



The Spirit of Arcola

DECEMBER, 2023



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

HELLO ARCOLA FAMILY,

I HOPE YOU ENJOYED THE LONG THANKSGIVING WEEKEND AND WERE ABLE TO SPEND TIME WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS. AS WE LOOK AHEAD TO DECEMBER, WE JUST HAVE A FEW WEEKS UNTIL WINTER BREAK WILL BE HERE. THE UPCOMING WEEKS ARE PACKED WITH A LOT OF SPECIAL ACTIVITIES THAT WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO INCLUDING THE WINTER PROGRAM, BOOKFAIR AND OUR MANNERS LUNCH.

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR ARCOLA FAMILIES FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT IN OUR RECENT JAR WARS COMPETITION. THIS FUNDRAISER HELPED RAISE MONEY TO HELP SUPPORT OTHERS IN NEED AT THE HOLIDAYS AND OUR RELAY FOR LIFE CAMPAIGN. WE APPRECIATE YOUR KINDNESS, GENEROSITY, AND ONGOING SUPPORT!

AT OUR NOVEMBER EAGLE EXTRAVAGANZA, SEVERAL STAFF MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN AN ARCOLA "SURVIVOR" CHALLENGE AND HAD TO WORK AS A TEAM AND USE THE LIFELINES OF PROBLEM SOLVING & HUMILITY TO WORK TOGETHER TO SOLVE A PUZZLE. ASK YOUR CHILD ABOUT WHICH TEAM, AND WHICH TEACHERS, MODELED THESE LIFELINES WELL, AND WHICH TEAM LEARNED MORE ABOUT THESE IMPORTANT LIFELINES. IN DECEMBER, WE LOOK FORWARD TO LEARNING MORE FROM MR. ELDER'S AND MR. KADUK'S 5TH GRADE STUDENTS ABOUT THE LIFELINES OF A POSITIVE ATTITUDE & GENEROSITY.

THE WEATHER HAS DEFINITELY TURNED A CORNER AND THE COLD TEMPERATURES ARE HERE! STUDENTS WILL GO OUTSIDE FOR RECESS IF THE "REAL FEEL" TEMPERATURE IS 10 DEGREES OR ABOVE. WE APPRECIATE YOUR HELP MAKING SURE STUDENTS ARE PROPERLY DRESSED FOR THE WEATHER AND COME TO SCHOOL WITH COATS, HATS AND GLOVES. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE TEXT ALERTS FROM NACS REGARDING DELAYS AND CANCELATIONS, YOU CAN VISIT THE PARENT PORTAL ON THE NACS WEBSITE TO OPT IN. IF YOU DO NOT ALREADY HAVE A PARENT ACCOUNT, THE DIRECTIONS ONLINE WILL WALK YOU THROUGH HOW TO SET ONE UP. IF YOU ALREADY HAVE A PARENT ACCOUNT, YOU CAN JUMP DOWN TO "REVIEW SCHOOL MESSENGER CONTACTS" TO ADD OR EDIT YOUR CONTACTS. [HTTPS://WWW.NACS.K12.IN.US/PARENTS/PARENT_PORTAL](https://www.nacs.k12.in.us/parents/parent_portal)

IN PARTNERSHIP,
KATE JOHANNINGSMEIER
PRINCIPAL
KATE.JOHANNINGSMEIER@NACS.K12.IN.US

IMPORTANT dates and events

- 12-1 BOOK FAIR THRU 12-8
- 12-1 SCRIP DELIVERED
- 12-7 PTO FLOWER PICK UP 2:30-3:15 & AFTER HOLIDAY PROGRAM
- 12-7 HOLIDAY PROGRAM 6:30 PM
- 12-8 PTO FLOWER PICK UP 7:30-8:15
- 12-8 SCRIP ORDER FORM GOES HOME
- 12-11 SCRIP ORDERS DUE
- 12-11 BOARD MEETING 6:00
- 12-12 DINE TO DONATE BLAZE PIZZA NIGHT
- 12-13 PACE CHRISTMAS COOKING CLASS GROUP #1 TILL 3:30
- 12-13 MANNER'S LUNCH/DRESS UP
- 12-14 EAGLE EXTRAVAGANZA 1:45
- 12-14 AUDITIONS FOR FROZEN AFTER SCHOOL
- 12-15 POPCORN DAY
- 12-15 SCRIP ORDERS DELIVERED
- 12-18 PACE CHRISTMAS COOKING CLASS GROUP #2 TILL 3:30
- 12-20 SPELLING BEE FOR 5TH GRADE
- 12-21 END OF 2ND 9 WEEKS
- 12-22 NO SCHOOL, POSSIBLE MAKE UP DAY
- 12-25 WINTER BREAK THRU 1-8-24





PTO POINTS OF INTEREST

SILVER GRAPHICS ART – THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO ORDERED ART THROUGH SILVER GRAPHICS. THE ART WILL BE SENT HOME IN EARLY DECEMBER. YOU CAN STILL ORDER ART AND HAVE IT SHIPPED TO YOUR HOUSE USING THE FOLLOWING LINK AND SCHOOL ACCESS CODE.

WWW.SILVERGRAPHICS.COM/SHOP
SCHOOL ACCESS CODE: ART23AE

WINTER FLOWER PICK-UP – WINTER FLOWER PICK-UP WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7TH FROM 2:45-3:15 AND AFTER THE HOLIDAY CONCERT IN THE CAFETERIA. YOU CAN ALSO PICK UP ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8TH FROM 7:45-8:15 AT THE GYM DOORS.

BLAZE PIZZA – WE WILL BE HAVING A DINE TO DONATE AT BLAZE PIZZA ON COLISEUM BLVD. ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12TH. MORE INFORMATION WILL BE SENT HOME SOON!

LITTLE SHOTS/EBA – FORMS WILL BE SENT HOME SOON FOR WINTER BASKETBALL. FORMS AND REGISTRATION FEE ARE DUE BACK BY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15TH. INFORMATION WILL BE SENT HOME AFTER THE HOLIDAY BREAK REGARDING TEAM ROSTERS AND SCHEDULE. WE ARE ALSO IN NEED OF INDIVIDUAL(S) TO OVERSEE THIS PROGRAM NEXT YEAR. THE PTO DOES NOT HAVE CAPACITY TO RUN THIS ACTIVITY SO IF WE DO NOT HAVE ANYONE VOLUNTEER WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE LITTLE SHOTS/EBA IN THE FUTURE.

2024 POPCORN/CHEEZ-IT PRE-ORDERS – THE POPCORN/CHEEZ-ITS PRE-ORDERS WERE A HUGE SUCCESS FOR BOTH THE STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS IN THE FALL SO WE ARE GOING TO DO PRE-ORDERS FOR JANUARY THROUGH MARCH. FORMS WILL GO HOME SOON TO PRE-ORDER POPCORN AND/OR CHEEZ-ITS AND WILL BE DUE BACK BY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15TH.

STAFF HOLIDAY LUNCH – THE PTO WILL BE PROVIDING A PASTA LUNCH WITH SALAD FOR THE AMAZING STAFF ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20TH. WE ARE ASKING FOR DONATIONS OF DESSERTS FOR THE STAFF. SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW OR USE THE FOLLOWING LINK TO SIGN UP. THANK YOU FOR DONATING!

[HTTPS://WWW.SIGNUPGENIUS.COM/GO/30E0E4AAFAD2BA3FD0-46443849-STAFF#/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0e4aafad2ba3fd0-46443849-STAFF#/)

PTO MEETING – THE NEXT PTO MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, JANUARY 11TH AT 4PM IN THE CAFETERIA



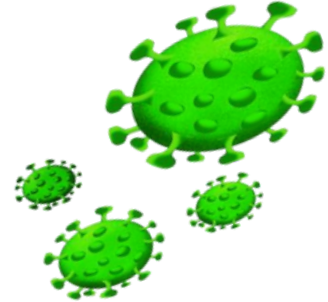
FROM THE COUNSELOR'S CORNER Amy Saleh, Counselor

ALTHOUGH THIS TIME OF YEAR CAN BE FILLED WITH MANY FUN EVENTS, IT CAN ALSO BE STRESSFUL FOR YOU AND YOUR CHILD. IT'S EVEN MORE IMPORTANT TO PRACTICE GOOD SELF-CARE DURING THESE TIMES. THE FOLLOWING TEN TIPS MAY HELP YOU MANAGE YOUR STRESS DURING THIS BUSY SEASON:

1. EXERCISE EVERYDAY
2. GET ENOUGH SLEEP
3. EAT HEALTHY FOODS
4. TALK ABOUT YOUR PROBLEMS
5. KEEP A JOURNAL
6. BREAK LARGE TASKS INTO SMALL STEPS
7. PRACTICE TAKING SLOW, DEEP BREATHS
8. AVOID NEGATIVE PEOPLE
9. DON'T OVER COMMIT
10. THINK HAPPY THOUGHTS



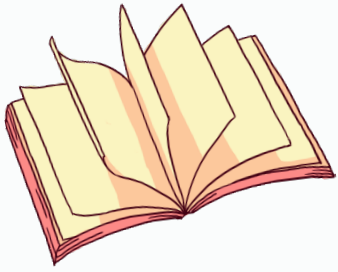
How to Determine A Cold vs The Flu		
Cold	Symptoms	Flu
People with a cold will sneeze more often but not enough to be a reliable sign.	Sneezing	Many people catch the flu from sick people coughing and sneezing.
Mostly Uncommon	Headaches	High Probability
High Probability	Sore Throat	Not Common
Uncommon	Fever	High Probability
Not Usually	Chills	Probability
Minor Aches/Pains	Aches	Severe Aches/Pains
A few days	Development	Very Quickly
Mild	Tired Feeling	Severe
Hacking with mucus	Coughing	Cough/(little mucus)
Usually Common	Clogged Nose	Not Common
Mild	Chest Discomfort	Severe



THE FLU (INFLUENZA) SEASON IS HERE! WE USUALLY SEE AN INCREASE IN OCTOBER, THEN TYPICALLY IT PEAKS DURING DECEMBER AND FEBRUARY. USING OUR PERSONAL PROTECTIVE BEHAVIORS (HAND AWARENESS) CAN HELP DECREASE THE SPREAD OF THE FLU VIRUS.

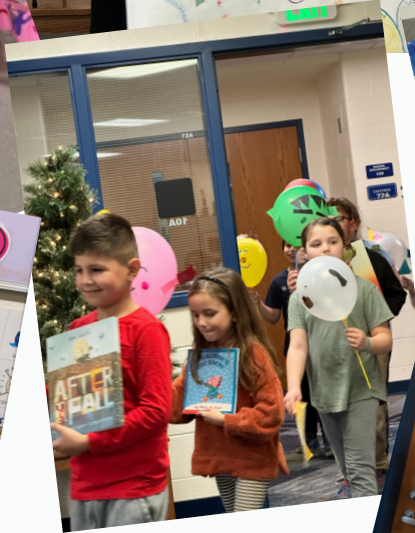
- WASH HANDS WHEN THEY ARE DIRTY AND BEFORE EATING.
- DO NOT COUGH INTO YOUR HANDS. DO COUGH INTO YOUR ELBOW.
- DO NOT SNEEZE INTO YOUR HANDS. DO SNEEZE INTO A TISSUE OR YOUR ELBOW.
- DO NOT PUT YOUR FINGERS INTO YOUR EYES, NOSE, OR MOUTH.

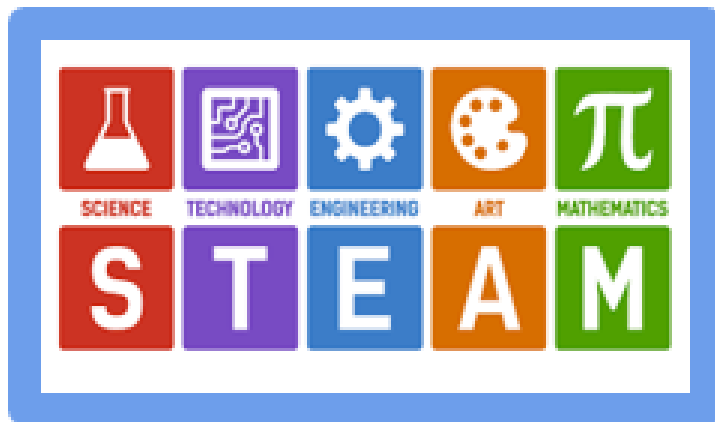
JAR WARS WAS A SUCCESS AGAIN THIS YEAR! WE RAISED \$2,419.40! WE ARE SO EXCITED TO BE ABLE TO HELP A SCHOOL FAMILY HAVE A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS! WE ALSO RAISED \$167.00 IN DIMES FOR THE NACS RELAY FOR LIFE FUNDRAISER. THANK YOU TO ALL THE STUDENTS WHO BROUGHT IN THEIR PIGGY BANKS FULL OF PENNIES, NICKELS, DIMES AND QUARTERS!



BOOK FAIR IS
DECEMBER 1 THRU
DECEMBER 8.
THURSDAY NIGHT
FROM 5:30 TILL TO 8:30

HASHTAG
#THANKSGIVING





Students have spent some class time learning skills or attempting challenges that can be used as decoration during some of our school events. For example, all grade levels just had their annual snowflake cutting lesson. Cutting snowflakes uses math and art skills and aids students in engineering / design-based thinking because the craft allows for reflection and revision. We integrate fractions and aspects of geometry

to better understand the nature of folding and cutting paper.

Kindergarten ... created paper engineered turkeys for feast day. They used art and math skills to design their turkey.

First Grade ... created 3D paper pumpkins by using paper, bags, and wire. These pumpkins were a great addition to our feast day celebration. They also started coding on the computer.

Second Grade ... used math to weave a yarn bowl to decorate feast day. They have started coding as well.

Third Grade ... students have been coding, focusing on the math and engineering connections to cutting snowflakes, and paper engineering a 3d disco ball from paper strips.

Fourth Grade ... students have been coding, focusing on the math and engineering connections to cutting snowflakes, and paper engineering a 3d disco ball from paper strips.

Fifth grade ... students have been coding, focusing on the math and engineering connections to cutting snowflakes, and paper engineering a 3d disco ball from paper strips.

Items needed / wanted / wished for: **paper plates, brown paper lunch bags, yarn!! Crochet hook sizes H-J, egg cartons, sewing needles, sewing pins, sewing thread, old or broken toys that we can take apart (reverse engineering), cardboard trays from Aldi**



CODING

PE CENTRAL

MRS. EAKRIGHT



DECEMBER ARRIVED QUICKLY THIS YEAR. WE ARE BEGINNING TO LEARN STREET HOCKEY SKILLS. K-2 ARE LEARNING ABOUT THE DIFFERENT WAYS TO PLAY HOCKEY, STICK SAFETY, HOW TO HOLD THE HOCKEY STICK, STICK HANDLING, GOALIE SKILLS AND SHOOTING SKILLS. 3-5 ARE PUTTING THE SKILLS THEY LEARNED IN PREVIOUS YEARS AND STARTING SMALL TEAM GAMES. THE FOCUS ON THE TEAM GAMES IS TEAMWORK, STICK SAFETY, SPREADING OUT THE OFFENSE, DEMONSTRATING OFFENSIVE AND DEFENSIVE STRATEGIES. WE WILL FINISH OFF THE MONTH WITH OUR ANNUAL INDOOR SNOWBALL FIGHT. (THE KIDS ARE ALREADY ASKING) ENJOY YOUR DECEMBER AND TIME SPENT WITH FAMILY
MRS. EAKRIGHT

MUSICAL NOTES

MRS. LEAHY

STUDENTS AT ARCOLA HAVE BEEN BUSY THIS MONTH! STUDENTS IN CHOIR SANG AT OUR VETERAN'S DAY PERFORMANCE AND THEY DID AN AMAZING JOB! STUDENTS IN KINDERGARTEN AND CHOIR DID A WONDERFUL JOB SINGING OUR "DON'T BE A TURKEY" SONG AT OUR THANKSGIVING FEAST. OUR BAND STUDENTS HELPED TO BRING A WONDERFUL ATMOSPHERE TO OUR 2ND GRADE MACY'S DAY BALLOON PARADE BY ADDING SOME GREAT MUSIC. IN ADDITION TO SINGING AND PLAYING SONGS AND LEARNING MORE ABOUT READING MUSIC, MANY CLASSES HAVE BEEN WORKING ON OUR PERFORMANCE SKILLS AS WE WORK TO GET READY FOR OUR WINTER PROGRAM. STUDENTS IN GRADE 3, 4 AND 5 HAVE BEEN PREVIEWING OUR UPCOMING MUSICAL. WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO SOME GREAT UPCOMING EVENTS.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

THE WINTER PROGRAM IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER. IT WILL BE HERE AT ARCOLA IN THE GYM ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7TH STARTING AT 6:30. STUDENTS IN GRADES K, 1, 2, BAND AND CHOIR WILL BE PERFORMING THAT NIGHT. THEY HAVE BEEN WORKING HARD TO GET READY FOR THIS SPECIAL EVENT. THE WINTER PROGRAM LETTER IS POSTED ON CANVAS IF YOU HAVE MISPLACED YOURS. DOORS OPEN AT 6:10 AND STUDENTS ARE TO REPORT TO THEIR CLASSROOMS BEFORE THE SHOW AND WILL SIT WITH THEIR CLASS. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SHOW, STUDENTS WILL GO BACK TO THEIR CLASSROOMS AND CAN BE PICKED UP BY THEIR PARENTS THERE. STUDENTS HAVE BEEN WORKING HARD AND WE ARE EXCITED TO PERFORM FOR YOU!

IF YOU HAVE NOT HEARD, WE WILL BE PUTTING ON A PRODUCTION OF DISNEY'S FROZEN JR. HERE AT ARCOLA ON THURSDAY, MAY 2ND, 2024. WE ARE JUST GETTING STARTED ON THIS. LETTERS FOR STAGE CREW AND SET DESIGN CREW WENT HOME THIS WEEK AND AUDITION MATERIALS ARE POSTED ON CANVAS. THE AUDITIONS WILL BE HELD HERE AT ARCOLA ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14TH. AUDITION PACKETS WITH THE COMMITMENT LETTERS TO BE RETURNED WILL BE COMING HOME NEXT WEEK. THE SCHEDULE FOR AUDITION NIGHT WILL BE POSTED AFTER I GET THE FORMS BACK. WE ARE REALLY EXCITED TO GET STARTED ON THIS EXCITING SHOW!





Students have finished making art that can be used as a decoration for the winter program and now we are moving into our Fame Fusion project. Every year, FAME chooses a cultural theme and sponsors an art contest based on that theme. This year the culture of focus is Viking Myths and Legends. Students will listen to "In the Hall of the Mountain King" by Grieg as they make

work inspired by the legends of Scandinavia. This really helps us meet our goal of connecting to our world through art.

Kindergarten finished creating 3D reindeer crafts for the winter program and started painting different hues of green as part of their fame Fusion project.

First Grade finished 3D paper wreaths for the winter program and will soon be starting the Fame Fusion project.

Second Grade finished disco dancing turkeys for the winter program and will soon start Fame Fusion.

Third Grade finished their spooky house paintings and soon, they will begin Fame Fusion!

Fourth Grade finished creating old house collages and can look forward to starting Fame fusion soon.

Fifth Grade created architecture collages using shape and color. They started Fame this week.

Items needed / wanted / wished for: cardboard tubes, coffee filters, brown paper bags, paper plates

Art tip for home: Here is a little list of art supplies that kids love if you are ever thinking of what to get them on a special occasion. This is also great stuff to place at a craft table during family gatherings:

- Kids love their own tape! The best part is it only cost less than \$3.
- Ink Joy pens are pretty great and colorful packs start for less than \$3.
- Sticky notes

- Origami paper which can be found at craft/art supply stores, packs starting at \$4
- Colorful straws and pipe cleaners are great for building. Thread straws onto pipe cleaners and twist ends together to build stuff. (Psst! You can get both for as little as \$1 each)



Kindergarten using colors and movement inspired by "In the Hall of the Mountain King".



First Grade Wreath and Second Grade Disco Dancing turkey. Be sure to check out the winter program to see the rest and our Kindergarten reindeer!