



Alfred-Almond Central School District Newsletter

January 2020

Inside this Issue

Students build snowmen on snow day;
ALCEN yearbooks on sale;
A-A to present *Singin' in the Rain*Pg. 2

Elementary news;
Second-graders practice yoga;
Outdoor Adventure Club offers new opportunities for studentsPg. 3

Math Team wins at CCC;
Students present book talks;
Kindergarten field tripPg. 4

First Honor Roll Breakfast recognizes achievement;
STAR credit informationPg. 5

PreK and Kindergarten registration forms....Pg. 6

Elementary art room happeningsPg. 7

School closing info.;
Follow us on social media;
Mark your calendar;
Transportation requests;
Honor Society bell ringers Pg. 8

Student Government holds winter clothing drive

Student Government sponsored a winter clothing drive during the month of December. Collection trees and boxes were located outside the High School office and in the Elementary School lobby. With the generosity of AACS students and staff, collections bins were filled with 49 coats, 39 winter hats, 36 pairs of mittens, 28 scarves and 4 pairs of snow boots. The drive was a district-wide success!

Student Government representatives would like to thank all who participated; your efforts will give someone in need hope, comfort and warmth this winter.



(Left) Student Government members prepare to deliver donations.

(Below) Laertes Cushing sorts through donated items.



(Left) Student Government members organize the 49 winter coats that were donated.

Students build snowmen on snow day

During the snow day December 12, 2019, Ms. Kenney sent parents a message and challenged her fifth-grade students to go outside and build a snowman. She asked them to be creative, take a picture and submit it for a Snowman Contest. Ms. Kenney put the pictures together in a slide show and asked students to name an award for each snowman. The class shared ideas with each snowman builder and let the builder choose the award he or she would receive.



Isabel received the Most Recycled Award.



(Clockwise) Eli received the Happiest Snowman Award, Mia earned the Most Relaxed Award, Josiah was given the Most Humorous Award and Bailee received the Most Tools Used Award.



ALCEN yearbooks on sale

The ALCEN Staff has been hard at work during the past few months. We met our first deadline of 42 pages and we have another 52 pages due at the end of January. The staff would like to remind everyone that the 2020 yearbooks will be on sale the week of February 3-7. The cost of the book is \$50 and checks can be made payable to ALCEN. Thank you to the businesses that have purchased an ad in the yearbook – your support helps keep the cost of the book down.



ALCEN staff have been hard at work on the 2020 edition.

The Alfred Almond Performing Arts Department Proudly Presents



Thursday, March 19th @ 7pm
 Saturday, March 21st @ 7pm
 Sunday, March 22nd @ 2pm

Alfred Almond High School Auditorium
 General Admission Tickets: \$5

For more information or to volunteer, contact Miss Karr:
lkarr@aacapps.com

Elementary news

2020 is off to a great start at Alfred-Almond! We are looking forward to a productive and fruitful second half of the year as our students apply the skills they have been learning.

Many times educators are asked by parents, “What can I do at home to help my child be successful at school?” The answer to this is quite simple – read with your child every day. Throughout the reading process, praise your child, ask questions about the story, visualize the story, offer information, share personal feelings and relate the story to real life. Most of all, enjoy the story together and let your child see that reading is fun. This is a special time together!

Thank you for supporting our Elementary SIT Book Fair. The money raised will allow the school to purchase more books for our classroom libraries and our elementary library.

Some important upcoming dates to remember:

February 17-21: Winter Recess – No School

March 12-13: Parent/Teacher Conferences – Elementary dismissal at 11:50 a.m.

March 20: Superintendent’s Day – No School

March 26-27: NYS ELA Testing

Parent communication is crucial to student success.

Feel free to contact the school with any questions or concerns at 276-6525.

Brett Dusingberre
Elementary School Principal

Second-graders practice yoga

Elementary Instructional Intervention Coach Casey Dusingberre leads Tammy Olix’s second-grade classroom in yoga and mindfulness each day. The students love to practice yoga poses, learn new breathing techniques and enjoy sharing important events happening in their lives. Thank you, Mrs. Dusingberre, for teaching our students strategies to help them deal with difficulties they may have.



Students learned the star pose (above) and flying eagle pose (below) with the help of Mrs. Dusingberre



Outdoor Adventure Club offers new opportunities for students

The newly-formed Outdoor Adventure Club is now underway at Alfred-Almond. The club, under the advisement of Tom Murphy, College and Career Readiness Coordinator, meets every Tuesday during the activity time. The influx of participants has been amazing – the club is now up to 20 members after only three meetings. Members are learning the basics of backpacking, which include wilderness survival, first aid, compass and G.P.S., gear identification and use, Leave No Trace principles and much more. The club will offer small trips and will take part in fundraising to offset the cost of these adventures.

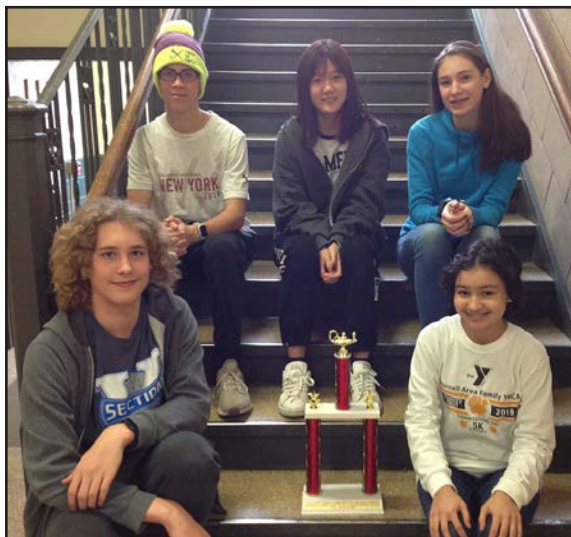


Other outdoor adventure endeavors will include fishing (spin and fly), fly-tying workshops and working with Trout Unlimited and other local conservation organizations as resources for the club. Additional events that are in the works are archery, kayaking, hiking, snowshoeing and wildlife photography. The club is seeking local professionals in these concentrated areas to come in and speak with members. Please help spread the word on this exciting new opportunity for Alfred-Almond students.

Seniors Nick Robertshaw and Joey Crosson demonstrate how to use an emergency space blanket with seventh-grade student Jake Dobson volunteering as their survivor.

Math Team wins Corning Community College contest

In November, the Math Team attended Corning Community College's Math Contest and STEM Day. The Alfred-Almond Math Team placed first among small schools in attendance for the third consecutive year. Jeremiah Ford took second place among all individual students and Julian Petrillo took fourth place. Congratulations to the team!



(Left) Members of the team that won at CCC included (front, l-r) Julian Petrillo, Shannon Heinig, (back, l-r) Jeremiah Ford, Jina Zhao and Lauren Kelly.

During the STEM Day, Math Team members and Bioinformatic students learned about aerospace engineering, artificial intelligence, computer science, cybersecurity, biomedical engineering and much more.



Jeremiah Ford (left) took second place among all individual students and Julian Petrillo (right) took fourth place.

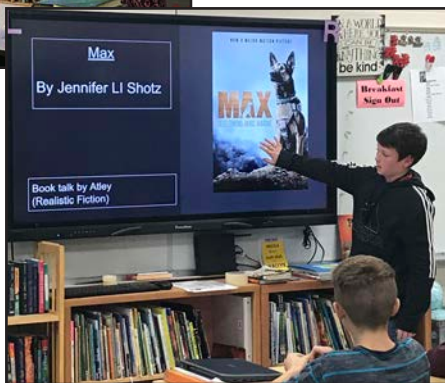
Students present book talks

Sixth-grade students have been enjoying the opportunity to share books they've loved through book talks. These short presentations are given on Tuesdays in ELA class and have allowed students to get recommendations for books to read from their classmates.



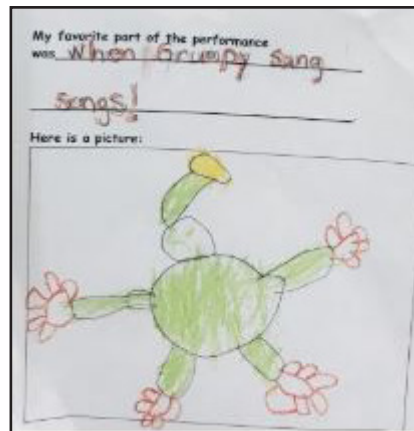
(Left) Noelle Emerson presented *One for the Murphys* by Lynda Mullaly Hunt.

(Right) Atley Barnett presented *Max* by Jennifer Li Sholtz.



Kindergarten field trip

Kindergarten classes took a field trip to The Quick Arts Center at St. Bonaventure University on December 4. Students saw the musical *A Fairy Tale Winter*. The following day, Mrs. Donlon's students described their trip in writing and drawings.



(Above) Students enjoyed the performance at St. Bonaventure University.

(Top) The following day, students wrote about the show and illustrated their work.

First Honor Roll Breakfast recognizes academic achievement

The Secondary School Improvement Team was proud to host the First Honor Roll Breakfast for the first quarter of the 2019-2020 school year. On Thursday, December 5, the High School cafeteria was standing room only for the event that has become tradition, as students and families gathered to enjoy fruit, juice and the ever-popular donuts, along with recognition.

The academic achievements of the students were celebrated as Mrs. Bain-Lucey offered her gratitude and admiration for the importance they have placed on their education, along with their commitment to improve, grow, learn and challenge themselves. She thanked the parents and teachers for their support and encouragement of the students.

One hundred twenty-two First Honor students were recognized by their counselors, comprising 43 percent of the student body. In order to receive First Honors, a student must obtain an average of 90 percent or higher and have no grade below 80 percent.

Mrs. Bain-Lucey also recognized the 151 students who achieved either first or second honor status or BOCES honors. This comprised 53 percent of the Alfred-Almond Jr. Sr. High School student body.

Congratulations to all of these students and their teachers and families for their dedication to education!



Honorees at the First Honor Roll breakfast included Jessica McMahon, Liam Harris (top), Logan Whittall and Micah Ford (above).

STAR credit information

Eligible new homeowners will receive their STAR savings in the form of a check directly from New York State. New Basic and En-



hanced STAR applicants must register with the New York State Tax Department to receive a STAR check. Register anytime at www.tax.ny.gov/star or by phone weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (518-457-2036). Register by July 1 to receive your STAR check in September. If you register after July 1, you will receive your check later.

STAR eligibility requirements

If you own your home, it's your primary residence, and if your income is \$500,000 or less, you're eligible for the Basic STAR credit.

If you're 65 or older with an income of \$86,000 or less, you may be eligible for the Enhanced STAR credit.

Before you register

You'll need this information to register for the STAR credit:

- names and Social Security numbers for all owners of the property and their spouses (you may be asked to enter this information more than once to show the relationships between owners)
- the primary residence of the owners and their spouses
- approximate date the owners purchased the property and the name of the sellers (this information is not required, but it can help us to smoothly process your registration)
- the most recent school tax bill, if the current owners received one
- address of any residential property owned in another state
- the legal name of the trust, if applicable
- 2018 federal or state income tax returns for all owners. If you weren't required to file a 2018 income tax return, you be asked to provide financial information for all property owners.

STAR exemption recipients

You don't need to register with New York State for STAR if you're a longtime homeowner with an existing STAR exemption. If you're a senior citizen who has been receiving the Basic STAR exemption and has become eligible for the Enhanced STAR exemption, you should apply with your local assessor.

Alfred-Almond KINDERGARTEN SIGN-UPS FOR SEPTEMBER 2020

In order to identify all children who will enter Kindergarten in September 2020, we are asking those parents who have eligible children who **DO NOT CURRENTLY ATTEND THE PRE-K PROGRAM** to complete this form and return it to the elementary school by April 17, 2020. Your child must be 5 years of age on or before December 1, 2020. This information is necessary when we initiate Kindergarten sign-ups in the spring. We will use this information below to generate a mailing list for sending the actual registration packets. Students currently attending the Pre-K will automatically be sent a packet. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Child's Full Name _____ M/F Date of Birth _____

Mother's Name: _____
First Maiden Last

Street Address: _____
House # Street City State Zip

Mailing Address: _____
(If different from above)

Phone Number where you can be reached between 8:00AM and 3:00PM _____

Father's Name: _____
First Middle Last

Street Address: _____
House # Street City State Zip

Mailing Address: _____
(If different from above)

Phone Number where you can be reached between 8:00AM and 3:00PM _____

Child Resides With: _____

Alfred-Almond Elementary
 6795 State Route 21
 Almond, NY 14804
 607-276-6525

Alfred-Almond PRE-KINDERGARTEN SIGN-UPS FOR SEPTEMBER 2020

In order to identify all children who will enter Pre-Kindergarten in September 2020, we are asking those parents who have eligible children to complete this form and return it to the elementary school by April 17, 2020. Your child must be 4 years of age on or before December 1, 2020. This information is necessary when we initiate Pre-Kindergarten sign-ups in the spring. We will use this information below to generate a mailing list for sending the actual registration packets. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Child's Full Name _____ M/F Date of Birth _____

Mother's Name: _____
First Maiden Last

Street Address: _____
House # Street City State Zip

Mailing Address: _____
(If different from above)

Phone Number where you can be reached between 8:00AM and 3:00PM _____

Father's Name: _____
First Middle Last

Street Address: _____
House # Street City State Zip

Mailing Address: _____
(If different from above)

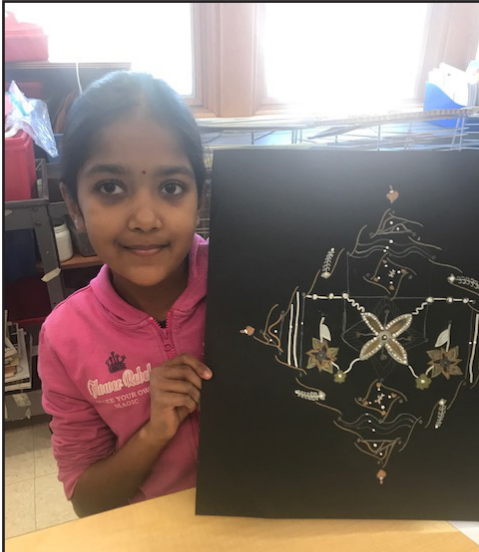
Phone Number where you can be reached between 8:00AM and 3:00PM _____

Child Resides With: _____

Alfred-Almond Elementary
 6795 State Route 21
 Almond, NY 14804
 607-276-6525

Elementary art room happenings

Fifth-grade artists created line compositions inspired by their study of radial design and traditional Indian Rangoli sand art.



(Above) Sahethi Sree Dama, (right) Ella Dusinberre and Kaitlyn Diestler and (below) Grace Lee work on radial design and traditional Indian Rangoli sand art.



Fourth-grade artists honed their clay hand-building skills creating unique coil pot designs.



(Above) Jamison Snyder, (right) Gregoire Giroud and (below) Yeon Joon Kim work on clay coil pots.



POSTAL PATRON

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

Mark your calendar

- Semi-Formal January 25, 7:00 p.m.
- Superintendent’s Conference Day –
No School for Students January 27
- Winter Recess – No School February 17-21
- Winter Sports Awards..... March 5, 7:00 p.m.
- Bumpaplooza Tournament March 6
- Parent-Teacher Conferences March 12-13
Elementary dismissed at 11:50 a.m.
- Spring Show, *Singin’ in the Rain* March 19, 21 and 22
- Superintendent’s Conference Day –
No School for Students March 20
- Food Drive March 23-27

Transportation requests

Any parent requesting student transportation to a nonpublic school must request such transportation in writing no later than April 1, 2020. The request should be submitted to the Alfred-Almond Central School District Office.

Honor Society bell ringers

Members of the National Honor Society helped raise money for the local Salvation Army on Friday, December 20 by staffing the red kettle and ringing the bell in front of the Hornell Walmart.

Alyssa Turner and Brent Porter took a turn ringing the bell for the Salvation Army.



School closing information

As a reminder to parents, it is sometimes necessary to close school because winter weather conditions make it unsafe for 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 WLSV 790 AM WKPQ 105.3 FM
- WCKR 92.1 FM WJQZ 103.5 FM WZKZ 101.1 FM
- WKBW-TV (Buffalo) WETM-TV (Elmira)

Follow us on social media



Have you liked us on Facebook yet? Be sure to click the like button at the top of the page to receive updates.
<https://www.facebook.com/AlfredAlmondCentralSchoolDistrict>



You also can follow us on Instagram:
[@alfred.almond.central.school](https://www.instagram.com/alfred.almond.central.school)

