

NYMILLS

February
2020

UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

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www.newyorkmills.org.

For the complete District
calendar, schedule of
upcoming events and
more District news

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Drama club presents:

ANYTHING



March 27 & 28
More information on page 6

MISSION: "Through combined efforts of students, staff, parents, and community members, our mission is to foster the confidence, knowledge, cognition, and character necessary to instill a strong work ethic, to create an environment of tolerance and respect, and to ignite an attitude of inquiry and enthusiasm for learning that will enable students to become productive, responsible citizens."

Message from the Superintendent

Dear Parents, Guardians and School Community Members,

Thank you, thank you, thank you! Our proposed capital project has been approved and the paperwork has been sent to Albany. Now begins perhaps the hardest part of the project; the waiting. As a reminder, the approved project includes a new playground, ADA-compliant bleachers and interior work that will allow us to limit access to different parts of the buildings during evening events or in the event of a lock-out scenario. The project also includes a new marquis that will allow us to communicate with the community dates, announcements and student/staff celebratory news on an immediate basis. During this wait, plans are proposed, projects designed and the excitement builds.

As we started talking about the project, much of the excitement has been centered around our playground. Given that it has been more than a couple of years since most of us have played on a playground, I decided to ask the experts. I met with every elementary class to gain insight into our students' thinking/ideas regarding a new playground. They did not disappoint. The students identified the swings, slides, tunnels and paved areas as their favorite part of our current playground. Almost every class suggested zip lines, different types of swings and slides, poles, spinning and bouncing elements. Students (and our facility staff) were excited to hear that the wood chips would be history, replaced by a rubberized cushion not unlike what is found on a track. They were equally excited to brainstorm other suggestions, like a place to read or sit with friends.

The most revealing about the character of our students were the number of older students who outlined a need for no sharp edges or trip hazards on the new playground to protect our youngest students. Other considerations voiced by our students were the need for more space, more color (especially orange and blue) and playground elements that all students regardless of age could enjoy.

Of all of the suggestions from our experts, my favorite is from one of our third graders who thought that since the students were giving me ideas for the playground, the playground should be dedicated to our students.

So, for our students – a safe, colorful playground that captures the imagination of all of our students – thank you!

Respectfully,

Joanne Shelmidine, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools



Mathiang Deng Visits Mrs. Taylor's English Students

Mrs. Taylor's seventh and eighth grade English classes had the opportunity to listen to Mathiang Deng, one of the Lost Boys of Sudan, tell the story of his harrowing escape from the Second Sudanese Civil War. Seventh and eighth grade English students read the novel "A Long Walk to Water," which recounts the main character Salva Dut's journey to survival during Sudan's Civil War. Mr. Deng was able to give the students insight on the real dangers the Lost Boys faced during their journey to escape the war.



Arctic Scholastic Book Fair

In December, we held an Arctic Scholastic Book Fair at New York Mills Elementary School. More than 800 books were sold, which is a total of 133,000 minutes of independent reading achieved and another step towards our goal of getting students excited about reading. Our family night was a great success with books, Sno-cones, prizes and story time with our principal, Mr. Dodge. Our goal at New York Mills is to make literacy not only educational but fun! We thank everyone who helped make this fair a successful event!

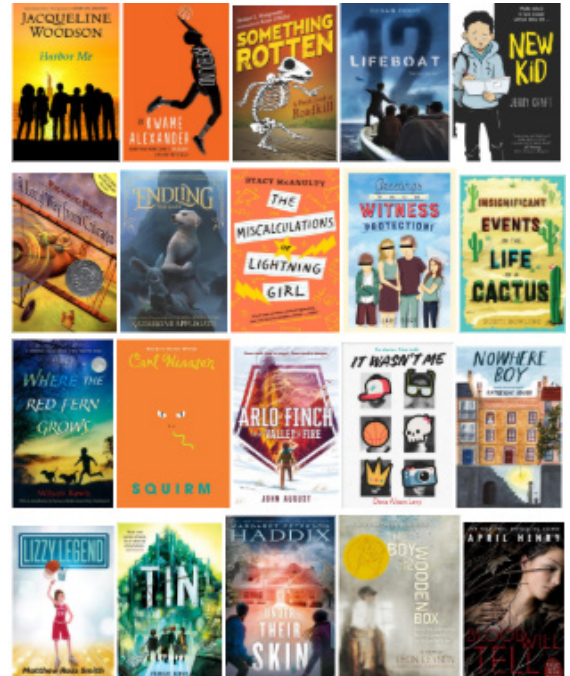


Battle of the Books Club

Students have read, discussed and played review games to prepare for a competition on 20 middle school books. In January, each club member took a quiz to gain entrance to the local Battle of the Books competition.

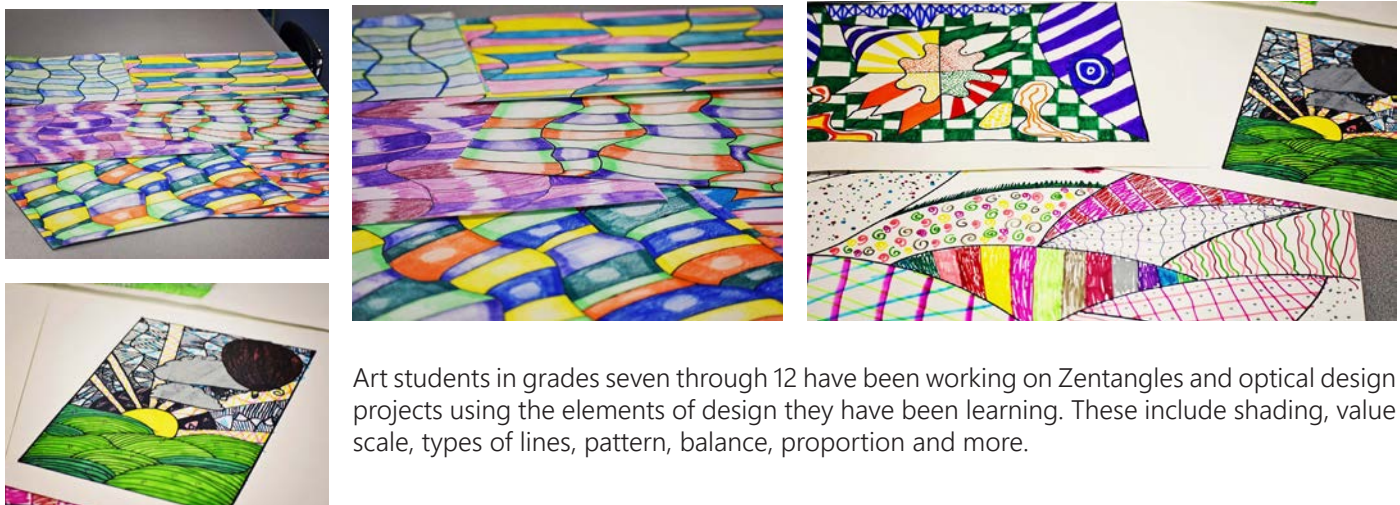
On February 6, our Battle of the Books Club, comprised of sixth, seventh and eighth graders, will meet to compete in the local "Battle." Students will answer questions based on direct quotes or statements related to the 20 books for this year's competition. Correct answers consist of the title and author of the book that the quote or statement came from. Students will "buzz in" game-show-style to answer questions.

The winning team from the local "Battle" will compete in the regional Battle of the Books competition on March 18 at Hamilton College, where they will face off against the top teams from several local middle schools. We wish the team luck as they prepare for this competition.



P2 News

This month, the elementary school will be participating in Congressman Brindisi's Valentines for Veterans program, which will help us explore the character strengths of Love, Kindness, Creativity, Gratitude and the Other People Matter mindset. Classes will be making homemade Valentine's Day cards for veterans to show their gratitude and appreciation.



Art students in grades seven through 12 have been working on Zentangles and optical design projects using the elements of design they have been learning. These include shading, value scale, types of lines, pattern, balance, proportion and more.



Students of the Month

November Optimist Youth of the Month

Mackenzie Majka has been named the New York Mills Optimist Youth of the Month for November. Mackenzie is the daughter of Michael and Bonnie Majka of Yorkville and is a member of the New York Mills Class of 2020.

Mackenzie is an honor roll student who has been inducted as a member of both National Junior Honor Society and National Honor Society. As a junior, Mackenzie was honored with the Elmira Key Award.

Mackenzie is involved in the school and local communities in several different capacities. She has been elected as her class treasurer each year since seventh grade and through student council has attended the New York State Council for Leadership and Student Activities Leadership Conference for the past three years.

Mackenzie is also the treasurer for our Model United Nations chapter and has attended conferences for this organization. She also ran on our cross country team, sang in our chorus, volunteered through her church and currently holds two part-time jobs.

Mackenzie's goal is to pursue a career in speech therapy and she is looking at several colleges and universities across New York state.



Mackenzie Majka

December Optimist Youth of the Month

Alesya Avrusevich has been named the New York Mills Optimist Youth of the Month for December. Alesya is the daughter of Vladimir and Lyudmila Avrusevich of New Hartford and is a member of the New York Mills Class of 2020.

Alesya has consistently been a high honor roll student and was inducted into our chapter of the National Junior Honor Society. As a junior, Alesya received the University of Rochester Bausch and Lomb Honorary Science Award. Alesya has been an active member of our Model UN since its inception in 2017 and this year is on student council as a delegate. Her volunteer activities this fall included monitoring children at open house and participating in fall cleanup at the home of a local senior citizen. Alesya has also spent countless hours babysitting her niece and nephew and has a part-time job as a pharmacy clerk.



Alesya Avrusevich

Alesya would like to attend SUNY Poly in the fall to pursue a career in forensics.

Kids of Character Awards

The following grades 3-6 students were selected as September Kids of Character at New York Mills Elementary School. This award is given for following The Marauder Way on a regular basis.

NOVEMBER

- Grade 3** – Alexandria White and Lia Moser
- Grade 4** – Christopher Luiso and Nevaeh Vivacqua
- Grade 5** – Yaneliz Castro-Torres and Andrew Tallman
- Grade 6** – Austin Exton and Noah Beckwith

DECEMBER

- Grade 3** – Kaden Miner and Michael Faustino
- Grade 4** – Aeriana McNeil and Alex Duymaz
- Grade 5** – Nathan Siegfried and Emma Decker
- Grade 6** – Lily Marchese and Chelsy Plows

JANUARY

- Grade 3** – Lukas Dziuba and William Chen
- Grade 4** – Annabel Harvey and Brady Cornish
- Grade 5** – Rose Martell and Saliyah Fields
- Grade 6** – Skylar DesMarais and Liam Mahardy



Grades 7-11 Students of the Month

Students are chosen using the following criteria:

1. Academic effort 2. Positive attitude 3. Respectful behavior 4. School involvement 5. Community involvement

October 2019



Emily Cognetti
Grade 7



Catherine Testa
Grade 8



Benjamin Boccardo
Grade 9



Isabella Cornish
Grade 10



Donnell Anderson
Grade 11

November 2019



Heidi Cilbrith
Grade 7



Frank Calhoun
Grade 8



Lily Comenale
Grade 9



Danil Donchuk
Grade 10



Judy Chen
Grade 11

December 2019



Arianna Piazza
Grade 7



Lauren Kulpa
Grade 8



Julie Roberts
Grade 9



Jemma Jordan
Grade 10



Tyler Kantor
Grade 11

TURKEY TROT



New York Mills Drama Club Presents: *Anything Goes*

This March, the New York Mills Drama Club would like to transport you to the year 1933. On a cruise ship, glamorous passengers begin their voyage on the SS American in the musical *Anything Goes*. There we meet Reno Sweeny played by senior Amanda Costello, Billy Crocker played by Michael Robles, Hope Harcourt played by Ariellah Bova, Sir Evelyn Oakleigh played by Anthony Robles, Moonface Martin played by Kole Bates and many other colorful characters.

The cast and crew have been working since December to bring together a celebration of dance, art and song as we create a time of familiar tunes such as "Anything Goes," "Blow Gabriel," "You're the Top," "Friendship" and many more toe tapping tunes of the 30's.



Photos from rehearsal.

Please join us for the musical on March 27 and 28 at 7:00 p.m. for a night of pure entertainment. Tickets will be available starting March 16 at a cost of \$8 per person and can be purchased from the school attendance office. Tickets will also be available at the door the night of the show. A senior performance will take place on Thursday, March 26 at 4:00 p.m. with a meet and greet of the cast following the show.

The musical is directed by Teresa Zielinski-Lovecchio, the orchestra is directed by Keller Shelton the choreography is by Juliana Muirhead.

Jr. High All-County (Grades 7-9)

In January, a group of New York Mills students auditioned to be members of the Oneida County Jr. High All-County band and chorus. It is with great pleasure that we share with the community the following outstanding musicians who were accepted into the Jr. High All-County chorus and band. Congratulations to all who auditioned!

Band

Seth Ryan

Chorus

Julie Roberts
Hailey Mahardy
Nixie Lorraine
Kathryn Williams
Kiara Banks
Siddalee Daniels
Allison Meagher
Selen Bilal
Kole Bates
Carlos Dela-Bruz-Benta



Holiday Concerts & Celebrations



Elementary Holiday Concert



Third graders Christmas caroling



Elementary Christmas Assembly



Teachers perform the 12 Days of Christmas



BOYS VARSITY BASEBALL

APRIL

Day	Date	Location	Opponent	Time
Wed.	4/1	Home	Oriskany	4:30 p.m.
Fri.	4/3	Away	West Canada	4:30 p.m.
Mon.	4/13	Home	Westmoreland	4:30 p.m.
Fri.	4/17	Away	Poland	4:30 p.m.
Mon.	4/20	Home	Town of Webb	4:30 p.m.
Wed.	4/22	Away	Morrisville-Eaton	4:30 p.m.
Fri.	4/24	Home	Hamilton	4:30 p.m.
Mon.	4/27	Away	Remsen	4:30 p.m.
Tues.	4/28	Away	Brookfield	4:30 p.m.
Wed.	4/29	Away	Oriskany	4:30 p.m.

MAY

Day	Date	Location	Opponent	Time
Fri.	5/1	Home	WCV	4:30 p.m.
Mon.	5/4	Away	Westmoreland	4:30 p.m.
Wed.	5/6	Home	Poland	4:30 p.m.
Fri.	5/8	Away	Town of Webb	4:30 p.m.
Mon.	5/11	Home	Morrisville-Eaton	4:30 p.m.
Wed.	5/13	Away	Hamilton	4:30 p.m.
Fri.	5/15	Home	Remsen	4:30 p.m.
Mon.	5/18	Home	Brookfield	4:30 p.m.

BOYS MODIFIED BASEBALL

APRIL

Day	Date	Location	Opponent	Time
Mon.	4/27	Home	Remsen	4:30 p.m.

MAY

Day	Date	Location	Opponent	Time
Wed.	5/6	Away	Poland	4:30 p.m.
Fri.	5/8	Home	Town of Webb	4:30 p.m.
Mon.	5/11	Away	Morrisville-Eaton	4:30 p.m.
Wed.	5/13	Home	Hamilton	4:30 p.m.
Fri.	5/15	Away	Remsen	4:30 p.m.
Mon.	5/18	Home	Poland	4:30 p.m.
Wed.	5/20	Away	Town of Webb	4:30 p.m.
Wed.	5/27	Home	Morrisville-Eaton	4:30 p.m.
Fri.	5/29	Away	Hamilton	4:30 p.m.

BOYS VARSITY GOLF

APRIL

Day	Date	Location	Opponent	Time
Wed.	4/15	Away	Sherburne-Earlville	3:30 p.m.
Fri.	4/17	Away	Waterville	3:30 p.m.
Tues.	4/21	Home	Westmoreland	4:00 p.m.
Wed.	4/22	Home	Canastota	4:00 p.m.
Wed.	4/29	Home	Clinton	4:00 p.m.

APRIL

Day	Date	Location	Opponent	Time
Fri.	5/1	Away	Canastota	3:30 p.m.
Mon.	5/4	Home	Sherburne-Earlville	4:00 p.m.
Tues.	5/5	Away	Westmoreland @ Clinton	4:00 p.m.
Wed.	5/6	Home	Cooperstown	4:00 p.m.
Thur.	5/7	Home	Waterville	4:00 p.m.
Mon.	5/11	Away	Cooperstown	4:00 p.m.

GIRLS VARSITY SOFTBALL

APRIL

Day	Date	Location	Opponent	Time
Wed.	4/1	Home	Oriskany	4:30 p.m.
Mon.	4/13	Home	Westmoreland	4:30 p.m.
Tues.	4/14	Home	Dolgeville	4:30 p.m.
Thur.	4/16	Away	Stockbridge Valley	4:30 p.m.
Fri.	4/17	Away	Poland	4:30 p.m.
Wed.	4/22	Away	Morrisville-Eaton	4:30 p.m.
Fri.	4/24	Home	Hamilton	4:30 p.m.
Sat.	4/25	Home	Madison	11:00 a.m.
Mon.	4/27	Away	Remsen	4:30 p.m.
Tues.	4/28	Away	Brookfield	4:30 p.m.
Wed.	4/29	Away	Oriskany	4:30 p.m.

MAY

Day	Date	Location	Opponent	Time
Sat.	5/2	Home	Stockbridge Valley	4:30 p.m.
Mon.	5/4	Away	Westmoreland	4:30 p.m.
Tues.	5/5	Away	Madison	4:30 p.m.
Wed.	5/6	Home	Poland	4:30 p.m.
Mon.	5/11	Home	Morrisville-Eaton	4:30 p.m.
Wed.	5/13	Away	Hamilton	4:30 p.m.
Fri.	5/15	Home	Remsen	4:30 p.m.
Mon.	5/18	Home	Brookfield	4:30 p.m.
Tues.	5/19	Away	Dolgeville	4:30 p.m.

GIRLS MODIFIED SOFTBALL

APRIL

Day	Date	Location	Opponent	Time
Mon.	4/27	Home	Remsen	4:30 p.m.

MAY

Day	Date	Location	Opponent	Time
Wed.	5/6	Away	Poland	4:30 p.m.
Fri.	5/8	Home	Town of Webb	4:30 p.m.
Mon.	5/11	Away	Morrisville-Eaton	4:30 p.m.
Wed.	5/13	Home	Hamilton	4:30 p.m.
Fri.	5/15	Away	Remsen	4:30 p.m.
Mon.	5/18	Home	Poland	4:30 p.m.
Wed.	5/20	Away	Town of Webb	4:30 p.m.
Wed.	5/27	Home	Morrisville-Eaton	4:30 p.m.
Fri.	5/29	Away	Hamilton	4:30 p.m.

BOYS AND GIRLS VARSITY TRACK

Please visit www.schedulegalaxy.com for the updated track and field schedule.

**Please note that these schedules are subject to change.*

For cancellations and schedule changes, please visit

www.schedulegalaxy.com/schools/71





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Winter Ball Photo Gallery

