



Schoolwide community events foster opportunities for older students to nurture younger peers and develop leadership skills, promoting **INDEPENDENCE**

Our ARES Pumpkin Patch



Adam Robertson Elementary

OCTOBER NEWS



On Monday, October 28th, ARES students ventured outside to our giant pumpkin patch created by PAC. Thanks to Wloka's Fruit stand, who donated a variety of 320 unique gourds, each student was able to find a miniature pumpkin, which they chose from the selection scattered around the school yard. Together with their buddies, each student transformed their gourds into a character of their own. Others used them as a source for writing and art. Regardless of the activity, students had to think about their little critters and personalize them, providing an experience in empathy. Thanks to the PAC volunteers who supported this fun morning.

What's New at ARES?

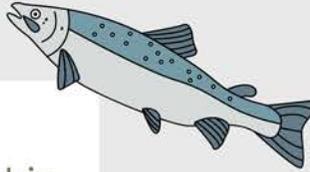
- Pumpkin Patch Schoolwide Activity
- Kokanee Salmon Education
- Our Early Dismissal Days
- Exploring our Valley
- Art in the Park
- ARES Scoops Fundraiser
- Halloween Fun Night
- Our Belonging Survey
- Thankfulness at ARES
- Spring Musical Rehearsals
- School Supply Reminder
- October at ARES
- Important Dates





Hands-on learning experiences in the outdoors create lasting memories for students, offering them opportunities for MASTERY as they learn from those with more experience.

Kokanee Salmon Education



Mr. Blick and Mrs. Page's classes are participating in an exciting program this year focused on the Kokanee Salmon hatching process. At Summit Creek Park, students have performed fish dissections and learned about the life cycle of fish. They also watched as egg plant cylinders were placed into the creek.

Back in the classroom, volunteers from the Wildsight Program set up an aquarium with the help of the students, who are now awaiting the arrival of eyed eggs in mid-November.

Between November and April, the Rod and Gun Club has prepared learning modules to help students understand the life history of Kokanee, their habitat, and the food web. The Grade 3/4 and 4/5 classes will also learn about the Kootenay Lake ecosystem.

In the spring, these two buddy classes are looking forward to the fish release!





When parents and the school community stay connected, it enhances collaboration, leading to improved student success and a stronger sense of **BELONGING** for everyone involved.

Early Dismissal Days

Our First Informal Learning Update



On October 16th and 17th, during Early Dismissal Days, we welcomed families into ARES to share in student learning.

Thanks for the amazing attendance!



Throughout the school year, parents and guardians will receive at least **five** updates on student progress:

1. An opportunity for Parent-Teacher Conferences on Early Dismissal Days: **October 16th & 17th**
2. Written Learning Update: **December 6th**
3. Written Learning Update: March **14th**
4. ARES Learning Fair on Early Dismissal Days: **April 23rd & 24th**
5. Final Summary of Learning: **June 25th**

These communications will help keep you informed about your child's progress and learning journey.





Outdoor activities in school promote **INDEPENDENCE** by encouraging students to explore, take risks, and make decisions in an engaging environment, which helps build confidence and self-reliance.



Exploring our Valley



Ms. Ellert and Mr. Percival's Grade 5/6 classes have loved learning outdoors this year. They explored Billy Goat's Bluff Trail, where they had lunch among the trees. Ms. Ellert's class also spent an afternoon doing art in Millennium Park.

Taking learning outside sparks new creativity and conversation, fostering connections and a sense of belonging in the classroom.



Art in the Park



ARES Scoops Fundraiser

Help support ARES activities, our Breakfast Program, and classroom field trips, by purchasing cookie dough or cheesecake.

Order online at
www.futurefundraising.com
CODE: W6ARES24
Orders due by - November 12th



*By designing and building activities for younger students and donating their time for the special night, the Grade 6/7s experienced the satisfaction that **GENEROSITY** brings as they watched others enjoy their creations.*

Halloween Fun Night



ARES families enjoyed a Halloween Fun Night hosted by Ms. Sonntag's Grade 6/7 class. Students designed their own Halloween games for families to enjoy, as they moved through the decorated gym from station to station. With hotdogs, baked goods, and popcorn available for purchase, this fundraiser was a great success. All ages participated in activities created by these imaginative students. Proceeds will go toward their end-of-year field trips.



Thanks for organizing this fun evening for our school, Ms. Sonntag! And thanks to all the parents who helped too.



*Our PAC Chair, Dana,
Thanks for all you do
for us!*





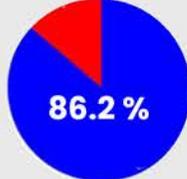
***BELONGING** in elementary school is crucial as it fosters students' emotional well-being, promotes positive social interactions, and enhances their overall learning experience.*

Our Belonging Survey

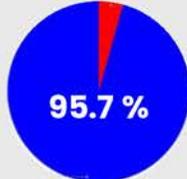
We conducted our anonymous Belonging Survey with students in Grades 4-7 to assess how connected they feel at school. This annual survey helps us learn whether our students feel safe and cared for at ARES. It also provides an opportunity to discuss with classes how to seek help if they ever feel unsafe or have conflicts with other students.

Despite some reassuring results, we will continue to address the red areas that need improvement. We encourage all students to reach out to an adult at ARES whenever they need support. We also hope that parents will let us know if your child is struggling with a situation, so that we can find an appropriate solution.

Our goal is for every student to feel safe and valued at school.



I feel like I belong in my classroom and school community



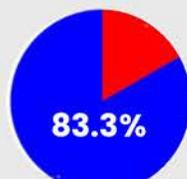
My teacher cares about me



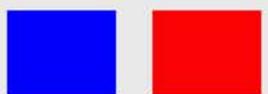
I have friends at school



I feel safe at school



I like coming to school most of the time



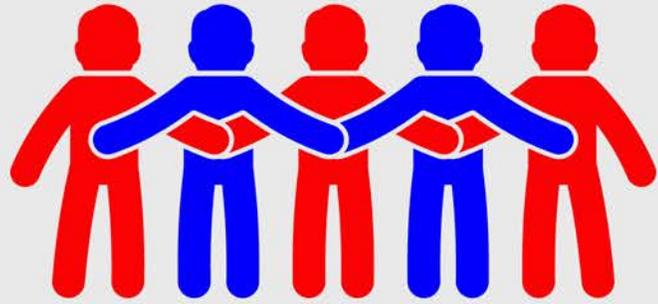
YES NO

Grade _____
School Belonging Survey

	YES / NO
I like coming to school most of the time	
I feel safe at school	
I have friends at school	
I am kind to other people even if they are not one of my friends	
People care about each other in my class	
My teacher cares about me	
Adults are kind at this school	
I am mostly alone at school	
I feel sad most of the time at school	
I feel like I belong in my classroom and school community	

is there anything else you would like to share with us?

The Circle of Courage





When students know the adults in their school community, it creates a natural sense of security. To truly feel a sense of BELONGING, individuals must first feel safe and cared for.

Thankfulness at ARES



What are staff Thankful for at ARES



Each month, we update our staff board. In our daily announcements, we ask a question about one of our staff members, encouraging students to check the board for the answer. Each day, we draw names from our Circle of Courage box, and lucky winners can choose a prize from the office treasure box or a Thundercats ticket. This bulletin board helps students feel connected to the team of adults who care for them every day.





Opportunities to perform in school, help students develop **MASTERY** by allowing them to practice their skills, build confidence, and learn to manage challenges in a supportive environment.

Spring Musical Rehearsals....



Each Tuesday, between 3-4, over 100 students rehearse for our Spring Musical - **The Lion King Jr.** This giant undertaking is directed by Kyla Hamm and her dedicated team: Blakeny Delcaro, Danielle Sonntag, and Max Percival.

Thank you, ARES Staff, for providing this unique opportunity for our students



A gentle reminder to please pay the **\$40** school supply fee on our website, in person at the office, or send a cheque to ARES.

Please email Mrs. Christenson if you are unable to pay these fees.

School Supplies



GENEROSITY: Thank you to our ARES staff for their hard work behind the scenes to provide our students with numerous opportunities.

October at ARES





We are grateful for our supportive ARES families. Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for being an important part of our school community.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Wednesday, October 30th – PAC Lunch - Wraps
- Thursday, October 31st – Costume Parade @ 9:00
- Wednesday, November 6th – Photo Retakes
- Friday, November 8th – Remembrance Day Assembly @ 11:00
- Monday, November 11th – Remembrance Day – No School
- Tuesday, November 12th – ARES Scoops Order Due
- Wednesday, November 13th – PAC Hotdog Lunch
- Wednesday, November 13th – PAC Meeting @ 6:30 PM
- Wednesday, November 20th – Family Movie Night 6:00 – 8:00
- Wednesday, November 27th – PAC Pasta Lunch
- Tuesday, December 3rd – PAC Meeting @ 9:00
- Friday, December 6th – Learning Updates go home
- Wednesday, December 18th – Primary Winter Concert – 6:00 PM
- Thursday, December 19th – Intermediate Holiday Event – 6:00 PM
- Friday, December 20th – Last Day of School before Winter Break



Tanya Christenson | Principal
tanya.christenson@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



William Klassen | Vice Principal
william.klassen@sd8.bc.ca

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.