



N.A. Walbran Elementary

January 2022 Newsletter

*The Walbran Way: * Be Respectful * Be Responsible * Be Safe * Be You*

From the Principal:

Dear N.A. Walbran Community,

As I finish up my first month here in Oriskany as the new principal at N.A. Walbran Elementary, I am proud to be a part of such an amazing community. The daily dedication shown from our faculty and staff, students, and parents is commendable. I look forward to being a part of this team.

Despite the ever-changing COVID guidelines, our district continues to be diligent in working through any potential barriers so that we can continue to keep students in school. At the beginning of January the district hosted the second round vaccination clinic for students ages 5-11, and we are continuing with district wide universal masking mandates. This has allowed the school to continue offering some amazing opportunities for our students.

Upcoming events and activities that you should be on the lookout for are Pick A Reading Partner (PARP), which will be introduced to families in the next couple of weeks. The PARP team is excited to announce our theme and activities and prizes that will go along with the reading challenge. We will also be having a spirit week prior to the Mid-Winter Recess that will include a Winter Fun Day for all students to enjoy the snowy outdoors!

The continued success of our students and school is a result of the partnership between all the stakeholders in our community. Thank you for your continued support and collaboration.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Catherine Mucurio

PreK...Mrs. Graziadei's Class

Who needs snow to build a snowman outdoors? Mrs. Graziadei's students were busy creating their own snowmen while staying indoors with buttons, cups, felt, toothpicks, pipe cleaners and wiggly eyes. They were all so proud of their art work.



Kindergarten News

The Kindergarten students were so excited to give back at 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! Thank you to the amazing Kindergarteners!



Thank you to the awesome kindergarteners!!

We collected over 8 boxes of items for this amazing organization, including food and toys for the animals, paper towels, and so many office supplies!

Classroom Collaboration

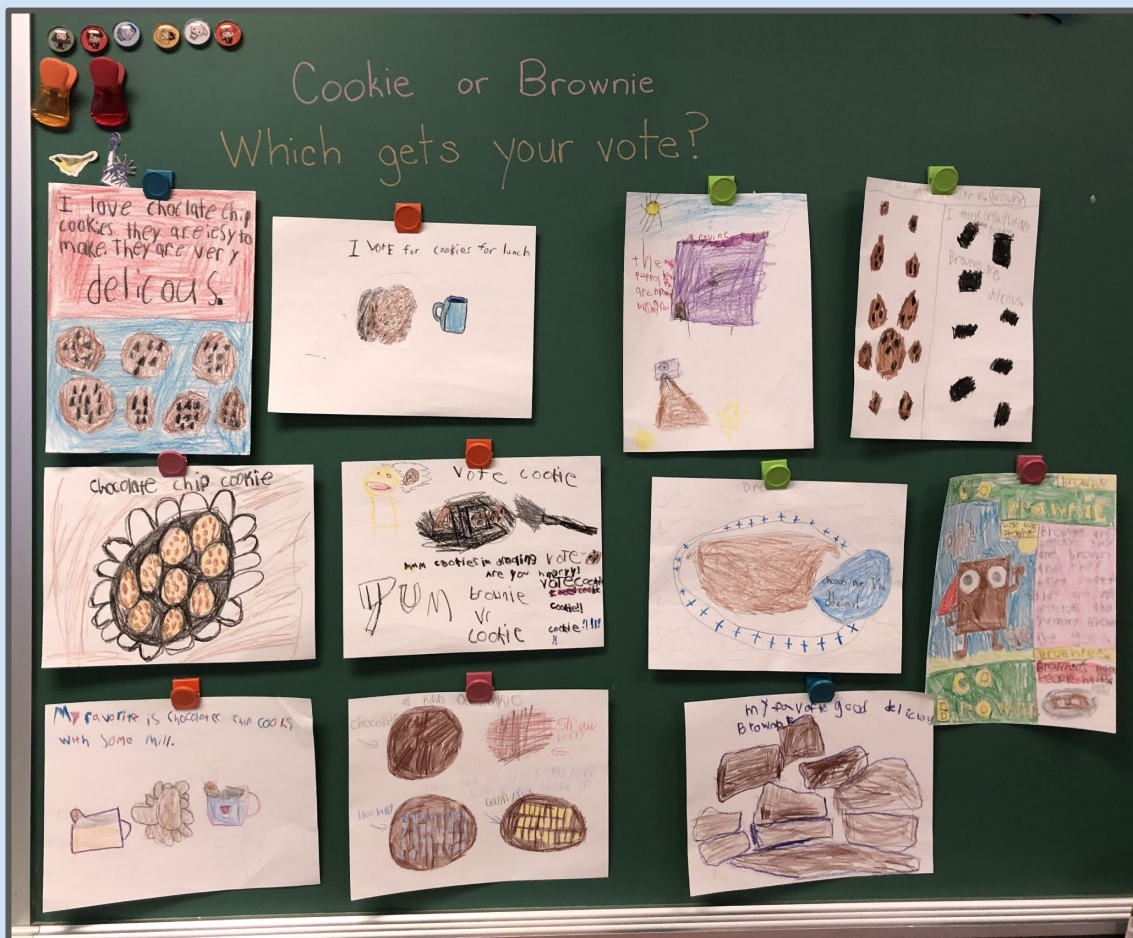


Mrs. Waskiewicz's 2nd Grade and Mrs. Caruso's 6th grade celebrated Martin Luther King, Jr. with this collaborative poster bulletin board. Students each colored a piece of the poster that was then brought together to form a wonderful poster. The 2nd graders wrote a positive trait and the 6th graders wrote on a thought bubble what they dream for our world.



2nd Grade: Mrs. Zarnoch-Riley's Class

Students in Ms. Zarnoch-Riley's class designed convincing campaign posters for their favorite dessert— either brownies or chocolate chip cookies! They studied election campaign posters from previous presidential elections and used what they learned to create a convincing argument for their dessert of choice.



Which would YOU choose?

**Chocolate Chip Cookies OR
Brownies**

Library Special with Mrs. Tamburino

Students in Mrs. Tamburino's 1st grade special were both the authors and illustrators designing and creating their own stories. Students chose their own topics, titles, and pictures. Mrs. Tamburino loved their creativity.



3rd Grade: Ms. Gadow's Class

Third grade wrapped up 2021 with a flurry of activities.

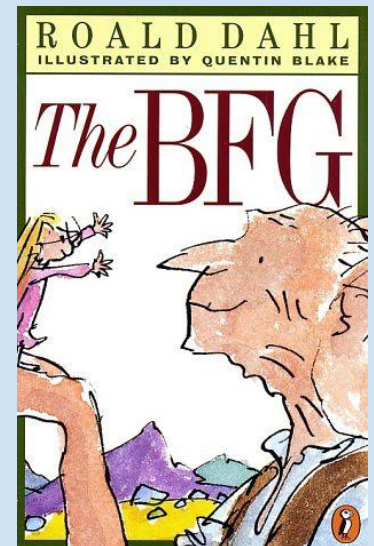
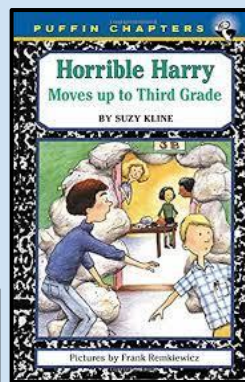
Ode to Mr. Van Wormer
Sang to the tune of Jingle Bells

Dashing down the hall,
He's trying to see us all!
Through the doors we see,
The smiles of Mr VI!
Announcements he does say,
And The Walbran Way!
What fun it is to hear him say,
The joke of the day! Oh!

Mr. VI Mr VI!
Thanks for all you do!
Everyday is special,
When we see you! Oh!
Mr. VI Mr. VI!
Now our song is done,
As our school principal, you are number one!

To: Mr. VanWormer
With Love,
Ms. Gadow & Class
December 22, 2021

Students created a large class magnet to give as a goodbye gift to Mr. VanWormer, NA Walbran's interim principal. They sang him a song and presented cards to him. Though sad to see him go, the students are very excited to have Mrs. Murcurio as their new principal at NA Walbran.



January ushered in a new year and the completion of some read-alouds: The BFG by Roald Dahl and Horrible Harry Moves Up to Third Grade by Suzy Kline. Currently, the read-aloud is The One and Only Bob by Katherine Applegate,



Students learned about the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his contributions in helping to change the unfair laws of his time. They each wrote about what they learned.

The SPOT (*Successful Positive Outcomes Together*) jar is almost filled! Students are looking forward to a grand celebration of their positive acts and hard work sometime this month!

Welcome Student Teachers



Taylor Oliver, is a PE student teacher with Mrs. Brown. Her second placement will be at the high school for Health with Mrs. Cortese and PE with Mrs. Pruckno. Taylor is a student at Utica College.



Morgan Stewart, is a 5th/6th grade student teacher for Mr. Wright's social studies class. Her second placement is with with Mrs. Gray's 1st grade class. Morgan is a Utica College student.



Erin O'Connor, is a second grade student teacher with Ms. Island. Her second placement is with Mr. Tuttle. Erin is a Utica College student.

Welcome Student Teachers



Joy Armstrong, an Oneonta college student, is currently student teaching in 3rd grade with Mr. Janes's class. Her second placement will be with Mrs. Commisso's 5th/6th grade math classes.



Allison Shedd, a Utica College student, is currently student teaching in 3rd grade with Ms. Seamon. Her second placement will be with Mrs. Graziadei's PreK class.

Welcome Student Teachers



Crystal Santiago, a Utica College student, is currently student teaching in Mrs. Gray's 1st grade class. Her second placement will be at Kernan Elementary School, in Utica.

Lexi Beal, a Utica College student, is currently student teaching in 5th/6th grade with Mrs. Commisso. Her second placement will be with Ms. Island's 2nd grade class.



UpComing Dates and Events



MARK YOUR CALENDARS



February 3:

3:30 PTA meeting
Walbran Library,

February 4:

Last day to order Krispy Kremes;
See any 6th grade student or
contact the main office

February 14-18:

Spirit Week (more information to
come!)

February 18:

Elementary Early Dismissal, 1:00 pm

February 21-25:

No School: Mid Winter Recess

COMING SOON.....N.A. WALBRAN PARP!!!!

