



GENEROSITY: Students learn about generosity by participating in the Terry Fox Run. They start to see the bigger picture and understand how even one small action can contribute to a greater cause.

Terry Fox Run



Adam Robertson
Elementary

SEPTEMBER NEWS



Classes gathered together on September 11th to run our own Marathon of Hope in honor of Terry Fox and cancer research. We were impressed by the efforts of many students, who worked exceptionally hard, running MANY laps around ARES.

More than 650 communities participate in this Fall tradition, fundraising for cancer research. ARES was happy to donate toonies and loonies brought in by our students to this cause.

Thanks Mrs. Page for organizing!

What's New at ARES?

- Terry Fox Run
- Family Corn Feed
- School Planning Day
- National Day for Truth & Reconciliation
- Breakfast & Lunch Program
- School Supply Reminder
- Volley Ball Schedule
- Community Courage Points
- Scholastic Book Orders
- Important Dates



Photo Retake Day
is
Monday,
October 26th



Smile 😊





BELONGING: The ARES Corn Feed brings families together to celebrate and connect, fostering a sense of community and inclusion.

Family Corn Feed



Thank you to all the families who joined us for our annual Corn Feed on September 16th! It was great to see our school community together.

A big thank you to our PAC for cooking the corn from Sutcliffe's Farm and the hot dogs generously donated by *Pizza Pizza*. Thank you as well to Mrs. Vigna's Grade 6/7 class for husking all those cobs, and to our staff who gave up their evening to spend time with our students and families.

The Corn Feed is always a great way to bring people together early in the school year, and we appreciate everyone who helped make it happen.





MASTERY: When staff collaborate and learn together, we strengthen our team, benefiting our students as we build cohesion to support their success

School Planning Day

What were the ARES Staff doing?

On September 25, ARES staff spent the day reviewing our School Learning Plan and current school-wide information related to culture, literacy and numeracy. We took time to reflect on our school culture, recognize what is going well and consider how we can continue to strengthen the Circle of Courage values of Belonging, Mastery, Independence and Generosity.

Staff then considered how these school-wide priorities connect to their current classes and daily instruction. They shared strategies, discussed how to support the range of learners in each classroom and established common assessment points for writing and math.

This work helps create greater consistency across grades and keeps our School Learning Plan connected to classroom practice throughout the year.



?uki ?akiłwiyis

One Heart



In the Ktunaxa language and culture, "one heart" represents unity, harmony, and the collective spirit of a community or group working together towards a common goal. It signifies the importance of cooperation, empathy, and shared values in achieving success and well-being.



"Great teams learn together, grow together, and achieve together."



BELONGING: Orange Shirt Day honours the Indigenous children who were taken from their families and communities and recognizes the lasting impact of residential schools. Learning and acknowledging this truth is an important part of reconciliation and reminds us that Every Child Matters.

National Day for Truth & Reconciliation



On September 29th, ARES recognized the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation with a formal schoolwide assembly led by Ms. Josie, our Indigenous Education Support Worker and Ms. Sonntag, our Indigenous Language Teacher. Following the assembly, younger students paired up with their older buddies for a schoolwide scavenger hunt. As they searched for the orange T-shirt posters, they stopped along the way to learn more about Truth and Reconciliation and what the day represents.

Buddy groups collected puzzle pieces that, when put together, revealed an orange shirt and the important message *Truth Matters*. Students then took their completed puzzles to Ms. Josie to receive an Orange Shirt sticker before continuing with grade-level learning and activities in their classrooms.

Our buddy program encourages leadership and connection across the school, as older students learn to look out for and support our younger students. As these relationships grow, it is great to see younger students begin to seek out their older buddies on the playground and around the school.



*Thanks for organizing this special day,
Ms. Josie, Ms. Sonntag, and Mrs. Klassen*





***BELONGING:** Our breakfast program offers a chance for connection each morning before school starts, helping to build a sense of belonging.*



Breakfast Program at ARES



Each day we have parent or grandparent volunteers helping to prepare breakfast for our students. They arrive early so that a meal is ready as buses begin to arrive.

All students are invited to put their backpack in their outside line-up, head to the gym, and sit down at a table with friends to enjoy the daily special.

Thanks to these amazing volunteers who look after our students.



Daily MENU

Monday – English Muffin with Bacon & Cheese

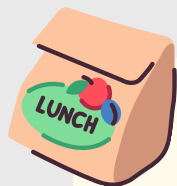
Tuesday – Scrambled Eggs with Toast or a Muffin

Wednesday – Oatmeal or Cold Cereal

Thursday – Grilled Cheese & Yogurt Tubes

Friday – Pancakes

*All meals served
with Milk & Fruit*



Student Lunches

If you are struggling to provide a healthy lunch for your child, please let Mrs. Christenson know.

We can supply a paper bag lunch each day, if you reach out.

tanya.christenson@sd8.bc.ca



School Supply Reminder

A gentle reminder to please pay the **\$45** 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.





INDEPENDENCE: Unstructured outdoor play gives children the freedom to make choices, use their imagination, solve problems, and build confidence on their own.



Autumn at ARES

How do the students spend their time outside?



A few of our Cross Country Runners



Volleyball



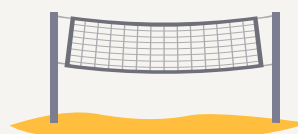
**October 5th
to
November 15th**

Coaches:

**4/5 Girls
Friday @ Lunch
Mr. Blick**

**4/5 Boys
Wednesday @ Lunch
Mrs. Bala**

**6/7 Girls & Boys
Thursday 2:45 – 3:45
Mrs. Vgna & Mr. Percival**



PAC Meeting Schedule

ARES PAC Meeting Schedule 2026 – 2027

- Wednesday, October 21 – 9:00 AM
- Wednesday, November 18 – 6:00 PM
- Wednesday, December 9 – 9:00 AM
- Wednesday, January 20 – 9:00 AM
- Wednesday, February 17 – 9:00 AM
- Wednesday, March 10 – 9:00 AM
- Wednesday, April 21 – 9:00 AM
- Wednesday, May 19 – 9:00 AM
- Wednesday, June 16 – 9:00 AM





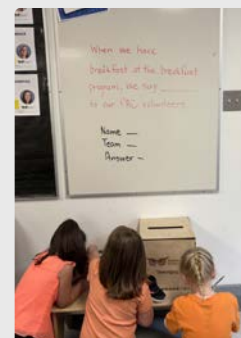
BELONGING: Courage Teams bring students of all ages together, building connections, leadership, and a sense that everyone belongs at ARES.

Community Courage Teams

At ARES, every student belongs to one of our six Courage Teams: Grizzly Bear (k#aw#a), Buffalo (kamqu#uku#?iyamu), Bald Eagle (?a:knuq#u#a#m), Deer (cupqa), Moose (ni#napku), or Coyote (skinku#). Each team includes students from across the grades, helping build connections throughout the school.

There are lots of ways to earn points for a Courage Team. Staff hand out Courage Cards when we see a student demonstrating one of our four Circle of Courage values: **Belonging, Mastery, Independence, and Generosity**. A Courage Card earns 50 team points and is shared during our daily announcements. Students can also earn 25 points by answering our daily question, often connected to ARES Expectations, with a random draw for a trip to the office treasure box. Throughout the year, teams can also earn points by working together during schoolwide activities and challenges.

Most importantly, Courage Teams create connections across grade levels. They give older students opportunities to lead and encourage students to look out for one another on the playground and throughout the school. They are another way we bring the Circle of Courage values to life at ARES.



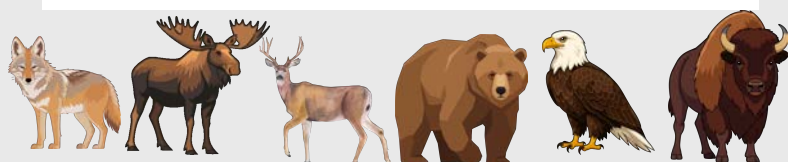
Scholastic Book Order



Book orders are due by October 30th

Students brought home book orders. A portion of the proceeds support our ARES library and classroom book collections.

**ARES ORDER CODE:
RCZ21869**





Looking forward to something helps build resilience by
giving students hope and motivation

Hope

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Wednesday, September 30th** – National Day for Truth & Reconciliation – No School
- **Monday, October 12th** – Thanksgiving Day – No School
- **Wednesday, October 14th** – Early Dismissal @ 1:45
- **Thursday, October 15th** – Early Dismissal @ 1:45
- **Friday, October 23rd** – Provincial Pro-D Day – No School for Students
- **Monday, October 26th** – Photo Retake Day
- **Thursday, October 29th** – Halloween Fun Night – 5:00–7:00
- **Friday, October 30th** – Halloween Costume Parade @ 9:00



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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.