

The ACE View

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Michael Biondi, Principal

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Principal's Voice

Dear Allen Creek Families,

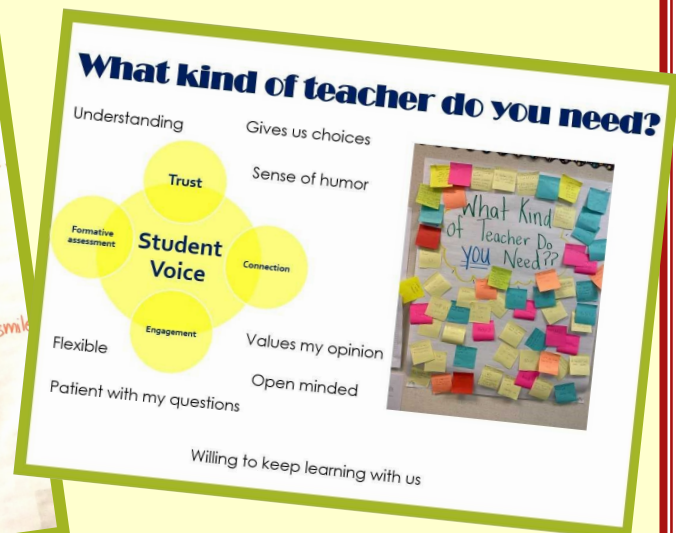
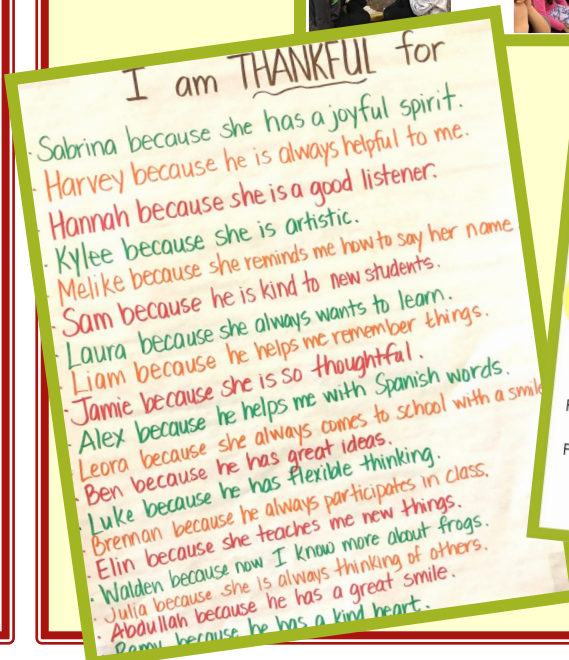
Our school year is off to a great start. As a school community, it is our intention to promote student voice and choice to enhance learning. Embedding student voice and choice into our academic program is an opportunity for students to feel connected to what happens in school every day. Students have displayed student voice in many ways this year, including participation in community circles, voice and choice in their writing work and representing their thinking through visuals and discussion. Student leaders have emerged through participation in Student Council, Safety Patrol and Class Buddies. We have all agreed to follow our compacts to ensure we are Safe, Respectful and Kind in our classrooms, hallways, buses, lunchroom and recess. I am so proud and thankful for school community. I continue to believe we are better together!

STUDENT VOICES
BUILD
COMMUNITY



Enjoy the View!

Michael Biondi
Principal



After School Enrichment Programs (ASEP) Corner

-Andrea Popp, After School Enrichment Chair

The PTSA's Fall ASEP calendar was filled with activities ranging from chess to STEM to art to history. Over the next few pages, you'll get to see students in action! While you'll often see my name as the ASEP Chair or program instructor, I can't do this work alone! Each program relies on parent volunteers to support our students. That volunteering often leads to a hand being raised to "chair", and I need some raised hands! *I am looking for two Musical Theatre Club Chairs, one for grades K-2 this January and another for Grades 3-5 this spring.* Read on to see what that entails... even if you've never volunteered before!

"Chair" sounds very official, perhaps intimidating, but it really means lead volunteer. You can even be a co-chair, so grab a friend! Before the program's start date, you'll send out e-mails to registered families and volunteers (I provide e-mail addresses and e-mail sample templates), you'll buy a banana snack (for which you are reimbursed), and you'll print off your check in/out sheet (created by my awesome co-chair, Tegan Rathelder). On the 4 or 5 days the club meets for the year, the chair needs to be at school about 20 minutes before the program starts and about 20 minutes after the program ends. During the program, you support the instructor and direct other volunteers as needed. With a co-chair, you can split responsibilities! If you're interested in raising your hand to chair Musical Theatre Club, please reach out to me at acease@pittsfordpts.net. We can't have a club without a chair, so thank you for checking your calendars and considering!

⇒ **Musical Theatre Club (Grades K-2): Mondays (4), January 23 - February 13 from 3:05 - 4:15 PM**

⇒ **Musical Theatre Club (Grades 3-5): Mondays (5), May 1 - June 5 (no May 29) from 3:05 - 4:30 PM, with a showcase until 5:00 PM on the last day**

N.B. Winter Registration will run from Wednesday, November 30 - Wednesday, December 7. Programs will include "What is Light" with GEM (K-2 and 3-5), Musical Theatre Club (K-2), Chess Club (K-5), 4th Grade STEM Club, and Arts & Sciences Club: Insects (K-2), with a visit from the RMSC. Fuchsia flyers will come home in backpack mail after Thanksgiving Break.



Chess Club K-5

Valentina Zanardi; Chess Club Co-Chair

This fall the Chess Club has come back to Allen Creek where the kids, along with instructors from the Rochester Chess Center, had fun learning and mastering their knowledge of this fascinating game! Did you know that chess originated in India and that people around the world have been playing it for more than 1400 years?





Art Club

– Andi Popp; PTSA Art Club Chair

For the first time this fall, grades K-2 and grades 3-5 met on different days in smaller groups for art-making tailored to their ages. Grades K-2 met in October for a series of Halloween-inspired projects. Students made egg carton-faced witches and Frankenstein monsters with elaborately embellished outfits, imitated Peter Brown's illustrations in *Creepy Carrots* with grayscale watercolor landscapes and pops of orange, and painted rainbow ghosts gobbling colorful candies—with some kits to go! Meeting for the first time the day after Halloween, Grade 3-5 created *calaveras*, or skulls, with a fun symmetrical painting technique for *Día de los Muertos*. They also learned to build an armature that they covered with plaster wrap and painted to look like giant no. 2 pencils, complete with embossed/debossed metal ferrules. After close observation of some ornamental varieties, students used watercolors to paint colorful bunches of corn, perfect to hang on the refrigerator this harvest season. I'm thankful for all the art-making we got to do this fall and for all the adult volunteers who helped manage the creative chaos!



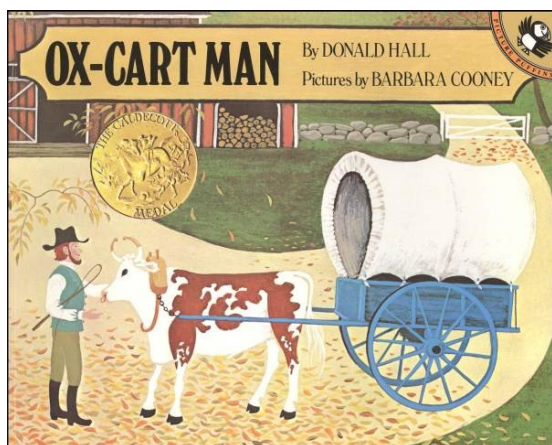
ART CLUB



The Ox-Cart Man with GCV&M

—Andi Popp, PTSA ASEP Chair

The Genesee Country Village & Museum brought their Moveable Museum to ACE this fall, with separate programs for grades K-2 and 3-5. Museum educator Julie Lane arrived dressed as a 19th century school teacher and read Don Hall's Caldecott Medal Winning *The Ox-Cart Man*. Both groups examined 19th century household goods while loading up a small-scale wagon just as the fictional father does as he prepares to sell and buy goods at market to sustain his family through the New England winter and seasons beyond. Identifying flax and maple sugar stumped many students as they mistook them for human hair and a dirty rock! Students tested their 19th century skill set in a second session where they whittled Ivory soap, rolled beeswax candles, embroidered burlap "samplers," wet-felted wool balls, and sampled old fashioned candies—a sweet way to end their learning! A big thank you to all the adult volunteers who lent a hand with these "chores!"



4th Grade STEM

– Andi Popp; PTSA ASEP Chair

Members of the Pittsford First Robotics Club returned for the monthly STEM club they host for younger scientists—our ACE 4th graders. After a mini lesson on the strength of triangles (think truss bridges and X-shaped cross bracing), the high school students challenged 20 fourth graders to build the tallest towers using only newspaper and masking tape. The elementary students feverishly worked to roll narrow tubes of newspaper on the diagonal and tape them together into gravity-defying towers. Fun was had by all! Students will explore simple machines and water tension in the next two monthly sessions. A big thank you to our adult volunteers and high school instructors, too!



Teacher and Staff Appreciation

–Cory Herrema

Fall Teacher and Staff Appreciation was a success! The teachers and staff were surprised with breakfast sandwiches from Marty's Meats on Friday, 11/4. On Tuesday 11/8, the faculty lounge was decorated and they enjoyed coffee, breakfast pizza, donuts and pastries!



Light the Loop

-Susan Hondorf; PTSA Chair

On Saturday, Oct. 29th, Allen Creek participated in the 3rd annual Light the Loop. Each classroom and special area teacher was given a pumpkin donated by the PTSA and Powers Farm Market. Close to 100 families contributed a pumpkin to our spooktacular display. Participants enjoyed apple cider and donuts at drop-off and crazy volunteers scaled ladders and trees to hang our decorations. When night fell the ACE loop never shined so brightly. Thank you to all that volunteered and to those that enjoyed the show!



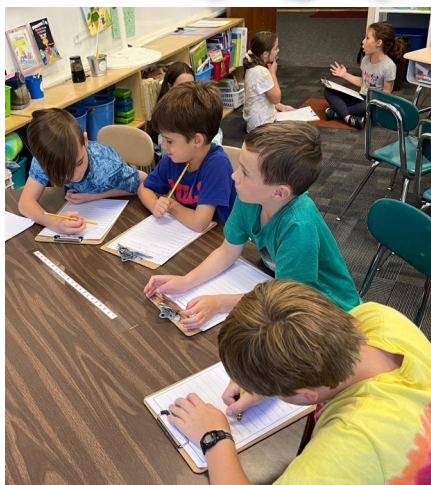
2F and 4Co Buddies

-Ingrid Ferrara; 2nd Grade Teacher

Fourth graders in Mrs. Coiro's class and second graders from Mrs. Ferrara's class have teamed up to become Learning Buddies. Every other day 5, you can see a fourth and second grader working together on a piece of literature, engaged in problem solving or developing cooperation skills, reading together or just enjoying a holiday related craft! Future plans include making decorations for our neighbors at the Friendly Home. Time together ends in smiles and a sense of new friendship.



BUDDIES



2P and 4H Buddies

- Amy Pelletier; 2nd Grade Teacher

Students in Mrs. Pelletier's second grade are buddies with Ms. Hallett's fourth graders. We are learning so much about each other, and doing many activities together.

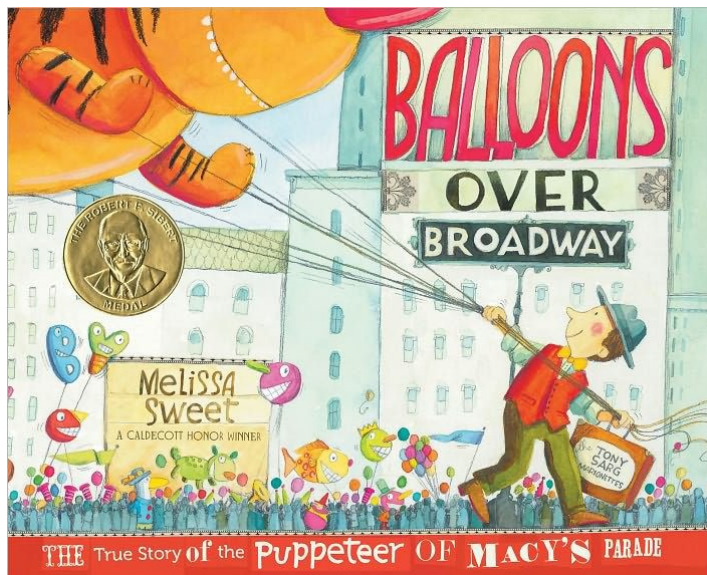




Balloons Over Broadway

—Kelly Coiro; 4th Grade Teacher

Fourth grade teachers collaborated with Mrs. Bay, our art teacher, to bring *Balloons Over Broadway* to life! Each classroom read the book, *Balloons over Broadway* by Melissa Sweet, that tells the story of the puppeteer responsible for the gigantic balloons during the Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City. Students then got to pick an image they wanted to recreate during art class. Finally, students wrote a description broadcasting their balloon as it floats down the street.



A Note from the Nurse

—Maria Hartman; School Nurse

As the weather begins to change, help your child prepare for colder climate. Our students will participate in daily outdoor recess, therefore a warm coat, boots, snow pants, gloves/mittens, and a hat are essential. Also remember to send along an extra pair of socks in case of wet feet. Finally, if wearing boots to school, please bring along indoor shoes or sneakers to wear in the classroom. Thank you for your partnership on this matter.



Band at ACE

- Erin Molinich; Band Teacher

Our 5th grade students have signed up to study woodwind, brass and percussion with Mrs. Molinich on Mondays. Students have been working very hard to master their instruments as we prepare to begin our band ensemble experience November 14th.





- Lori Ianniello; Music Teacher

Fall Pumpkin Rhythm Walk through the music room. Students created the "pumpkin patch" using scarves and imagination, then walk, stop & play grade level rhythm cards for and along with partners, small groups. Older grades played on classroom instruments for their highest level.

