th District Pro D Day No School
- Wednesday, January 18th Percival/Ellert Skiing Whitewater Nelson
- Monday, January 23rd Sonntag/Hamm Skiing Kimberly
- Wednesday, January 25th Blick/Delcaro/Doeleman's 4's Skiing Whitewater Nelson
- Friday, January 27th Report Cards go home
- Monday, January 30th Sonntag/Hamm Skiing Kimberly
- Wednesday, February 1st Blick/Delcaro/Doeleman's 4's Skiing Whitewater Nelson

NEWSLETTER CHALLENGE: Email Mr. Adams or Mrs. Christenson and let us know that you have read this Newsletter. We will then enter your name in our January draw to win a family dinner to Dairy Queen or McDonald's. Thanks for reading to the end to find this message!!!!!!



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Please let us know if you have any ideas, thoughts, questions, or concerns.



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