



# N.A. Walbran Elementary

December 2023



## From the Principal...

Dear N.A. Walbran Families,

As we approach the end of another wonderful year at N.A. Walbran, I am delighted to share some highlights and important updates with you in our newsletter.

Firstly, I want to express my gratitude to our dedicated students, parents, and staff for making this semester a success. The enthusiasm for learning and the commitment to excellence have truly made a positive impact on our school community.

As we embrace the festive spirit, Walbran is buzzing with excitement. Students in chorus and band performed in our annual holiday concert, and classroom celebrations are just around the corner. These events provide an opportunity for our students to showcase their talents and creativity. We also will be having a holiday sing-a-long with our Positivity Project assembly to end our spirit week!

A special thank you to our grade level teams for their work on our annual service projects. Some of the organizations we supported this year include: Sleep Heavenly Peace (bed pillows), Spring Farm Cares, Stuff the Bus, Project Jammies, Rome Humane Society, Feed Our Vets, Food Bank of Oneida County, Hats and Mittens Thea Bowman House.

In closing, I wish each of you a joyful holiday season filled with warmth, laughter, and cherished moments with loved ones. May the upcoming year bring new opportunities for growth and success.

Thank you for entrusting us with the education and well-being of your children. It is a privilege to serve as the principal of N.A. Walbran Elementary School.

Wishing you all a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year!

Warm regards,

Catherine Mucurio  
Principal

# Tis the Season to be Jolly



The Pre-Kindergarten students were so excited to bring in new bed pillows that will be donated to the charity Sleep in Heavenly Peace.

This is an agency that believes a bed is a basic need for the proper physical, emotional, and mental support that a child needs.

All children deserve a safe, comfortable place to lay their heads. Across the U.S., too many boys and girls go without a bed - or even a pillow - to sleep on.

That's where Sleep in Heavenly Peace comes in. They are a group of volunteers dedicated to building, assembling and delivering top-notch bunk beds to children and families in need. Their motto is: NO KID SLEEPS ON THE FLOOR IN OUR TOWN!

We were able to collect so many pillows that will be delivered next week! Thank you to the youngest members of our school community!



## Other class donations included:

- Spring Farm Cares
- Stuff the Bus
- Project Jammies
- Rome Humane Society
- Food Bank of Oneida County
- Thea Bowman House, Hats & Mittens



# Kindergarten News

The Kindergarten students were so excited to give back this Christmas! The students had a discussion about while it's great to receive things at Christmas, it's also fun to give!

They were asked to bring in items for Spring Farm CARES which is an Animal and Nature Sanctuary located in Clinton. They are home to an average of 200 - 225 animals including horses, donkeys, goats, dogs, cats, rabbits, birds and poultry. Wow, did the students step up to the plate! We collected at least 4 boxes of items for this amazing organization, including food and toys for the animals, paper towels, and so many office supplies!

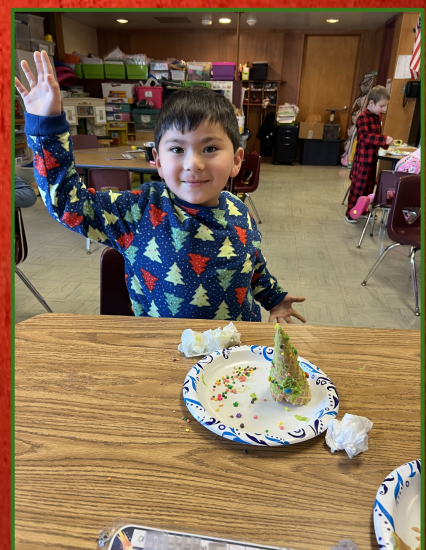
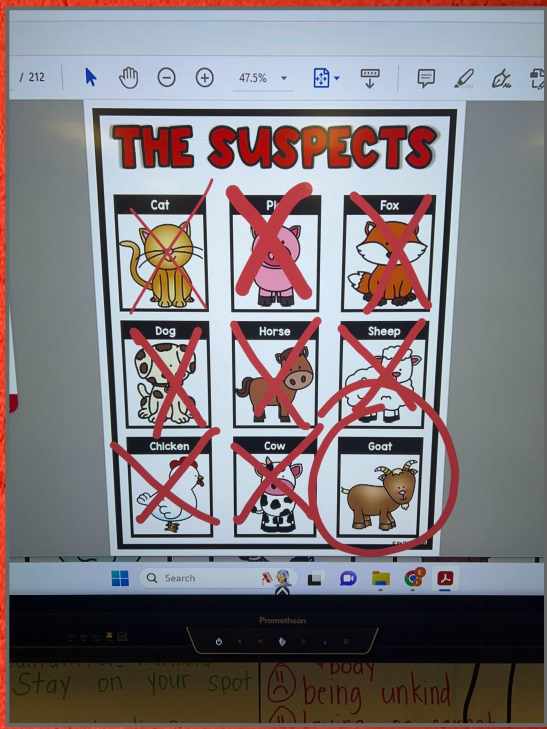
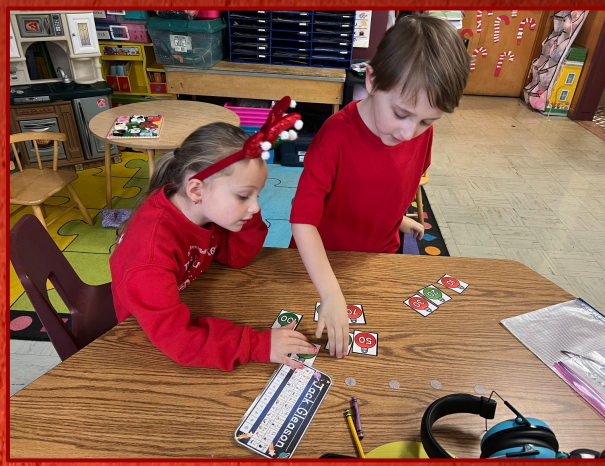
We also made Christmas cards, ornaments and window decorations for the 90 residents of the FASNY Firemen's Home in Hudson NY.

Thank you to the amazing Kindergartners and families!



# Kindergarten with Ms. Closinski's Class

Students completed another escape room activity practicing math and ELA skills to find out who stole the gingerbread man. It was the goat!



Students enjoyed their Christmas tree decorating craft with ice cream cones and frosting.

# First Grade Fun



First grades students made some awesome holiday crafts to share with their families that included snowglobes and holiday coasters.



# 5th and 6th Grade Intramurals



Volleyball

The 5th and 6th Grade Girls and Boys have been participating in various activities after school with Mr. Enos and Mrs. Brown. For the month of December, they have been concentrating on basketball, ultimate football, and volleyball.

Ultimate Football



Basketball



# Student Council Holiday Spirit Week: December 18-21



Monday: Dress to Impress  
Tuesday: Toasty Tuesday  
Wednesday: Candy Cane Lane  
Thursday: Long Winter's Nap



# Spirit Week Continued





# Art Special

Students in Kindergarten made ceramic glazed pinch pots and leaf prints. They wrapped them in hand-made wrapping paper to take home safely.



Fifth grade students synthesized images, patterns, line designs, words, and color to design "ugly sweaters" (ugly meaning overly decorated). They enjoyed sharing their creations.

# P2 Assembly and Holiday Sing-A-Long



Students and special area classes received recognition for demonstrating this month's positivity characteristic trait: self control.



Students, faculty, and staff participated in a holiday sing-a-long led by music teacher, Mr. Shipp.



# Primary Wing "Hall of Holiday Cheer"



# Upcoming Events and Reminders



## Mark Your Calendars!

Winter Recess:	December 22- January 1
School Resumes:	January 2, 2024
January 12:	Early Dismissal, 1:00 Elementary
January 15:	No School: Martin Luther King Jr. Day

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!*

