



Alfred-Almond Central School District Newsletter

March 2021

Inside this Issue

A-A grad, SpaceX
employee speaks to
math team;
Story time from
space;
Students prep for
NYSSMA.....Pg. 2

News from second
grade;
A-A skiers bring home
awardsPg. 3

Students receive postcards
from across the globe;
UPK and Kindergarten
information;
Students enjoy outdoor
PE classesPg. 4

PreK application . Pg. 5-6

Census formPg. 7

School closing reminder;
SAT/ACT preparation
tools;Important dates;
Show announcement;
Yearbooks
on sale now.....Pg. 8

Art students to spread cheer at Hornell Gardens

Studio Art students have spent weeks building skills in watercolor, learning about mixing pigments and working in layers to create a range of work from abstract to observational trees and apples. Now, in putting those skills and confidence to work, they will create miniature masterpiece paintings as postcards to spread some joy beyond the art room.

Each student in Studio Art will create two postcards with positivity in mind, to be mailed to the 50 residents of Hornell Gardens. Working small scale and incorporating an uplifting theme will allow the student artists to play to their strengths and create miniature masterpieces to share. The postcards will be completed and mailed by early

March, with the hope of bringing smiles to the faces of our older community members. The students are excited for the opportunity to reach out in this challenging time, knowing that their small painted postcards can make a much larger impact on the lives of those who need it most.



Artwork by Amy Powers.



Aurora Middaugh paints a postcard.



Artwork by Liam Carstens.



Artwork by Liam Hefley.

A-A grad, SpaceX employee speaks to math team

In January, Alfred-Almond Alumnus Joseph Torkaman, Class of 2010, joined the A-A Math Team via Zoom to share his experiences working for SpaceX. A mere 10 years after graduating from A-A, Joe, a Space Operations Engineer for SpaceX, is designing and building parts that are going into space. He earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees at Florida Institute of Technology, specializing in Aerospace Engineering. Joe gave the students great advice in pursuing STEM careers. He encouraged them to find opportunities for internships to see what fields they enjoy and to gain coding experience. Thank you, Joe, for inspiring us!

In February, A-A Math Team members participated in



the American Mathematics Competition (pictured below). This year, the national competition was conducted online.

The Math Team would enjoy hearing from alumni in STEM careers. Please contact Mrs. Bensley at jbensley@aacapps.com if you are interested in speaking to the group.



Story time from space



Mrs. Donlon's Kindergarten class listened to and watched the first Story Time From Space LIVE, from the International Space Station. Students read along with astronaut Shannon Walker as she read about the extreme adventures of Willow the Water Bear. Students also met the author and chatted with a scientist studying Tardigrades.

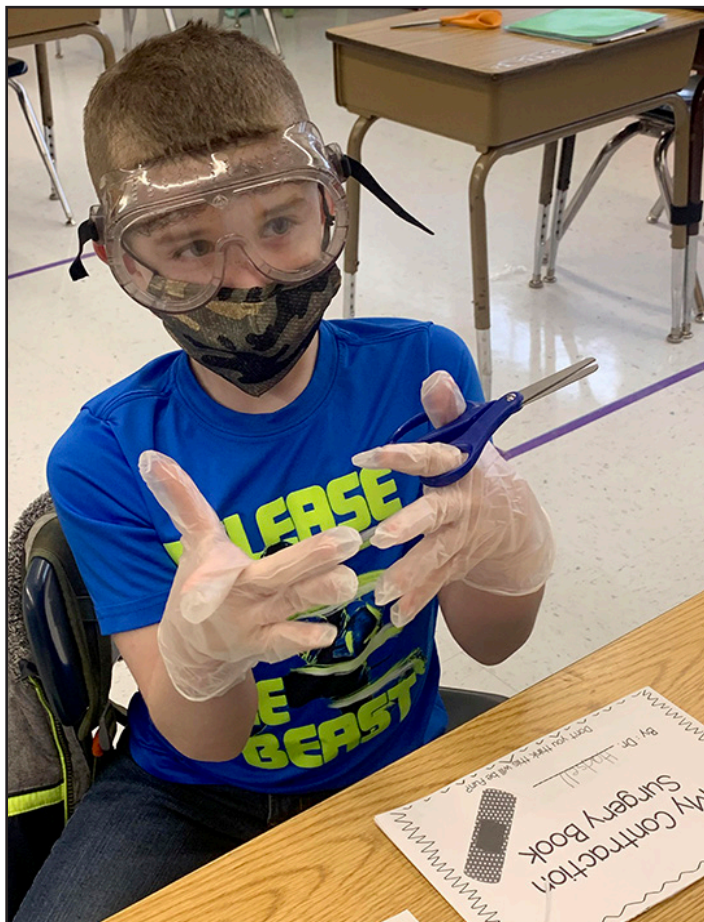
Students prep for NYSSMA

Band and Choir students have started to prepare for the upcoming first ever Virtual NYSSMA Solo Festival, which will take place on April 16. This year, instead of playing live for a judge, they will upload recordings of their solos to be judged upon submission. This specific solo festival qualifies students for the Area All-State band and choir festivals, which will take place in the fall.

This is also when any interested senior high band or choir students audition for the very selective Conference All-State Festival. In order to audition for this prestigious event, students must play the highest level piece in the NYSSMA manual, which is a level 6. Regardless of the level of music being played, each student is working hard and persevering through this year's changes and they should be very proud of themselves!



News from second-grade



Mrs. Woughter's class performed surgery on their words. Contractions were made.



Second-graders are studying solids in science. For one project, they had 15 minutes to build a tower out of assigned materials (pictured). In another lesson, they will build bridges with the same materials.

A-A skiers bring home awards



Grace Harris and Bella Lang pose with their top ten sweatshirts earned in league competition. Grace finished 5th in the modified group and Bella finished 5th among Varsity Girls.



Jack Byrnes and Cameron Claire pose with the third place league trophies earned by both the Boys' Varsity and Girls' Varsity ski teams. Cameron finished 7th in the league and Jack finished 10th.

Students receive postcards

Ms. Oriend and her sixth-graders would like to thank everyone who shared their request for postcards. The bulletin board has grown immensely since the request was in the last newsletter. In addition to all of the postcards from the US and internationally, the class has received letters from various states, bookmarks from Utah and delicious snacks that represent Pennsylvania. As of writing this, the only states not represented are Nebraska, Missouri, Rhode Island and Delaware. Thank you to all who shared and all who sent mail our way! the class has learned so much about what makes each place special.



Universal pre-kindergarten

A-A anticipates that the Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) program for our preschool children will continue into the 2021-22 school year. Children born on or before December 1, 2017 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 on pages 5-6 in this newsletter and will be available at the Elementary Office and on the district website at www.aacsapps.com. If you would like to receive an application in the mail, please call Heidi Putnam at 607-276-6530 or email hputnam@aacsapps.com. Completed applications and a copy of your child's birth certificate, current physical and immunization records are due at the Elementary Office by Wednesday, May 5.

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 with letters mailed on Monday, May 10.

Questions should be directed to Brett Dusenberre, Elementary Principal at 607-276-6525.

Kindergarten information

Children born on or before December 1, 2016 are eligible to enter school in September 2021.

If your child is eligible to attend kindergarten in September 2021, please call the Elementary Office at 607-276-6525 or email Heidi Putnam at hputnam@aacsapps.com to be added to the list to receive informational mailings.

Students enjoy outdoor physical education classes

During the past month, the elementary PE department led by Ms. Ball and Mr. Dwyer have embraced the winter weather with their classes by getting their students outside to play in the snow. Proper outdoor preparation and sliding etiquette were taught to all students to inspire fun and safe days playing in the snow beyond the school day. The students loved penguin sliding down the hill, building snow persons, and playing on the playground!



PreKindergarten Program Application

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 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 Status: Married ☐ Separated ☐ Divorced ☐ Single ☐

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

Parent/Guardian 1: Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Email: _____

Parent/Guardian 2: Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Email: _____

Additional parent/guardian that should receive correspondence but student does not live with:

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____ Email: _____

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

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: _____

Proof of Residency: _____

Bus #: _____

Birth Certificate ()

Enrolled () By: _____

Immunization Record ()

Homeroom: _____

District is seeking census data from all Alfred-Almond residents

Each year, district residents receive a census data card in the mail requesting important information concerning all children living in the household from birth through age 21. The information collected is *vital* for the district in planning staffing structures and attaining precise information of district preschool students. If you have not returned your census card this year, we urge you to do so as soon as possible. Your help in compiling this information is greatly appreciated and critical for planning purposes. If you did not receive a census card, or need an additional copy, please contact Bryan Burdick at 607-276-6565 or at bburdick@aacsapps.com. Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation and helping us best plan for the educational needs of children.

PLEASE RETURN TO:

Elementary Principal, Alfred-Almond Central School, 6795 State Route 21, Almond, NY 14804

PARENT(S) OR GUARDIAN(S):

Mother:

Last Name

First Name

M.I.

Father:

Last Name

First Name

M.I.

ADDRESS:

Number and Name of Street

Post Office

Zip

Home Phone

Emergency Phone Number

Children live with: Mother _____ Father _____ Both _____

CHILD(REN)

Last Name	First Name	M.I.	Date of Birth	Grade

Do you suspect any handicapping conditions in any of your children? Yes _____ No _____

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

Important Dates

April 2-9 _____ Spring Recess – No School
May 4 _____ Voter Registration, 2:00-8:00 p.m.
May 4 _____ Budget Presentation, 7:00 p.m.
May 18 _____ Annual Vote/Election, 2:00-8:00 p.m.
May 31 _____ Memorial Day – No School
June 26 _____ Graduation, 2:00 p.m.

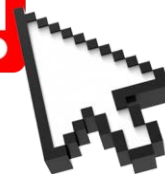
The Alfred Almond Performing Arts Department is proud to present:

THE SHOW MUST GO

ONLINE!

A Virtual Children's Musical

Book by JESSICA PENZIAS Lyrics by DAVID HUDSON Music by DENVER CASADO



A Musical Written to be Rehearsed and Performed Remotely!

Available to Download APRIL 2021

Cost: \$5 per download

Donations to the Performing Arts Department will also be accepted

For more information, visit

<https://www.aacsapps.com>

Or email Miss Karr: lkarr@aacsapps.com

School closing information

It is sometimes necessary to close school because wintry 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 | • WETM-TV (Elmira) |
| • WZKZ 101.1 FM | • WKBW-TV (Buffalo) |

Useful apps and sites for SAT/ACT preparation

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| • Easel SAT | • 4 SAT (app) |
| • Tutor.com (paid app) | • Khan Academy (app) |
| • Manhattan Review | • Math Brain Booster (app) |
| • SAT Study Guide by EduCare Education (app) | |
| • Princeton Review iPad App-ScoreQuest (paid app) | |
| • Kaplan SAT Flashcubes (free) | |
| • collegeboard.org-Kaplan review | |
| • Mugoosh ACT Flashcards (app) and SAT (app) | |
| • SAT Exam Prep & Practice (app) | |
| • ACT Practice Flashcards (app) | |
| • SAT: Practice, Prep, Flashcards (app) | |
| • Testguide.com/fall-SAT-practice-tests | |

Order your yearbook today

This year, the Alfred-Almond Yearbook is available to purchase online only. This is something new that we are offering and we hope this makes it easier for you to buy a book. The link to buy a book can be found on the school's webpage, Facebook page and Instagram page. If you have any questions on this process, please email Kelly Valentine at kvalentine@aacsapps.com. Sales will run through April 30, 2021 and there will be a very limited number of books to purchase come June.

Online Sales Web Address: <http://jostensyearbooks.com/?REF=A05279600>.

Thank you for your support.