



GENEROSITY

Empathy in action becomes generosity. When kids learn to care for others, they see how their actions can make the world better.

EGGstravaganza



Students gathered together for a short assembly on April 14th to prepare for our annual schoolwide tradition.

Older buddies then supported younger students and together they explored the ARES school grounds to find their very own egg containing a small pet. Our 309 students quickly assumed ownership of their new pets and began the challenge.

Thanks to the crafting supplies and recyclables brought in by families, buddy pairs worked creatively to construct homes for their small critters. Students cared for these pets until the long weekend when they were able to take them home.

This activity aligns with our Circle of Courage goal. Our students learn **GENEROSITY**, as they care for and support one another, as well as have an experience in empathy.



Adam Robertson
Elementary

APRIL NEWS



What's New at ARES?

- EGGstravaganza
- Learning Fair
- Pickleball
- Swimming Lessons
- Gymnastics
- Welcome to Kindergarten
- Outdoor Learning
- Pow wow Preparations
- Grade 6/7 Mixtures
- Visits to Crestview
- Learning Fair Winners
- Scholastic Book Fair Update
- Important Dates



Buddy Classes, (Ms. Read's 6/7's and Mrs. Gardner's Grade 1's) proudly display their Pet Homes





MASTERY

Success looks different for every child—what matters is their belief that effort leads to growth.

Our Learning Fair



We were excited to welcome over 100 families into ARES to celebrate learning. Our Learning Fair is an opportunity for A.R.E.S. students to have a voice in communicating their learning to you. What are they proud of? What's going well? What engages them at school? Where do they spend their day? It's your chance to see very authentic evidence of their learning. Students enjoyed touring their families around the building, exploring our many different learning spaces.

In the Library, families had the opportunity to browse and enjoy the Scholastic Book Fair. In the gym, visitors could read our school-wide write-ups about Earth Day, highlighting what each student plans to do to help care for the planet, as well as complete a Circle of Courage challenge. In the STEM room, Ms. Candace created QR codes linking to literacy resources, giving parents a chance to learn more about how to support their child as they begin reading, as well as explore the strategies and hands-on materials students use, such as word games and manipulatives.

Thank you to everyone who attended and entered punch cards into our draw at the end of the tour. We selected one winner from each of our 13 classes, and these students will soon enjoy lunch at Dairy Queen with Mrs. C.

A special thank you to our very busy PAC for taking the time to serve refreshments in the gym.

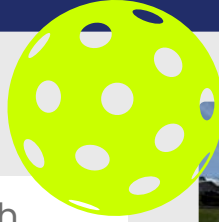




BELONGING

Children thrive when they feel connected. A sense of belonging builds confidence, reduces anxiety, and helps kids feel safe to learn and grow.

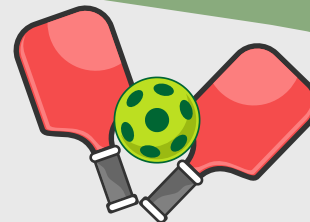
Pickleball



Students in grades 2 through 7 each received two lessons in Pickleball this April. We are fortunate to be within walking distance to the Pickleball courts at the Creston & District Community Complex, where students were coached by a community instructor, Kerri Roberts.



Thanks for organizing Pickleball, Mr. Blick!



Swimming Lessons



Four primary classes are participating in lessons at the Creston & District Community Complex through the Lifesaving Society's Swim for Life program, where students are developing swimming skills and learning important water safety techniques.

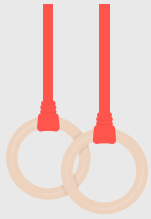


Mrs. Vandenberghe, Mrs. Cote, Mrs. Feragotti, & Mrs. Page

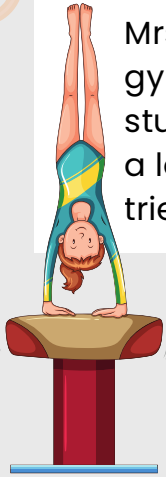


MASTERY

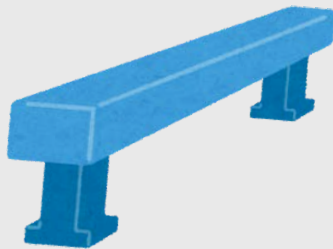
Celebrating small wins helps kids see challenges as opportunities, not obstacles.



Gymnastics in Grade 4



Mrs. Vigna's Grade 4 class had the chance to spend time at the gymnastics studio. With their teacher who is also a gymnastics coach, students were given the opportunity to explore a new sport. Students tried a lot of the equipment and learned some skills many of them have not tried before.



Welcome to Kindergarten



May 27th ~ 9:00 - 11:00

If your child is registered and starting Kindergarten at ARES in September, please join us for this orientation.





INDEPENDENCE

Children build independence not by doing everything alone, but by knowing when to ask for help and when to try on their own.

Outdoor Learning

Many classes have been participating in outdoor learning experiences that connect to BC's K-7 curriculum through physical and health education, science, and place-based learning, while also reflecting the First Peoples Principles of Learning by emphasizing connections to the land and learning through experience. Mr. Percival's class explores the Goat Mountain area to build survival skills, Ms. Sonntag takes her class monthly to Summit Creek Park, and Ms. Read and Mrs. Hamm have used Schikurski as their outdoor base for learning. Students have enjoyed creating shelters, exploring the natural environment, and developing practical outdoor skills through hands-on learning.





BELONGING

Belonging starts with feeling seen and heard—when a child knows they matter, their whole world opens up.

Pow Wow Preparations



In our Aboriginal Education room, students are preparing for the upcoming Pow Wow on May 15th by learning and practicing traditional skills such as making regalia and moccasins. In the weeks leading up to the event, many students are also taking part in drumming and dancing lessons, guided by Yaqan Nukiy band members and knowledge keepers. Through these sessions, students are learning styles such as Fancy Shawl and Grass dancing. These experiences provide a meaningful cultural learning opportunity for students as they prepare for the Pow Wow.

All classes will attend the Pow Wow at the Creston & District Community Complex on May 15th. This event is an important opportunity for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous students to learn, reflect, and celebrate together. We are grateful to Ms. Josie, our Aboriginal Support Worker and Family Liaison, whose dedication and leadership play a key role in organizing this event and supporting students as they prepare for this special day.



Our 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.



INDEPENDENCE

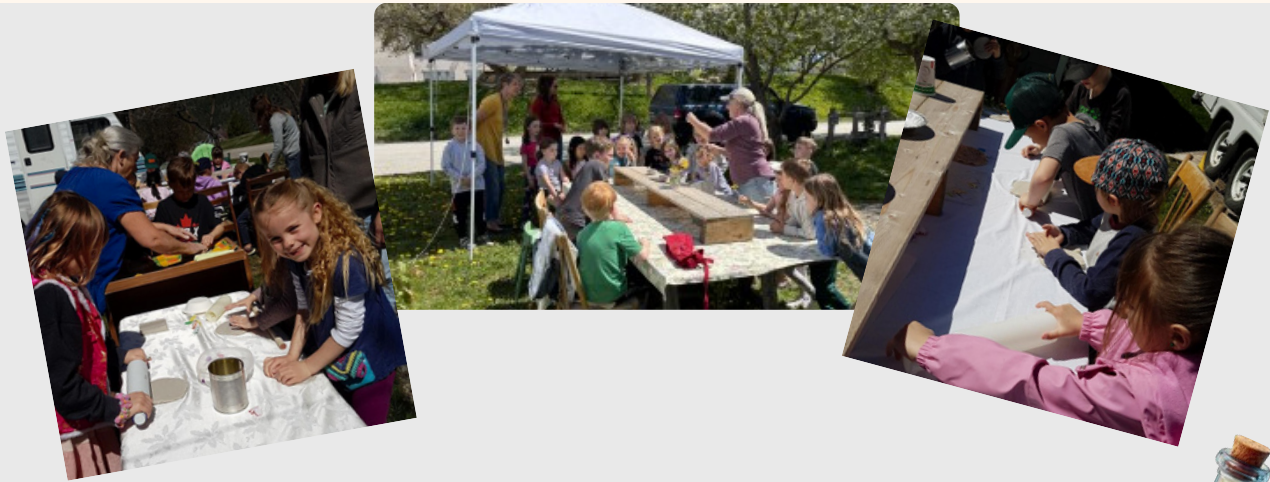
When children make choices and take responsibility, they learn they are capable—and capable kids grow into resilient adults.



Grade One Potters



Grade One students in Mrs. Gardner's class have been busily working with clay at Sweet Mountain Pottery. Located just across the road from ARES, they've been supported by parent volunteers as they explore the art of hand pottery while creating top-secret projects.



Grade 6/7 Mixtures



Students in Ms. Read's Grade 6/7 class have been investigating mixtures through hands-on experiments, including creating suspensions (*oil and vinegar*), using soap as an emulsifier, and making butter by reversing an emulsion. This connects to the BC Science 6/7 Big Idea that everyday materials are often mixtures, with a focus on identifying types of mixtures and understanding how they can be separated based on their properties.





GENEROSITY

When children help others, they begin to understand their own power to make a positive impact.

Visits to Crestview

Students in Mrs. Vandenberghe's class continue to visit Crestview Manor, where they share their talents with residents and help brighten their days. During their most recent visit, students performed their Focus on Youth pieces on their recorders, giving them an extra opportunity to practice before their event while also bringing joy to the residents.



Learning Fair Winners

Wyatt Hemmelgam
Harrison Piva
Gracie Bedard
William Fox
Braxton Carrington
Teya Opsahl

Abby Rice
Ruby Yeske
Austen Jellis
Sav Ilagan
Hunter Collins
Ana Lopez
Lani Tanapima

WINNER

13 students who attended the Learning Fair (*one from each class*) had their names drawn. These students get to go for lunch at DQ with Mrs. C. in the near future.

Scholastic Book Fair – A Big Success!



Thank you, ARES Families! We hosted our Scholastic book sale at the Learning Fair and sold **\$6500** worth of books. 60% of this total goes back to ARES to purchase new books for our library and classrooms. We missed Mrs. Leslie this year, but Mrs. Walker stepped up to the plate and kept the tradition going. We appreciate your support.





BELONGING

Every child needs a place to feel welcome. Belonging lays the foundation for learning and friendship.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Friday, May 15th – Powwow
- Monday, May 18th – Victoria Day – No School
- Wednesday, May 20th – PAC Meeting @ 9:00
- Monday, May 25th – School-Based Pro-D Day – No School for Students
- Wednesday, May 27th – Welcome to Kindergarten – 9:00 – 11:00
- Friday, June 5th – Intermediate Track Meet
- Friday, June 12th – Ice Cream Truck Visit
- Wednesday, June 17th – PAC Meeting @ 9:00
- Friday, June 19th – National Indigenous Peoples Day Assembly @ 9:00 & Schoolwide Activities in AM.
- Monday, June 22nd – Kindergarten Graduation @ 11:00
- Monday, June 22nd – Grade 7 Farewell Assembly & Dance @ 1:00
- Tuesday, June 23rd – Water Day in PM
- Wednesday, June 24th – Year-End Assembly @ 10:45
- Wednesday, June 24th – Last Day of School – Dismissal @ 11:45



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 | Principal
tanya.christenson@sd8.bc.ca

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

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