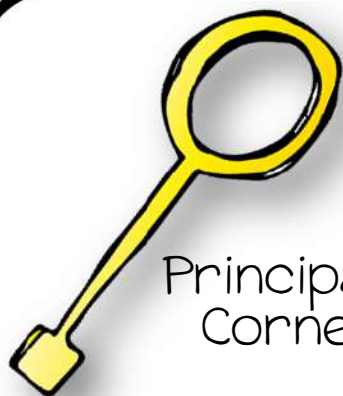




2021

Altoona Elementary June Newsletter



Principal's Corner

It's hard to believe the school year is nearly over! We had many opportunities to try new ways of operating this year. Many changes that had to be implemented turned out to be a better way of doing things. We certainly made lemonade out of lemons this school year!



The BEST accomplishment of this year was that we were able to see students' smiling eyes four days a week. I have been privileged to work at AES these past few months with amazing staff and students.

Enjoy a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,
Ms. Begley



Have a great
summer
Vacation!



Report cards
will be sent
home with
the students
on the last
day of school.



June 4

Last day of school

Early Dismissal

July 15

Books In The Park

9 am – Noon

Aug. 12

Books In The Park

2 – 4 pm

Important Dates



News from 4K



We were honored to celebrate the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony of our new Early Education Center that provides a home to our 4 Year Old kindergarten program + other early childhood programs. This building has been a great addition to our community! We kicked off the school year at our center, and it was great to finally celebrate this new adventure amongst our students + families, the Eau Claire Area Chamber of Commerce, Altoona School Board Members, Administrators, and City Officials. It was so nice to look out into the crowd and see so many faces that had a hand in helping build the program and make this opportunity happen for our families. We have the ability to house 140+ students at our center, and look forward to welcoming new + recurring families each school year!



This positive change has provided tremendous growth and opportunity for our littlest learners, and that is what matters most! In a year where we find ourselves talking about the academic loss, we have been fortunate to talk about all the gains our 4K students have made! We are so proud of all they've accomplished! We feel so fortunate to be your first connection with the Altoona School District, and can't wait to meet our future 4K-ers!

Registration for our 2021-2022 4K program is open NOW!

Register online: <https://www.altoona.k12.wi.us/parents/registration>

Tours are available as well -
contact Laura Trachsel, 4K
Coordinator, to make an
appointment!

715-838-7350 or

Ltrachsel@altoonak12.wi.us





Kindergarten News



As Kindergarteners are wrapping up the school year, we have had very busy classrooms! We had a school-wide Jack Hartmann concert, and you can see Miss Norberg's class dancing their hearts out in the picture included. Each class also made Mother's Day gifts; Miss Kessler's kids drew a picture of their mom and framed it to take home.

With the days getting sunny and warmer, we've had the opportunity to spend a lot of time outside. You can see Ms. Stuckert's class outside for recess in the included picture. Mrs. Peterson's class took advantage of the warmer weather and headed out on the nature trail as well! Ms. Tollefson's class has had so much fun, growing and learning together this year!

Many Kindergarten classrooms are also participating in an end-of-year ABC Countdown to celebrate our final days together this school year. Mrs. Martell's class can be seen on the equipment out on the fitness trail for E is for exercise day, and Mrs. Lockrey's class got dressed up to celebrate H is for Hat day! This month we have been learning about plants, insects, and bees! We had the opportunity to have Mrs. Weix come into the classroom to present her hobby of beekeeping! This was a fabulous presentation that the kids really enjoyed! Miss Flackey's class got a close look at the beehive afterward!

All in all, it's been a busy month! The kids are looking forward to summer, while still enjoying their last few days as Kindergarteners!





News from 1st Grade

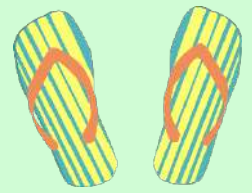


The first grade students have been working hard in May. In math, students have been working on 2-digit addition using groups of tens and ones. They are also learning about 3-D shapes and their attributes. In reading and writing, first grade students have been working on an "All About" and a "How To" unit. Students have been able to learn all about plants, light, and sound. First graders have been having fun participating in a variety of "How To" activities too! Some of the activities they have been able to make include maracas, a mystery smell balloon, a tornado in a bottle, and a liquid rainbow!





2nd Grade News



This year has been an exciting one with many challenges and changes. Our second graders proved to be **rock stars** this year by learning to safely socially distance themselves from others and wear masks, all while making new friends and having a lot of fun throughout the school year!



It was so wonderful to get back to school, after all the virtual time last year, and head outside for some fresh air. Recess and outside learning time were exciting for many.



Exploring new ideas and learning about new topics were also a way students had a lot of fun. Some of the students' favorite activities included: measurement and geometry in math, properties of materials and planting in science, and traditions of Indigenous People and Junior Achievement in social studies.



Another highlight was our recent concert with childrens' musician, Jack Hartmann. He joined us, live from Florida, for a 30 minute concert on a Monday morning and got our week kicked off right! Each classroom joined him in a private Zoom meeting where he sang and danced just for Altoona Elementary. The kids loved it and even heard some of their favorite songs!



News from 3rd Grade



The third graders have been very busy learning as they wrap up their journey at AES! In science, we have been learning about the Power of Flowers. They learned all about pollination, seed dispersal and plant life cycles! We investigated trait variation, inheritance and artificial selection with apples!

Our third graders are also researching ways they can address social issues! They are creating public service announcements to share out their learning and plans to make a difference!

Most importantly, we have been enjoying our time as classroom families!



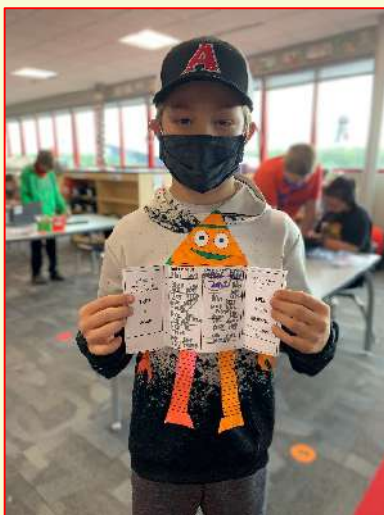
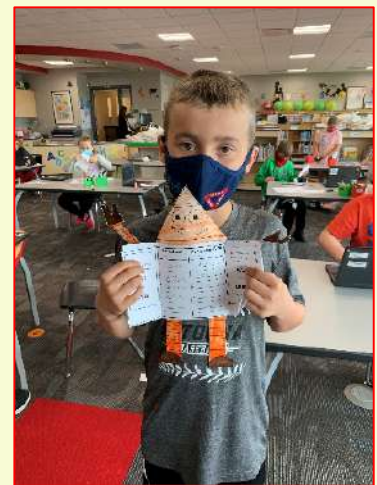
STEAM

In our STEAM Special, Kindergarten through 3rd Grade students learn how to be digital age learners. Two strands of this framework are designed to help students become computational thinkers and innovative designers. This spring, we purchased new floor robots, called Bee-Bots, to help us learn through play and experimentation. Bee-Bots can be programmed to move in six directions: forward, backward, left, and right. Students can also enter commands to clear the robot's memory, pause the algorithm, and make them "go!" When kids practice computer programming, they learn important lessons about problem solving, sequencing, communicating clearly, and creativity. We are so excited to use the Bee-Bots again next year!



LIBRARY CLASS

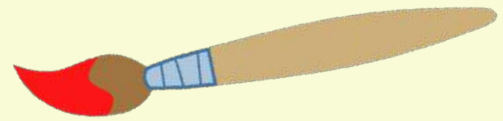
Second and Third graders have been very busy making their own Fact vs. Opinion Robots during library class!



Kindergarten
Eric Carle "The Tiny Seed"
Flower Collages



ART CLASS



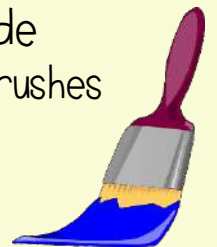
First Grade
Laurel Burch
Cat Collages



Second Grade
Weavings



Third Grade
Realistic Paintbrushes



PHY ED CLASS

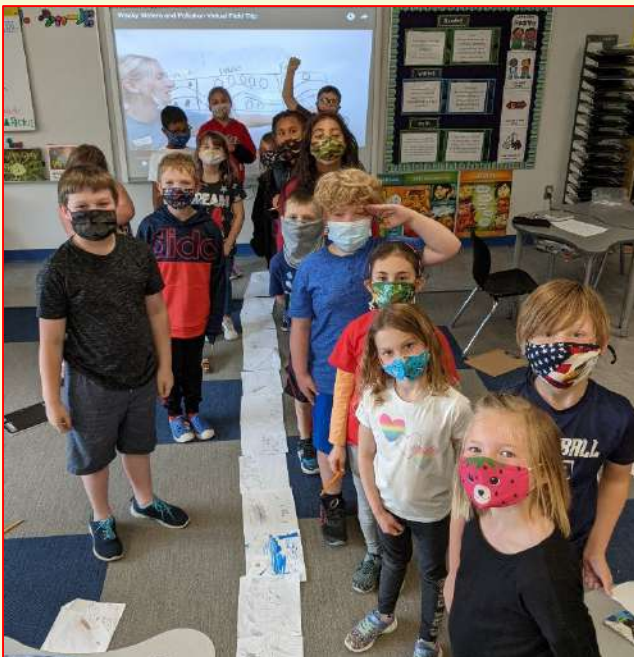


In May, students in PE have been learning the gross motor skills of striking and volleying in a wide variety of settings. They have used balloons, balls, hockey sticks, paddles, and more to experiment with the different ways to strike and volley in sport activities. To wrap up the school year, students have gotten the chance to put their muscular strength to the test by climbing the rock wall as well as the climbing rope. We have had a great year of PE and look forward to coming back in the Fall!

-Mr. Hugo and Mr. Wojtyna

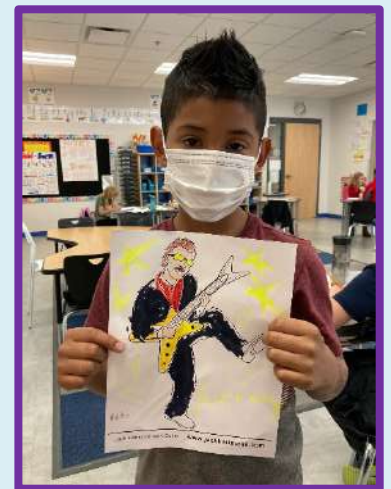
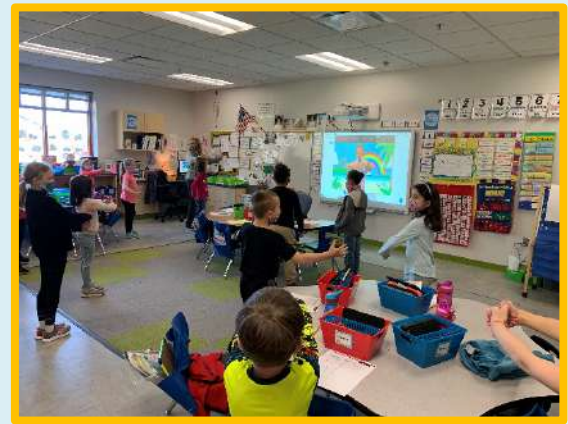


2ND GRADE VIRTUAL FIELD TRIP

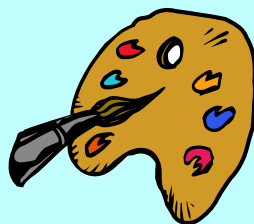


Second Graders took a virtual field trip to Beaver Creek Reserve to learn all about “wacky water critters” and pollution. They explored different types of macroinvertebrates and learned about their role in our environment.

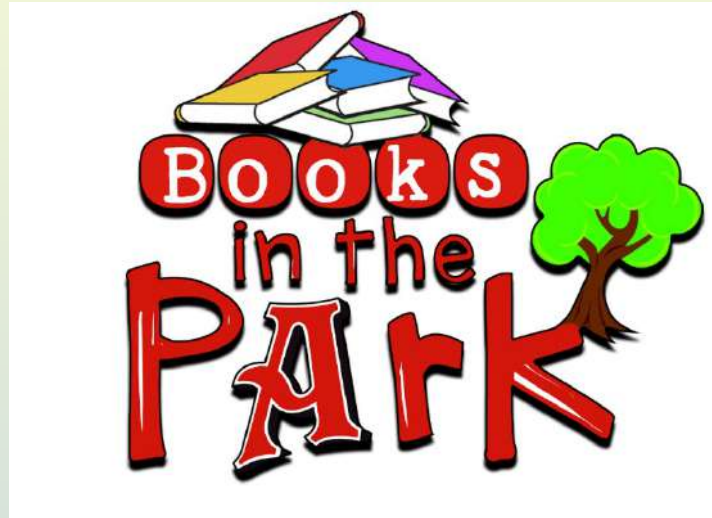
AES enjoyed a school-wide virtual concert by Jack Hartmann on May 10th!



These talented AES
students had their
art pieces selected
for the 2020-21
District Office Art Gallery!



Books in the Park is back....but with a few changes!



Altoona School District has made it a priority to keep our students' skills sharp by encouraging them to read all summer long!

Join us at Books in The Park
and receive a FREE book each visit!

In years past we were located at 10th Street Park,
this year we have moved to:

Altoona Elementary School
157 Bartlett Ave

This event is still open to children of all ages!

Thursday, July 15th at AES from 9am-12

Thursday, Aug 12th at AES from 2pm-4pm

All applicable safety measures in place at the time of the event will be followed.

Best wishes to these staff members! We will miss you!



Mr. Hayden

Assistant Principal

Retiring after **29** years with
Altoona School District

Mr. Hayden looks forward
to enjoying his retirement
on the golf course or on his Harley.



Mrs. Weix

Speech/Language Pathologist

Retiring after **34** Years with
Altoona School District

Mrs. Weix will keep busy in her retirement
while making honey and syrup,
hunting, fishing and gardening.



Mrs. Stephens

I've taught for the past ten years and have loved my career as an educator but I've also felt a tug on my heart to spend more time with my children, so I have decided to "hang up my teacher hat" for a few years. I am so appreciative of my time at Altoona Elementary School! Thankfully my own children will keep me connected and engaged with the district and the community. Go Railroaders!



Ms. Tollefson

Ms. Tollefson is going to attempt to retire again, and see if she can be successful at it this time. (Does this sound a little like Brett Favre?) She will resume time with her hobbies, but hopes to help out as a sub here at Altoona Elementary.



Ms. Kessler

It is with a mix of emotions to announce that I will be moving with my family to Luck, Wisconsin, at the end of this school year. I have so many wonderful memories at Altoona and will greatly miss my coworkers, students, and past families I have been lucky enough to get to know. I wish you all the best!



Altoona Elementary Lunch Menu

June
2021

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	1 Mini Maple Pancakes Sausage Patty Fresh Fruit or Juice 1% Milk	2 NO SCHOOL	3 Cheese Pizza Caesar Salad Fresh Fruit or Juice 1% Milk	4 Turkey Deli Sandwich Kettle Potato Chips Baby Carrots Fresh fruit or Juice 1% Milk HAVE A GREAT SUMMER
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	 This is for Food 4 Thought	 Choose MyPlate.gov

PRICES

Regular	\$0.00
Reduced	\$0.00
Adult	\$4.00
Milk	\$0.50

EXTRA INFO

Milk choice of 1% White or Chocolate is included with lunch.
 For questions or comments, contact Polly
 Dake-Jones at 715-839-6056
 or email pdakejones@altoona.k12.wi.us.

HARVEST OF



THE MONTH

Your **MENUS** plus more
 information on our app
Taher Food4Life®



www.taher.com