EVERYDAY LITERACY TIP
Follow a recipe together while cooking or baking to build reading and sequencing skills

ARES Remembers

Adam Robertson Elementary







NOVEMBER NEWS



On November 10th, ARES students, staff and families gathered in the gym for our annual Remembrance Day assembly.

Mrs. Cote's Grade 2 class and Mrs. Feragotti's Grade 3/4 class performed songs under the direction of Mrs. Bala, and Mrs. Wood's Grade 5/6 class shared a choral reading of *One Thousand Men Are Walking*.

Following the Last Post, a minute of silence and Reveille, student representatives from each of our 13 classrooms laid wreaths that all ARES students helped create.

Thank you to our Grade 7 MCs, Carson and Flo, and to all of our students for being so respectful throughout the assembly. It was also nice to have many of our families join us.



What's New at ARES?

- ARES Remembers
- Community Wanders
- Learning Updates
- Classroom Adventures
- Volleyball Season Ends
- Community Connections
- Winter Concert Plan
- Family & Student Feedback Results
- December Whoville Fun



EVERYDAY LITERACY TIP
Construct the grocery list together and have your child write it out

Community Wanders

Mrs. Gardner's Grade one class has been enjoying their Community Wanders! So far, they have walked to Bindoya Meats, Dr. Catherall's Dental Clinic, the Royal Bank, and most recently, took the bus to the Public Library for a day of learning. A definite highlight was getting locked in the bank vault!

These outings connect directly to the Grade 1 Social Studies curriculum, as students learn about the roles of people in our community and how local businesses and services help meet our everyday needs.

The students have been great walkers and are quickly becoming familiar with the many places and people that make up our community.







Scholastic Book Orders

Reminder that book orders are due on:

Friday, December 4th.

Use Code: **RC739627**

PAC Bake Sale Support

If you would like to donate baked goods to our **Holiday Concert PAC Bake Sale,** please send items on **December 16th**. Donations can be individually wrapped for single-item sales, or sent on a disposable plate or tray to be sold as a complete package. Thank you for supporting our PAC!

EVERYDAY LITERACY TIP

Play "I Spy" with beginning sounds to support phonemic awareness

Learning Update - December 4th



The Circle of Courage

What to Expect in the December 4th Learning Update

Along with their Learning Update, all students will bring home a self-reflection on the Core Competencies (*Communication, Thinking, and Personal and Social)* and a personal learning goal. These are part of the Ministry's K–12 reporting requirements and are included in our December and March Learning Updates and June Summary of Learning.

At ARES, we connect the Core Competencies to our schoolwide behaviour expectations and the four values of the Circle of Courage: *Belonging*, *Generosity*, *Independence* and *Mastery*. This provides students with a familiar framework for reflecting on their growth as learners, their relationships with others, and their ability to make responsible choices and work through challenges. Through these reflections, students identify their strengths and areas for continued growth.

KIndergarten & Grade 1


Core Competency Self-Reflection & Goal Setting

Grade 2 & 3


Core Competency Self-Reflection & Goal Setting

Grade 4-7


Core Competency Self-Reflection & Goal Setting

ARES Vision

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

EVERYDAY LITERACY TIP

Invite your child to read the menu when you're ordering at a café or restaurant

And that's a Wrap!

Volleyball Season comes to an end



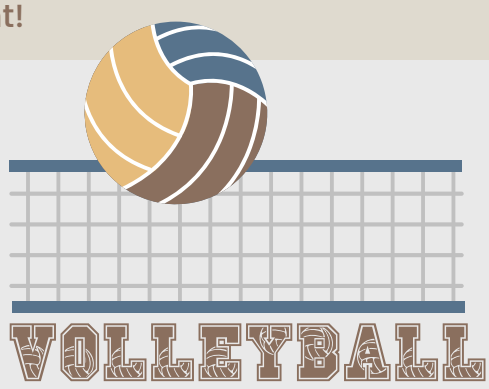


Students in Grades 4–7 have enjoyed participating in extracurricular volleyball this fall. To wrap up the season, students had the opportunity to attend a weekend skills session at Kootenay River Secondary School with Coach Eric Meyer. The goal was to promote elementary volleyball and better prepare students for high school. The session was well attended, particularly by our ARES students!

We also hosted a family fun night at ARES, where parents played against their kids. A big thank you to Dairy Queen for donating ice cream treats for everyone and to Mr. Blick for organizing the event!

Thank You Coaches!

Heather Vigna
Reanna Bala
Max Percival
Matt Blick
Remi Champagne







EVERYDAY LITERACY TIP

Play a card game to strengthen focus, strategy, and quick reading of numbers

Community Connections

Mrs. Vandenberghe's Grade 2/3 class continues to build connections with the residents of Crestview Village through their regular visits. During their most recent visit, students and residents made paper airplanes together, and the residents enjoyed watching them take flight! These visits continue to provide opportunities for our students to practice generosity while getting to know members of our community.









Successful Poinsettia Sale

Thank you to Dione Enns and the PAC team for organizing the Poinsettia Sale, and to all the families who placed orders. The proceeds from this fundraiser support our Breakfast Program and help fund the many field trips our classes enjoy throughout the year. **Pick-up will be on December 2nd toward the end of the day.**



Lost & Found

Please check out our Lost & Found before the Winter Break. You can find this little nook at the top of the ramp, through our middle doors









EVERYDAY LITERACY TIP

Keep a shared notebook where you and your child write short messages back and forth

Winter Concert Plans



Our Fine Arts Teacher, **Mrs. Bala**

Follow the Snow

This year's winter concert takes us on a journey through the winter landscape of the Creston Valley. Through music, movement and storytelling, students explore our connection to the land and our responsibility to care for it. We are grateful to live and learn on the traditional territory of the Yaqan Nukiy within the Ktunaxa Nation.

This year, our lower-floor students will perform in the winter concert, while students in Grades 4–7 will have the opportunity to participate in something new – a Spring Talent Show!

To accommodate the large number of people who attend our winter concert, we have TWO performances on December 16th. We encourage friends and extended family to attend the 9:30 am performance and immediate family to attend the 6:30 pm performance.

Our PAC will also be hosting a bake sale and will be reaching out to families for baking donations. More information will be coming soon!





Winter Concerts

Students in Miller, Smith, Gardner, Cote, Vandenberghe, Feragotti, Page's classes will perform in TWO concerts:

December 16th at 9:30 AM
December 16th at 6:30 PM

Intermediate Students

Students will have the opportunity to be involved in a **Spring Talent Show**



EVERYDAY LITERACY TIP

Take turns adding sentences to a shared story and see where it goes

Listening to Our Families and Students

Each year, we check in with our families to see how we are doing at ARES. In past years, we have received helpful suggestions that we have been able to put into practice. This year, we received a record **98** family responses! With many families having more than one child at ARES, we feel this is a good representation of our school community. The overall results were very encouraging, and the written comments from families were overwhelmingly positive.

We also surveyed 159 students in Grades 4–7 about their experiences at school. While the results were very positive, we recognize that some students struggle with feelings of loneliness, sadness or belonging. I also spoke with students about what to do and who to go to if they feel unsafe or are struggling.

Moving forward, we will continue to focus on strengthening family connections, classroom communication and continue our focus on student belonging.

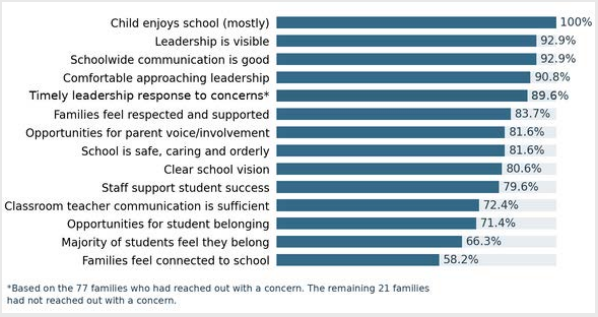
We appreciate families staying in close communication with us and bringing concerns forward promptly so that we have the opportunity to address them.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to provide feedback and help us continue to improve ARES.

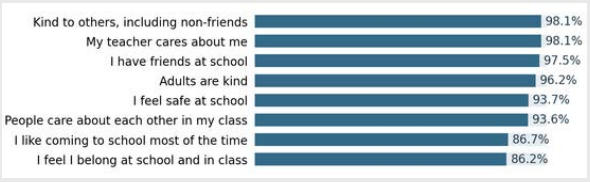




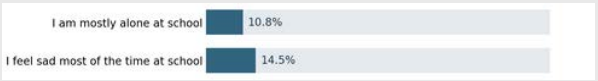
Family Feedback Results



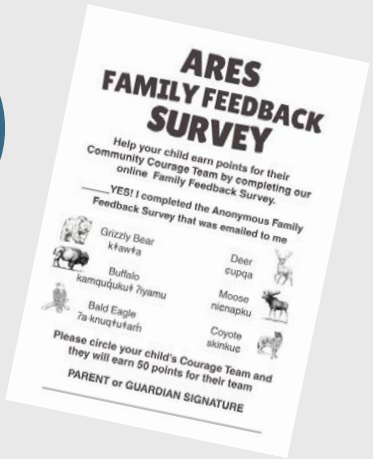
Student Belonging and School Experience



Student Well-Being







School Spirit

EVERYDAY LITERACY TIP
Read with your child each day as part of a bedtime routine

Something to Look Forward to...

As we head into the final weeks before winter break, we have something special to look forward to! Throughout December, ARES will be bringing ***Whoville*** to our school, with a focus on kindness, gratitude, and school spirit.

Students can earn Courage Team points through daily spirit wear, finding hidden hearts, participating in Grinch challenges, and receiving special *Hearts of Whoville* awards for acts of kindness and generosity.

Classes will also take turns hosting staff at their classroom Whoville destinations, creating opportunities to connect and show appreciation for the adults who make our school special.

All activities are optional, and there is no need to buy anything new. We hope these activities bring some excitement, encourage connection, and get us all to the Winter Break happily.

We'll celebrate our winning Courage Team at our **December 18 Ho-Ho-Ho assembly**, which families are welcome to join.

December Whoville Fun

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	1 FERAGOTTI'S FUZZY FOOTWEAR FACTORY — FUN, FUZZY OR FESTIVE FOOTWEAR	2 SMITHY LOU WHO'S HAIR SALON — CRAZY AND WILD WHO-HAIR	3 COTE'S CANDY CANE CAVE — RED, WHITE OR STRIPES	4 PERCIVAL'S PAJAMA PALACE — PAJAMAS OR COZY CLOTHES
7 MILLER'S GRINCHY GREENHOUSE — Green — WEAR GREEN – GRINCH DAY	8 VANDENBERGHE'S WACKY WHO-HAT SHOP — FESTIVE, COLOURFUL OR SILLY HATS	9 WOOD'S WARMING HUT — COZY WINTER ACCESSORIES	10 GARDNER'S GRINCHY GLOW GARDEN — SOMETHING SPARKLY, SHINY OR BRIGHT	11 PAGE'S WHO-PUDDING PARLOUR — APRON, CHEF'S HAT OR BAKING OR COOKING THEME
14 BLICK'S BAH HUMBUG HIDEOUT — UGLY OR SILLY FESTIVE SWEATER	15 CANDACE'S GRINCHY BOW-TIQUE — BOWS OR RIBBONS	16 SONNTAG'S STINK, STANK, STUNK SOCK SHOP — SILLY, MISMATCHED OR FESTIVE SOCKS	17 VIGNA'S VILLAGE SQUARE — DRESS LIKE A WHO	18 HO-HO-HO ASSEMBLY @ 1:45 — WEAR FESTIVE CLOTHES COURAGE TEAM WINNER ANNOUNCED

Ho-Ho-Ho Assembly

Friday, December 18th @ 1:45
Families Welcome



Help Grow the Grinch's Heart!

EVERYDAY LITERACY TIP

Write thank-you cards for friends, relatives, or neighbours to practice meaningful writing

IMPORTANT DATES

- Friday, December 4th – Term One Learning Updates go Home
- Friday, December 4th – Scholastic Book Orders Due
- Wednesday, December 9th – PAC Meeting @ 6:00 PM
- Wednesday, December 16th – K-4 Winter Concert @ 9:30
- Wednesday, December 16th – K-4 Winter Concert @ 6:30
- Friday, December 18th – Ho-Ho-Ho Assembly @ 1:45
- Friday, December 18th – Last Day of School before Winter Break
- Monday, January 4th – First Day Back to School after Winter Break
- Monday, January 4th – Readathon Assembly @ 9:00
- Monday, January 18th – District Pro-D Day – No School for Students
- Monday, January 25th – Family Literacy Week
- Monday, January 25th – Literacy Scavenger Hunt
- Tuesday, January 26th – Family Read @ 2:00
- Thursday, January 28th – Teacher Exchange @ 1:15
- Friday, January 29th – Great Big Buddy Read @ 9:30
- Friday, January 29th – Final Readathon Assembly @ 2:00



Adam Robertson 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.