

We acknowledge, respect and honour the First Nations in whose traditional territories the Kootenay Lake School District operates and all Aboriginal people residing within the boundaries of School District #8.



## Family Literacy Week



Thanks to our ARES families for celebrating Literacy Week with us.

We hope that some of the tasks in our Bookworm Challenge become a part of your everyday lives.

Literacy is so much more than reading and we were thrilled to see how many families completed the activities to help the Bookworm get to his book.



Adam Robertson  
Elementary

## JANUARY NEWS



### What's New at ARES?

- Family Literacy Week
- Bookworm Challenge Winners
- Used Book Exchange
- Literacy Scavenger Hunt
- Family Friday Read
- Scholastic Book Fair
- Great Big Buddy Read
- February Read-a-thon
- Play Your Way to Kindergarten
- Kindergarten Registration
- Remembrance Day Contest
- Important Dates

## Winners

MANY students handed in their completed Bookworm Challenges. We drew ONE name from each of our 14 classes. These students will be able to choose a free book from our Scholastic Book Fair on February 12th & 13th!

*Find the names of the winners somewhere in this newsletter*



### What is Literacy?

Literacy is about communication

**Reading Writing Speaking Listening**



*I am positive that with the school structure as it is my boys will grow into respectable citizens for the community.*

*~ Family Feedback Survey – Anonymous ARES Parent ~*



## Used Book Exchange

Thanks to all the families who donated used books. We received a HUGE selection and every ARES student went home with a book of their choice.



## Literacy Scavenger Hunt

We began Family Literacy Week with an assembly and scavenger hunt. Together with their buddies, students searched the school for all the famous book characters, which they needed in order to decode the famous Dr. Seuss quote.

**The more that you read,  
The more things you will know.  
The more that you learn,  
The more places you'll go.  
-Dr. Seuss**



Pretty hard to be a bully in a school that works so hard to model empathy and kindness and belonging.

~ Family Feedback Survey – Anonymous ARES Parent ~

## Family Friday Read



The information you shared in our **Family Feedback Surveys** is important to us. One suggestion was to create more opportunities for families to engage with the school.

We listened ,and this is why we decided to participate in Family iteracy Week. Thank You!

**A Tip from the Family Feedback Surveys...**



## Scholastic Book Fair – COMING SOON!

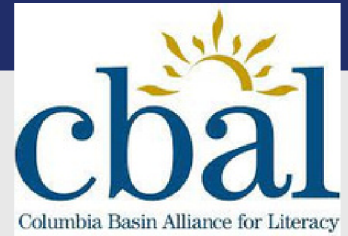
Our Scholastic Book Fair will be on **Monday, February 12th** and **Tuesday, February 13th** from **9:00 – 3:30**. All classes attend the fair and students can purchase a new book if they choose. All proceeds allow ARES to buy new books for our classrooms and library, ensuring we continue to update our selections.

If you are interested in volunteering on this day, please email Lil Leslie, our Library Clerical: [lillian.leslie@sd8.bc.ca](mailto:lillian.leslie@sd8.bc.ca)



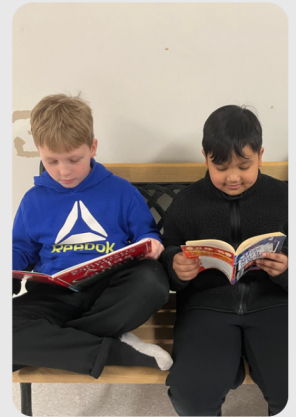
*ARES is always a welcoming place for families. I always feel that the staff are approachable and visible. My kids love going to school.*

*~ Family Feedback Survey – Anonymous ARES Parent ~*



## Great Big Buddy Read

The objective for Great Big Buddy Read is to set aside a short amount of time for buddy reading. Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy (CBAL) provided prizes and activities for schools who participate.



## February Read-a-thon

*What will the theme be???*



Starting **Monday, February 5**, our school will be hosting our annual Read-a-thon for all students! The Read-a-thon's objective is to promote reading for February and to collectively read 120,000 minutes! Last year, we surpassed our goal by 10,000 reading minutes. We would love students to read 20 minutes per day at home. For our primary students, this also includes being read to. Last year's Lego theme kept us reading to earn enough Lego Bricks to build a Lego City Library. Soon Mrs. Walker will reveal this year's theme and adventure in February!

The climate at ARES is very positive and there seems to be a real culture of inclusion and kindness.

~ Family Feedback Survey – Anonymous ARES Parent ~

# Play Your Way to Kindergarten



We were excited to have a new group of 3 and 4 year old children visit ARES for the first PLAY YOUR WAY TO KINDERGARTEN event. On Friday, January 26th, eighteen future students and their families participated in the Story Time Series.

They enjoyed circle time, a school tour, and had play time with our current kindergarten students. Thanks to Simone with *Strengthening Early Years to Kindergarten Transition (SEY2KT)* for organizing.



## Kindergarten

If you have a child who will be starting kindergarten in September, registration is now open. Please come to the office and Mrs. Scott will guide you through the process.

*Registration is open!*



ARES is friendly and inclusive. There is a warm, welcoming atmosphere and I am always amazed at how friendly the teachers are and the students too.

~ Family Feedback Survey - Anonymous ARES Parent ~



# Remembrance Day Contest Winners

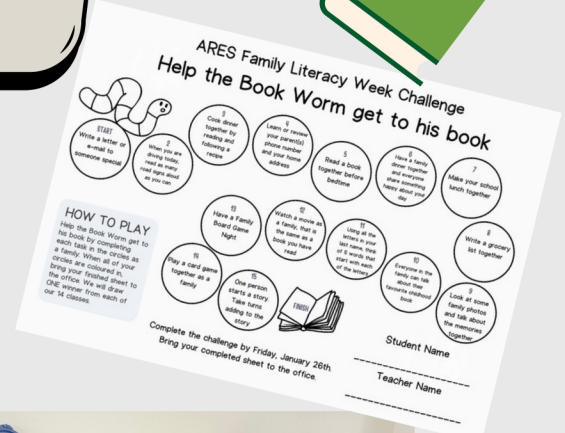


Each November, students are invited by the Royal Canadian Legion to participate in a poster contest. These nine students recently learned that they were the successful winners in a variety of categories.



- Harper Whitesel
- Bree Hollis
- Ava Gerry
- Haydn Ebenau
- Ori Folick
- Emily Ducharme
- Aurora Kass
- Isla Berg
- Lani Tanapima
- Adalynn Johnson
- Annika McIntyre
- Kayden Alpaerts
- Giorgos Krystanas
- Kate Darby

**And the 14 Bookworm Challenge winners are...**



I am positive that with the school structure as it is my boys will grow into respectable citizens for the community.

~ Family Feedback Survey - Anonymous ARES Parent ~



## Nakta?suk ~ January



Our Aboriginal Support Teacher, Ms. Sonntag, has been guiding students to learn some words in Ktunaxa . Recently, Mrs. Miller's kindergarten students and Mrs. Feragotti's Grade ones learned *January - Nakta?suk* - which translates to ~ *layers of ice form with water in between*.

The Ktunaxa people have been around for many years, and over time, they've come to understand the patterns in nature that occur each month.



### ARES Vision

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

*ARES is a community of caring. Love how kindness and generosity are embedded into all that is done. Our kids will leave this school being good humans.*

*~ Family Feedback Survey – Anonymous ARES Parent ~*



## IMPORTANT DATES

- **Monday, February 5th** – Read-a-thon starts
- **Monday, February 12th** – Scholastic Book Fair **9:00–3:30**
- **Tuesday, February 13th** – Scholastic Book Fair **9:00 – 3:30**
- **Wednesday, February 14th** – PAC Meeting @ **9:00**
- **Friday, February 16th** – School Based Pro-D Day – No School
- **Monday, February 19th** – Family Day – No School



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Elementary



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### ARES Goal

*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.*