

NA Walbran Newsletter

September/October 2022



Message From the Principal...

Dear Members of the Oriskany CSD Community,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for giving me such a warm welcome upon the start of my Interim Principal role at NA Walbran. It's been wonderful getting to know many of you, and I look forward to meeting more of you in the future. And, what I know for sure, is that your children are in wonderful hands with the faculty and staff at NA Walbran. Not only have I found them to be highly-skilled professionals, but also incredibly dedicated, caring, and compassionate individuals who strive to provide the best possible educational experience for your children.

September allowed us to establish, practice, and perfect classroom routines and expectations which are critical for optimal learning. Additionally, we capitalized on the first few weeks of school to provide us with baseline data, in both math and reading, on your student(s). This time investment served us well. Doing so, allowed us to target your child's individual instructional levels in an attempt to best meet their unique needs and maximize their growth.

October provided us with a well-attended Open House. Thank you, parents/guardians, for taking such an active role/interest in your child's education; involved parents make a big difference! Our annual Trick-or-Treat event, held on Wednesday, October 26, was also a success. This opportunity served as a fun and safe platform for our students to celebrate Halloween. Special thanks to the NA Walbran PTA, for sponsoring this event, and the many, many staff and families who joined in to celebrate the holiday's spirit.

Finally, on the safety front, we have used these beginning months of school to also practice our safety drills. To date, we have conducted five fire drills and three lockdown drills. Folks from the OHM BOCES Safety Office have joined us for our lockdown drills and have provided necessary feedback on these critical drills.

As the first 10 weeks of school come to a close, I would like to thank you for your continued support. I look forward to your child(ren)'s continued success. Please know that my door is always open; do not hesitate to reach out! I can be reached via email at mgray@oriskanycsd.org, or by phone at (315) 768-2149.

It takes a village,

Maureen Gray
Interim Principal



What's happening in Mrs. Graziadei's Prek class?



Students had fun using real gourds to make their own scary faces!



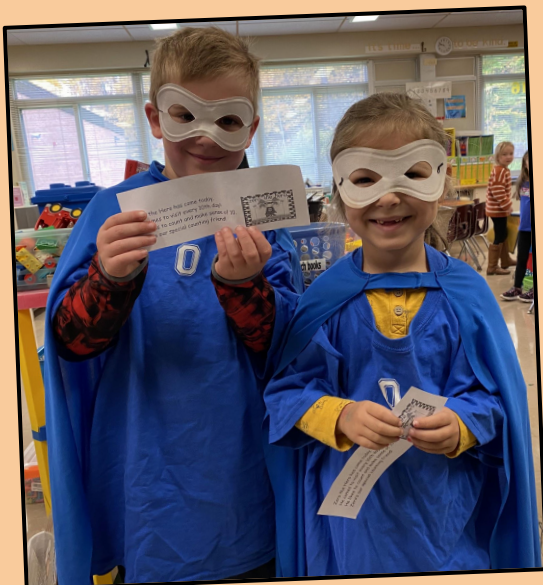
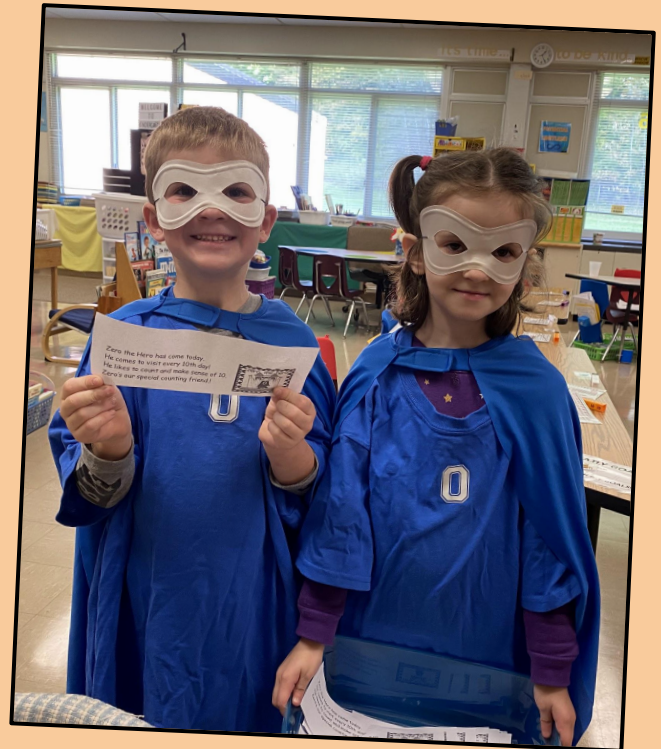
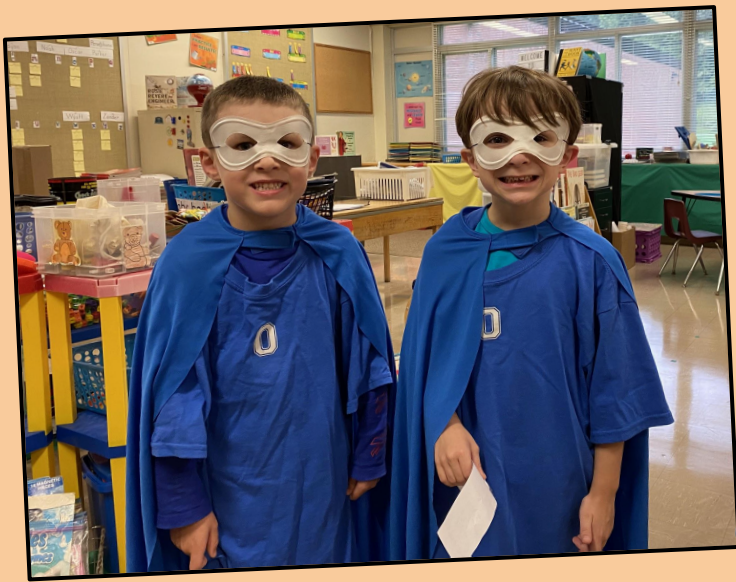
During daily recess, students play with their new friends.



Dot Day was celebrated on September 15 as a way to boost courage and release creative potential.

The Return of Zero the Hero to Kindergarten

Every 10th school day is very important at NA Walbran! Two students dress as Zero the Hero and make a visit to each classroom!



When you see number cards for One-Nine, there are dots or pictures that correspond to that number. Zero is so sad that there are no dots or pictures on his card. However, after the number Nine, there are no more numbers. But One grabs the hand of Zero to make a new number-10! So that makes Zero the Hero!

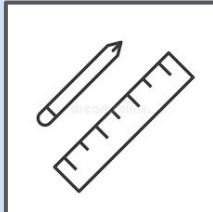
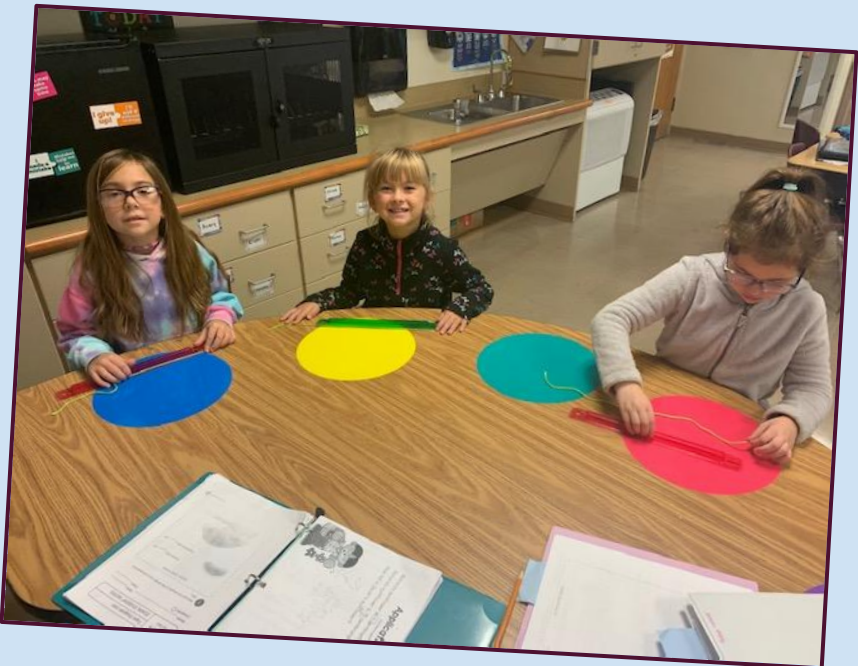
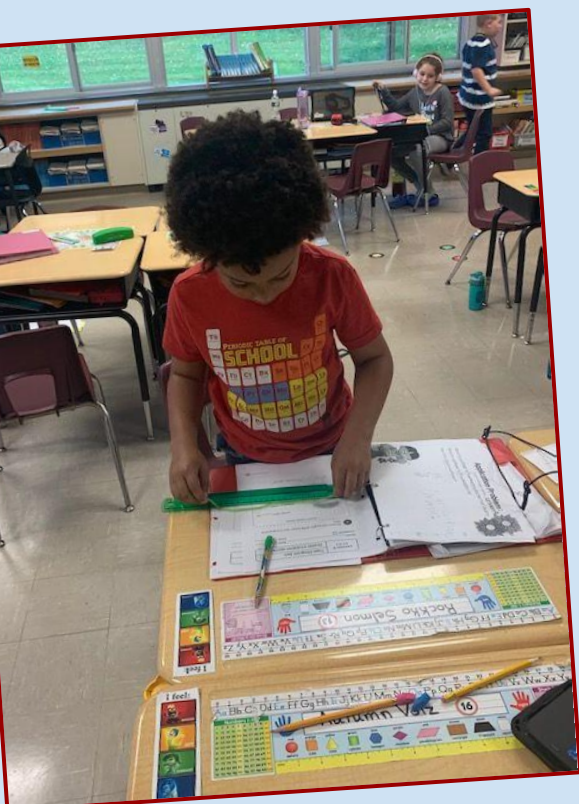
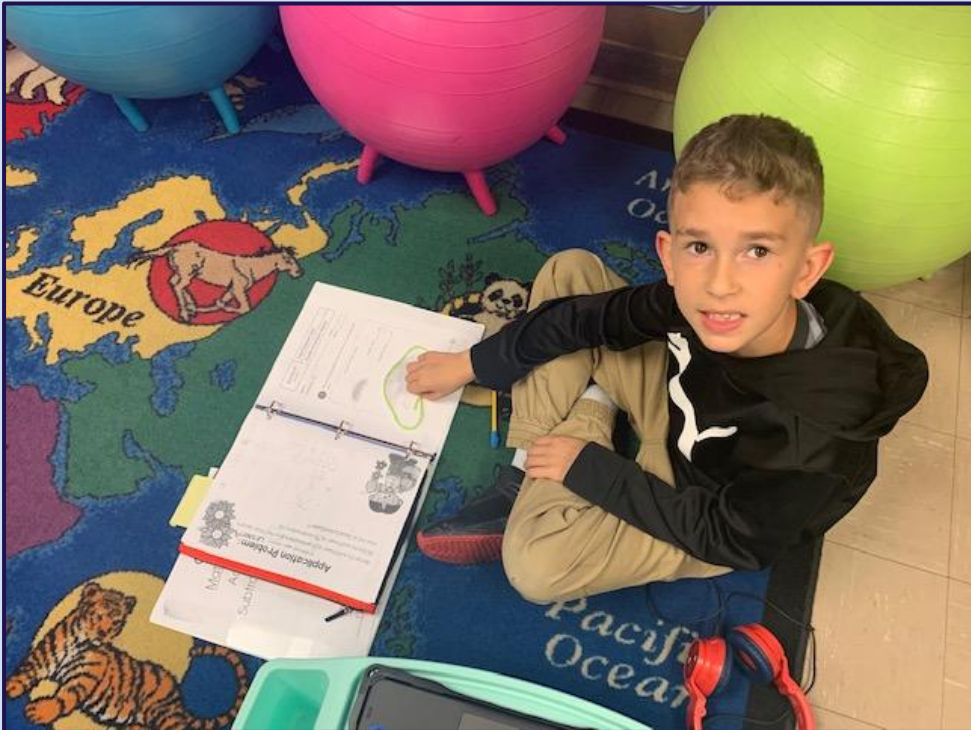
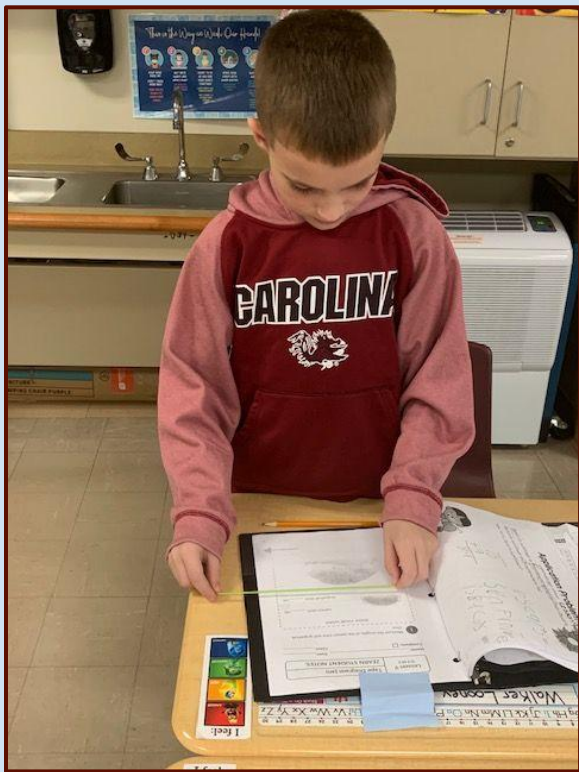
Greetings from Kindergarten

We had a great time visiting the fire station and learning all about fire safety during the month of October. Now we are getting ready for activities to celebrate the Fall season and Halloween! We are so excited to talk about Halloween and wear our costumes in the school parade. Our teachers are also so proud of how hard we have been working on our numbers, letters and identifying our High Frequency Words! Can you believe we have been in Kindergarten for over 30 days!



What's happening in Ms. Island's Class?

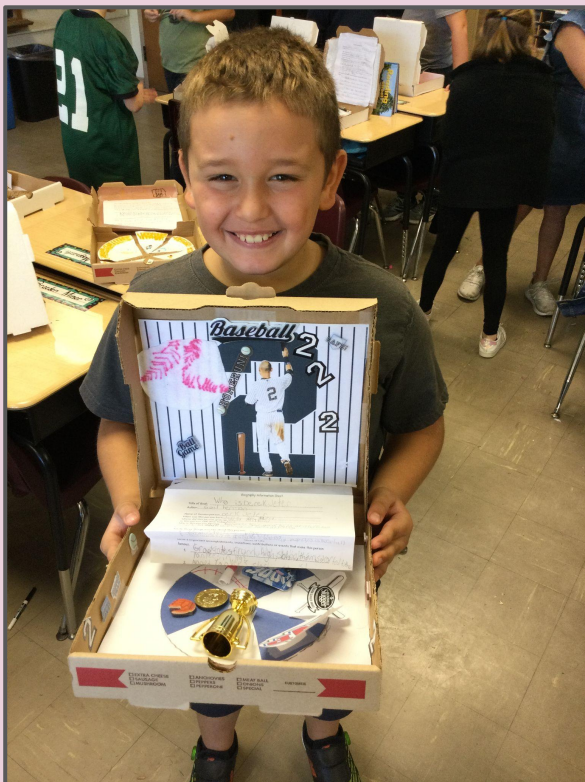
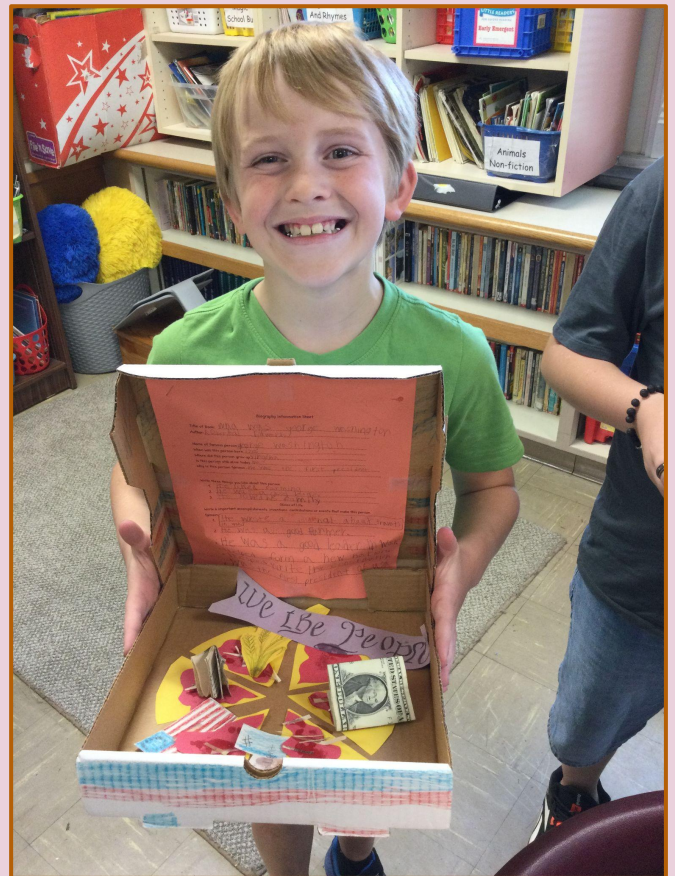
In Math, second grade is working on units of measurement and had a blast using string to measure objects around the classroom and themselves.



4th Grade Book Report Projects



4th Graders in Mrs. Irwin's class did their first book report in the month of September! This month they each read a biography and learned more about a famous person. They then created a "Pizza Box Biography" which included facts about this person.



Students shared their project with their class and practiced their first class presentation.

6th Grade 3D Plant and Cell Project

Students in Mrs. Commisso's 6th grade science classes created 3-D plant or animal cell projects as a culminating activity to their life science unit of cell organelles and structures.



Students did an amazing job and were very proud of their creativity!

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

This year's theme: "Fire won't wait, plan your escape."



NA Walbran students had a great week learning about fire safety. Thank you to our Oriskany fire fighters for coming to school to teach us all about fire safety.



Art Special with Mrs. Kane

Students made a set of four artist trading cards correlating with this year's theme, exploring emotions.



A card was made for each of the four zones. These zones help us identify our emotions and then regulate our behavior accordingly.



Robotics After-School Club



Lego Spike Prime kits are used to build the robots and creations.

Students learn how to code their robots using word block coding.

Students in 5th and 6th grade have the opportunity to sign up and participate in a 5 week robotics session with Mrs. Daskiewich.



The number of students/session is limited, so watch for the next sign up in January.



This happened...



"Find your dream and put your heart into it."



Tom Verano, former NA Walbran student and Oriskany graduate, performed an amazing live speed painting and art demonstration while delivering a message to the students on October 25.

Flag Duty

Each year Officer Jeff Blovat works with 6th grade students to train them how to properly raise, lower, and fold the American flag.



Students perform this duty every morning at the start of the school day and every afternoon upon dismissal.



Out and About...

Coming Soon:

6th graders will be selling
Nothing But Bundt Cakes.



Where do all the Oreos go?

Officer Jeff always has a smile
and an Oreo for students who drop
by to say "hi."



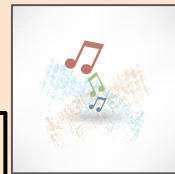
Crane or dinosaur?



For several days, Officer Jeff
and recess teachers were asked
the question by young students,
"why is there a long-neck
dinosaur behind the school?"

Although it looked like a
brontosaurus, it actually was a
tall crane behind the school on
the hill.

CHORUS & BAND



Rehearsals have begun! All groups rehearse from 8:00-8:35.

Tuesday: 5th + 6th chorus
Wednesday: 4th chorus, 5th band
Thursday: 6th band

Please see Mrs. Marcinkowski or Mrs. Roberts if you would like to join.



REMINDERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

November 11:	No School; Veterans Day
November 16:	Elementary $\frac{1}{2}$ Day; 11:30 Dismissal
November 17:	Elementary $\frac{1}{2}$ Day; 11:30 Dismissal
November 18:	Elementary $\frac{1}{2}$ Day; 11:30 Dismissal
November 23-25:	Thanksgiving Recess; No School