



MASTERY: There is always a person who stands out, not seeking recognition or appreciation, but driven by genuine care for others and a desire to improve the world.

ARES Student Choice Award



Adam Robertson
Elementary

JUNE NEWS

Each year our grade 7 students anonymously vote for a peer who meets THREE criteria: Someone who demonstrates...

- Kindness to all people
- Strong academic effort
- Care for our school community



For the 2026-2027 school year, **Zoe Ahern** is the well-deserving recipient, chosen by her classmates.

Zoe has spent her kindergarten to grade 7 years at ARES and this summer her family will be moving to Ontario.

Thank you, Zoe, for being a positive role model to all!



What's New at ARES?

- ARES Student Choice Award
- Grade 7 Farewell Assembly
- Kindergarten Graduation
- National Indigenous Peoples Day
- PAC Appreciation Tea
- Are you moving?
- Staff Goodbyes
- What to Expect in September
- Summer Office Hours
- Important Dates



INDEPENDENCE: Growing independence means having the confidence to make your own decisions while valuing the people who helped you along the way.

Grade 7 Farewell Assembly



We will miss you



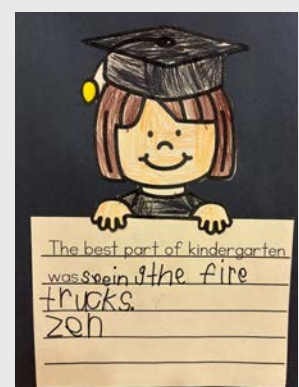
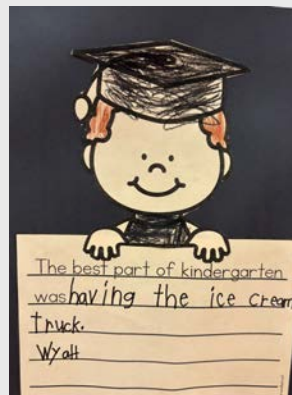
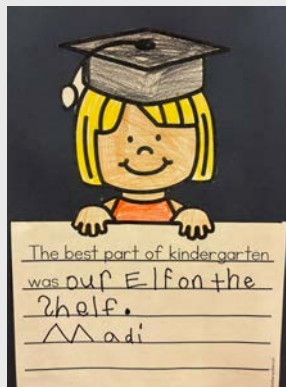
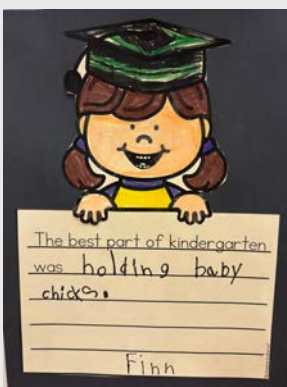
On June 22nd, parents gathered in the gym with our grade 7 students to bid farewell. Students received their diplomas and shared words of appreciation. We also enjoyed a slide show, which highlighted our elementary graduates. Following the short ceremony, staff returned to classes and grade 7 students enjoyed their final elementary school dance before heading to high school.

Good luck at KRSS, Grade 7s.



Kootenay River Secondary

Kindergarten Messages



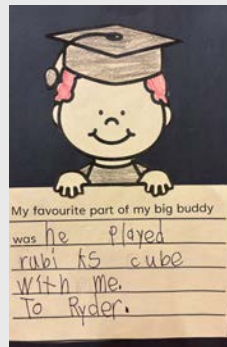
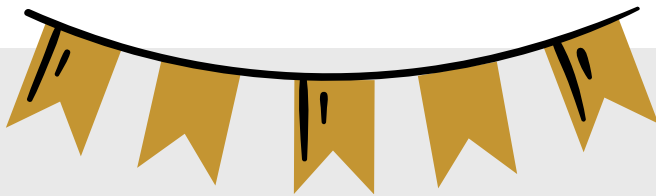


INDEPENDENCE: When young children are given opportunities to shine in front of a supportive audience, their confidence grows, and they learn to feel comfortable presenting to others

Kindergarten Graduation 2026



Classes and families gathered in the gym to watch our youngest ARES students celebrate the ending to their first year of school. Thanks to our kindergarten teachers, Ms. Smith and Mrs. Miller, these five-year-olds enjoyed being the stars for this special occasion, as they accepted their diplomas and tossed their hats.





MASTERY: When children learn about another culture from adults they admire, they develop a profound appreciation for that culture.

National Indigenous Peoples Day



On June 19, we recognized National Indigenous Peoples Day with a special school-wide learning experience. We began with an assembly where Ms. Josie and Ms. Sonntag introduced the day's activities before students set off with their buddy classes to complete a Ktunaxa language scavenger hunt throughout the school.



As an extension activity, some classes created Wampum belts and learned about their importance in recording stories, agreements, and significant historical events. After successfully completing the scavenger hunt, students visited our Aboriginal Support Room to choose an Indigenous-themed sticker or tattoo.



Thank you to our PAC for providing popcorn for all students, and a special thank you to Ms. Danielle Sonntag, Aboriginal Support Teacher, and Ms. Josie, Aboriginal Support Worker, for organizing this meaningful learning opportunity.



Thanks for organizing this special day, Ms. Sonntag & Ms. Josie



GENEROSITY: When adults volunteer, they exemplify generosity to students. As children witness these role models dedicating their time to others, they naturally adopt this mindset and begin practicing it in their own lives.



PAC Appreciation Tea



In appreciation of our PAC members who volunteer to support many activities, our busy breakfast program, and numerous field trips, a special tea was held in their honor. With Mrs. Miller's kindergarten students hosting the occasion. The guests were entertained with songs by Mrs. Gardner's grade one class, Mrs. Miller's kindergarten, and Mrs. Page's 3-4 students. We are so fortunate to have this devoted group who care so much for our staff and students.



Thanks to Mrs. Miller and her kindergarten students for organizing

Thank you ARES PAC, for all you do to support us!



Are you moving away this summer or do you know people who are moving here?



If your children will **NOT** be attending ARES in September, please let us know before the end of the school year.

If you know a family who will be moving to Creston with children who will be attending ARES, please encourage them to register as soon as possible.



Thank you!

INDEPENDENCE: Moving on is not an end, but a beginning—the chance to grow, explore new paths, and meet the next challenge with courage and confidence

Staff Goodbyes



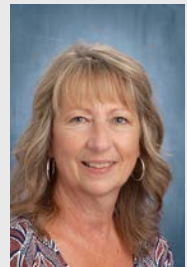
Mrs. Hamm is heading to KRSS to teach high school. She has worked at ARES for five years as a grade 6 and 7 teacher. She is also the creative genius behind our annual Spring Musicals, which we will miss so much. Look after our grade 7's, Mrs. Hamm!

Mrs. Delcaro is taking a one-year-leave to try another adventure, after eight years at ARES. She taught grade 4 for five years and most recently became our Fine Arts teacher. Mrs. Delcaro was another huge support in our Spring Musicals. Fortunately, we will still get to see Mrs. Delcaro as a Teacher on Call next year.



Mrs. Scott will be enjoying her well-deserved retirement at the end of June. After 15 years as our very busy ARES Administrative Assistant, she will love some slower paced days. We aren't sure what we will do without Mrs. Scott, who has kept the front office running smoothly for so long.

Mrs. Leslie is the bright smile that welcomes everyone as they enter ARES. Since 2015, she has been our Library Clerical and so much more. Mrs. Leslie is the person who looks after all of us at ARES and takes care of many small details in our school. As she moves on to quieter days, we will greatly miss her generous spirit.



Thank you

“
*Thanks for your dedication
to ARES*”



As the school year comes to a close, take time to enjoy summer with the people who support, encourage, and care about you.

What to Expect in September



During the first week of September, we typically welcome many new student registrations. Because of this, we are unable to finalize class placements until we have an accurate count of students during that week.

To minimize disruption and reduce the need for class changes, all returning students will begin the school year in their current (this year's) class. New students will meet in the library.

If your child will not be returning to ARES in the fall, please inform us as soon as possible. This helps us plan more effectively.

Thank you for your understanding!



Summer Office Hours

Monday, August 24th
to



Friday, September 4th

8:00 – 3:00

If you have questions or concerns, contact:

tanya.christenson@sd8.bc.ca



BACK TO
SCHOOL

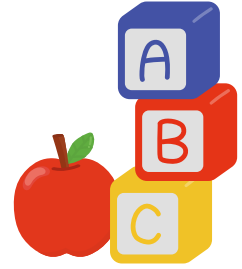
IMPORTANT

Summer can be challenging for students who rely on daily school connections. However, it also provides families with opportunities to participate in activities that enhance their bonds. What outdoor activities can you engage in together to strengthen your family's connection and enjoy nature?

Kindergarten Registration

If you have a child who will be starting Kindergarten in September, don't forget to register.

See Mrs. Scott, our Office Clerical, to begin the registration process.



IMPORTANT DATES

- **Wednesday, June 24th** – Assembly at 10:45 – Families Welcome
- **Wednesday, June 24th** – Last Day of School. Dismissal at 11:45
- **Monday, August 24th to Friday, September 4th** – Office Open
8:00 – 3:00
- **Tuesday, September 8th** – First Day of School – 8:45 – 11:45



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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.