



March 2017

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Twelfth Annual Spelling Bee

The twelfth annual Alfred-Almond Spelling Bee was held on Thursday, February 6 in the High School Auditorium. Twenty-four spellers in first through eighth grade participated in the event. Twelve spellers advanced from the preliminary rounds to compete for the title of AACS Spelling Bee Champion. These spellers were Samuel Bensley (grade 3), Henry Lawrence (grade 3), Astraea Cushing (grade 4), Brogan Donlon (grade 4), Gabe Fioretto (grade 4), Ali Wojtkowiak (grade 4), Taylor Flaitz (grade 5), Olivia Flaitz (grade 5), Candy Zhou (grade 5), Jennie Bensley (grade 5), Cameron Heinig (grade 6) and Sydney Heinig (grade 8).



These finalists competed for the title of AACS Spelling Bee Champion.



Brogan Donlon takes his turn during the Spelling Bee.

Candy Zhou correctly spelled the word “phosphine” in the twelfth round to be crowned Alfred-Almond Spelling Bee Champion, while Jennie Bensley secured runner-up honors with her spelling of “prestidigitation.” Candy and Jennie went on to compete in the Regional Bee at Corning-Painted Post High School on March 4.

Elementary students explore diversity and tolerance through art

AACS Elementary artists opened their eyes to see color in a new way in February. Embracing the Character Education theme for the month, we read about and discussed the significance of diversity around us, and our responsibility to be tolerant and celebratory of those differences. Each student from UPK to grade 6 was given a challenge to look past labels of “white” and “black,” because, really, no person’s exterior matches either one of those words.

We took this opportunity to come up with new names for our skin tones, re-introducing ourselves as cappuccino, cinnamon, french toast and sugar cookie (food names



This unified heart, made up of individual student hearts, was displayed in the school lobby.

became a universal throughout the week!). Then we took on the challenge of trying to mix our exact combinations using small amounts of brown, pink, white, yellow and orange paint on the backs of our hands. As we mixed paint, it became clear that all skin tones are a mix-

ture of those colors, tinted in one direction or another. Once we found our matches, we transferred our own recipes onto individual paper hearts to be combined into one display with our peers.

More than 300 small hearts became one unified heart display in the lobby of the elementary wing, showing our true colors and initiating some positive conversations throughout the school and community. The kids really enjoyed the challenge set forth, and the atmosphere was one of thoughtful, meaningful work.

We will encounter diversity in a multitude of forms throughout our lives, and the intent of this exercise was to bring something more than tolerance to our youngest community members. We are all so much more than a label!



Students mixed paint to match their skin tone on the backs of their hands.

Fun Night hosted by Class of 2020

More than 100 Alfred-Almond students in PreK through sixth grade attended Fun Night on Friday, February 10. They were met by their hosts, enthusiastic helpers from the Class of 2020, who were eager to help keep the fun alive! The event featured swim time and an open gym with basketballs, hippity-hops, parachute games and yoga, along with a bake sale that included treats for every sweet tooth. The hosts appeared to have as much fun as their guests and this proved to be a very successful event. A very special thank you to all the chaperones who dedicated their time and energy to make this possible.



(Lower left) Members of the freshman class enjoyed helping with the event.

(Right) Derek and Olivia Flaits had fun playing parachute games.

(Below) Ezi and Elli Backer took advantage of pool time during Fun Night.



Math Team competes at Houghton College

On February 7, 15 members of the Math Team competed in the American Mathematics Competition at Houghton College. Results will be available later in March. The students also participated in hands-on math and science sessions. Some built speakers that they connected to devices to play music. Others named water and quickly froze a banana in the Chemical Magic session. Students also learned about the mathematics of password security. The Math Team is now eagerly preparing for Pi Day on March 14.

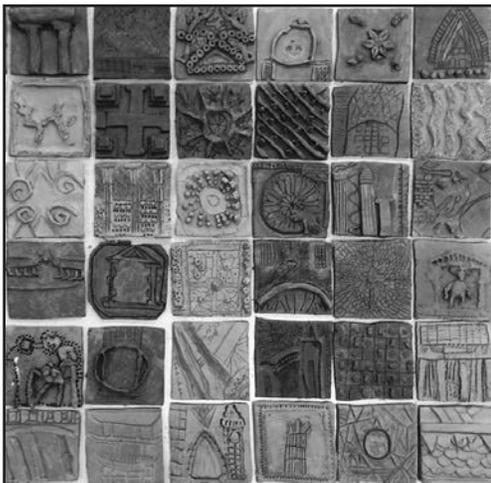
*Math Team members
Joey Miletti and
Maeghan Rodd test
the speaker they built
at Houghton College.*



Legacy Project works to be unveiled at Art Show on May 16

The 2016-17 Sixth Grade Legacy Project will be unveiled at the Alfred-Almond Central School Art Show in May. This year, sixth-graders each chose a style of world architecture to inspire their design for a terra cotta tile. The World Architecture tile mural will be installed and ready for viewing in the elementary wing in time for the Art Show.

Please plan to attend the show on Tuesday, May 16 from 6-8 p.m. All students currently taking art will be represented as we transform the school into our very own art gallery, complete with live music and ice cream sundaes.



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*The World
Architecture tile
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Universal Pre-K Info.

Administration anticipates that the Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) program for our preschool children will continue into the 2017-18 school year. Children born on or before December 1, 2013 are eligible to apply for attendance in the program. Children who are eligible to attend kindergarten are not eligible to apply for attendance in UPK.



The application is included in this newsletter and will be available at the Elementary Office and on the district website at www.aacs.wnyric.org. If you would like to receive an application in the mail, please contact Heidi Putnam at 607-276-6530. Completed applications and a copy of your child's birth certificate and immunization records are due at the Elementary Office no later than Wednesday, May 3.

Applications received after this date will not be considered if more than 18 applications are received. A random selection process, as required by New York State, will be performed should the district receive more applications than the 18 available openings. Families will be notified whether their child did or did not receive a spot in the UPK program by Monday, May 8.

Questions should be directed to Robert Woughter, Elementary Principal at 276-6525.

100th day celebrated

Second-graders had a lot of fun celebrating the 100th day of school. Students did 10 groups of 10 exercises in physical education class, made pictures with 100 stickers and read a spooky story with 100 scary things.



Lucas Fletcher and Tanner Ledbetter celebrated the 100th day of school with hats they created.

Kindergarten visitation and registration scheduled

Children born on or before December 1, 2012 are eligible to enter school in September 2017. Parents and their children are invited to attend kindergarten visitation on May 1 at 2:30 p.m. This visitation is open to all children who will be eligible to enter school in September 2017.

Kindergarten registration will be held by appointment only on May 8-12 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. When registering your child, you will need to bring:

- 1) Child's birth certificate or other legal record of child's birth date. Children must be five years of age on or before December 1, 2017.

- 2) Your child's immunization record (see list below). According to law, your child may NOT enter school without proof of these immunizations.
- 3) An end-of-the-year checklist from any nursery school your child may have attended.

If your child is eligible to attend kindergarten in September 2017, please call the Elementary Office at 276-6525 to confirm mailing information needed to register your child.

New York State Immunization Requirements for School Entrance/Attendance		
Vaccine	Pre-Kindergarten	Kindergarten
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTap, DTP)	4 doses	5 doses OR 4 doses if the 4th dose was received at 4 years of age or older
Polio (IPV, OPV)	3 doses	4 doses or 3 doses if the 3rd dose was received at 4 years of age or older
Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)	1 dose	2 doses
Hepatitis B	3 doses	3 doses
Varicella (Chickenpox)	1 dose	2 doses
Haemophilus Influenzae Type B Conjugate (Hib)	1-4 doses	N/A
Pneumococcal Conjugate (PCV)	1-4 doses	N/A

SAT preparation tools

Useful apps and sites for SAT Preparation:

- SAT Connect by Watermelon Express (free app)
- Easel SAT (free app)
- SAT Study Guide by EduCare Education (app)
- Princeton Review iPad App-ScoreQuest (paid app)
- Tutor.com To Go (free app)
- Prepmunch.com
- Kaplan SAT Flashcubes (free)
- CK12.org-SAT-free mini-book
- INeedAPencil.com
- collegeboard.org-Kaplan review

Academic All-Stars celebrate win



The 2017 Academic All-Star team recently celebrated a win against Avoca Central School.

**PreKindergarten Program Application
2017-18 School Year**

Alfred-Almond School District

Today's Date _____

Student's Legal Name: _____
Last Name First Name

Name Called: _____

Male **Female** **Date of Birth** _____ **Social Security #** _____

Is Student Hispanic, Latino or of Spanish origin? **Yes** **No**

Ethnic Group/Race: American Indian/Alaska Native Asian Black/African American

White Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

Birth Place: _____
City State Country

What was the first language your child learned? _____ Language spoken most often: _____

Did your child attend preschool as a 3 year old? **Yes** **No** If yes, where? _____

Does your child need to take medication at school? **Yes** **No** If yes, what? _____

Does your child have special medical problems/allergies/drug allergies? **Yes** **No** If yes, please explain: _____

Please indicate the following in case of an emergency.

Physician: _____ Phone # _____

Dentist: _____ Phone # _____

Does your child receive any of the following services? Special Education/IEP 504 Plan

ESL PT OT Speech Accelerated Learning Other Please Explain: _____

House Address:

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____ **County:** _____

Mailing Address if different:

Do you: own () rent () or share residence with another family ()

If you share this residence with another family, list family/owner's name: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Is this a cell phone? Yes No

Parent/Guardian 1: Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Address (if different from students) _____

Cell Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email: _____

Parent/Guardian 2: Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Address (if different from students) _____

Cell Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email: _____

Is either parent/guardian a civilian employee on federal property or on active duty in the uniformed services? _____

Parent/Guardian Status: Married Separated Divorced Single

Student resides with: Both natural parents One natural parent Natural parent/Step parent
Guardian Foster

Additional parent/guardian that should receive correspondence for this student:

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone _____ Work Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please list the names and ages of siblings under 18:

I understand that my child is not guaranteed a spot in the UPK program by my submittal of this application and that the number of children the District can serve will be determined by UPK funds identified in the annual State budget. Additionally, I understand that if the District receives more applications than the available number of slots a random selection process will be applied as required by New York State.

Parent/Guardian(s) Signature:

-----Office Use Only-----

Application Received: _____
Birth Certificate () _____
Immunization Record () _____

Proof of Residency: _____
Enrolled () By: _____
Homeroom: _____

Bus #: _____

Alfred-Almond Central School
6795 Rte. 21
Almond, New York 14804

Return Services Requested

U.S. Postage Paid
Alfred, New York 14802
Permit No. 20
Non-Profit Organization

POSTAL PATRON

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Emergency school closing info.

As a reminder to parents, with the winter weather, it is sometimes necessary to close school because it is not safe for the students to walk or ride to school. Should it be necessary to close school, you will receive an automated message notifying you of this occurrence. For additional information on school closings, please listen to one of the following radio or TV stations:

WLEA 1480 AM
WKPQ 105.3 FM
WJQZ 103.5 FM
WZKZ 101.1 FM

WLSV 790 AM
WCKR 92.1 FM
WETM-TV (Elmira)
WKBW-TV (Buffalo)



Important dates

April 5 _____ Literary Festival, HS Auditorium,
6:30 p.m.

April 10-17 _____ Spring Recess, No School

2017 Literary Festival



Reminder:

Don't forget the **28th Literary Festival 2017** is coming up! Wednesday, April 5,
6:30 pm in the HS Auditorium!