



N.A. Walbran Elementary

October 2021



From the Principal...

Dear Oriskany families,

As we approach the first quarter of our school year, we thank you, our parents and guardians, instructional staff, and support staff for our successful return to in-person learning. We are in the process of bringing back several programs designed for your students with our COVID protocols in place. Please find below information on some of those programs and activities.

This newsletter will help you recognize those programs and also guide you for the dates and times of our future activities. Important items include our parent - teacher conferences and our PTA annual book fair..

We are also beginning our Social Emotional Learning activities that will take place in our classrooms and carried out by our Guidance Counselors and Social Workers. These activities will help students in their classroom programs and also their interactions with peers during their time not only in school but also in our school community.

We will also welcome several student teachers from both Utica College and SUNY Oneonta for the spring semester. They will be working under the direction of our instructional staff and will be able to offer additional support to our students.

As was in place last year, we will be starting our Academic Enrichment Program. This will be an after school program from 3:30 to 5:00 pm. We will be sending our invitations to selected students to attend this program. It will include snack breaks as well as transportation at the end of the program.

Please know our COVID response team continues to address any positive tests in the building as well as working with our students who are quarantined. We communicate with the Oneida County Department of Health almost daily. While some students have been quarantined, most of our students have been virus free.

In addition, our November calendar will include individual school pictures and a Veteran's day celebration with our music department and our Oriskany CSD veterans either presently serving in our armed services or have been discharged from their service to our country. Thanks to Therese Hanna for helping in this event.

Our Walbran team is thankful for your help and assistance with your children and we look forward to your children's continued success at our N. A. Walbran elementary school. If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me via e-mail (jvanwormer@oriskanycsd.org) or phone (315-768-2149).

Sincerely,

Mr. James VanWormer

Preschool

Mrs. Graziadei's & Mrs. Myers' classes



Mrs. Marcinkowski treated the pre-k students to some gourds she grew in her garden. They all made monster creations in art class with Mrs. Kane.



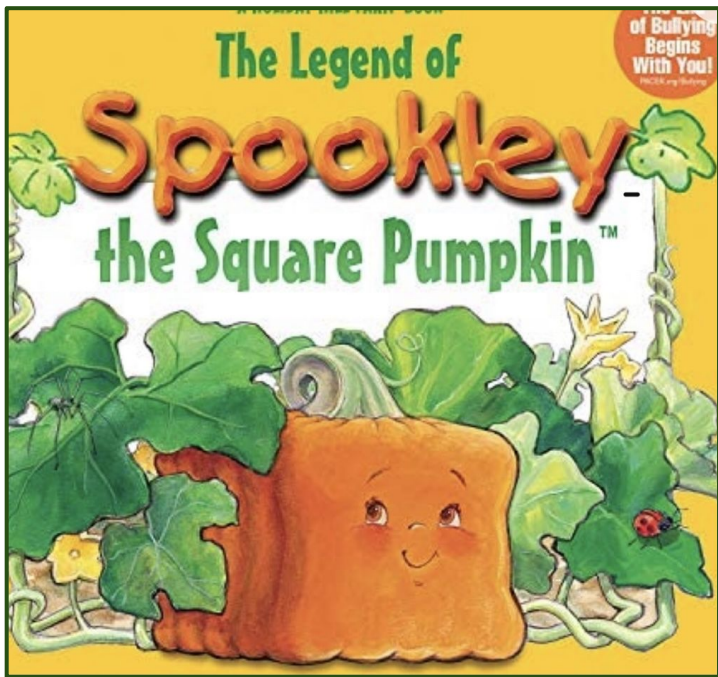
Message from the Kindergarten team...

Hello Kindergarten Families!

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!



Kindergarten...Mrs. Bowers' Class



Mrs. Bowers' kindergarten class studied the life cycle of a pumpkin. They also read, "The Legend of Spookley the Square Pumpkin", enjoyed some Spookley cookies, and made a Spookley craft.

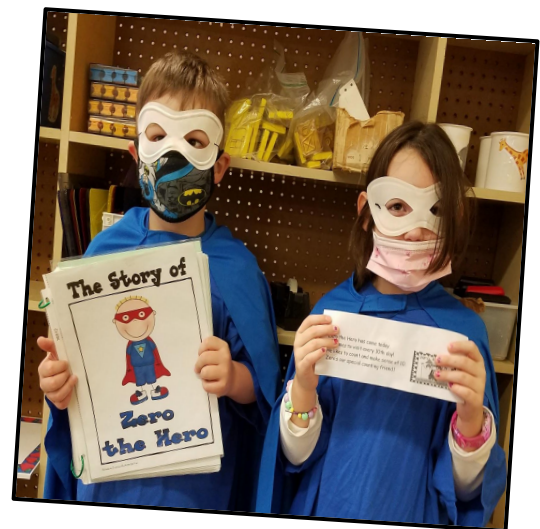
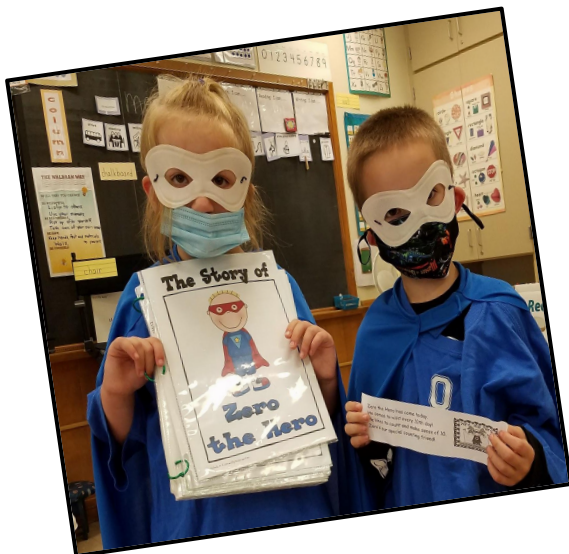


Zero the Hero

Every 10th school day is very important in our school! Two kindergarten students dressed as Zero the Hero make their way through the school announcing that it is another day we have been in school ending in a zero.

Some background information about why Zero is a Hero! Zero (the character) is so sad that there are no dots on his card. One has 1 dot, Two has 2 dots.... Everybody has dots, except him. However, after the number 9, there are no more numbers. But One grabs the hand of Zero to make a new number-10! So that makes Zero the Hero!

With that in mind, our Zero Heroes make their rounds announcing that it is another 10 days of school, delivering a poem and a lifesaver to the classroom teacher.





Fire Prevention Week

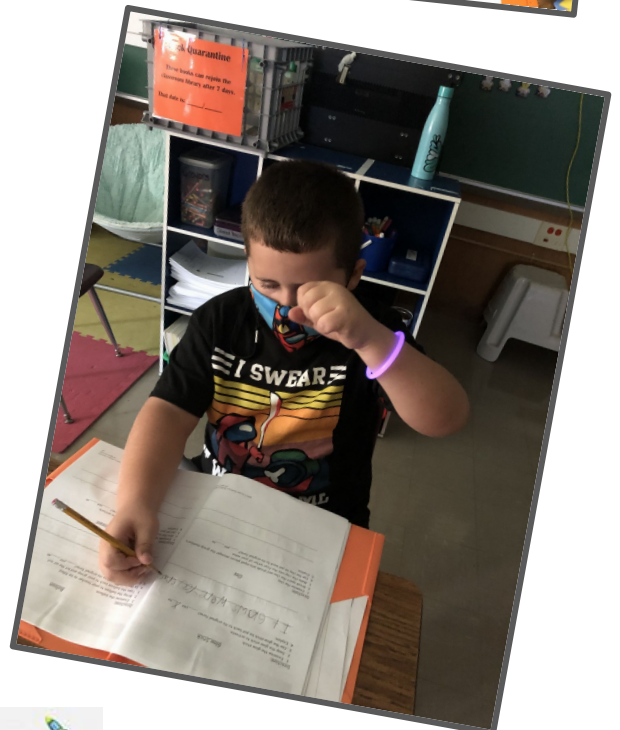
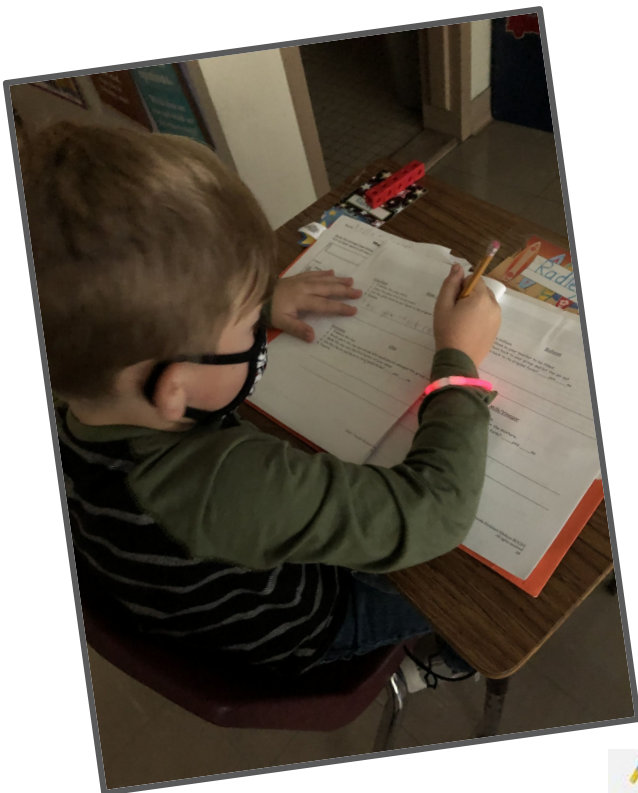
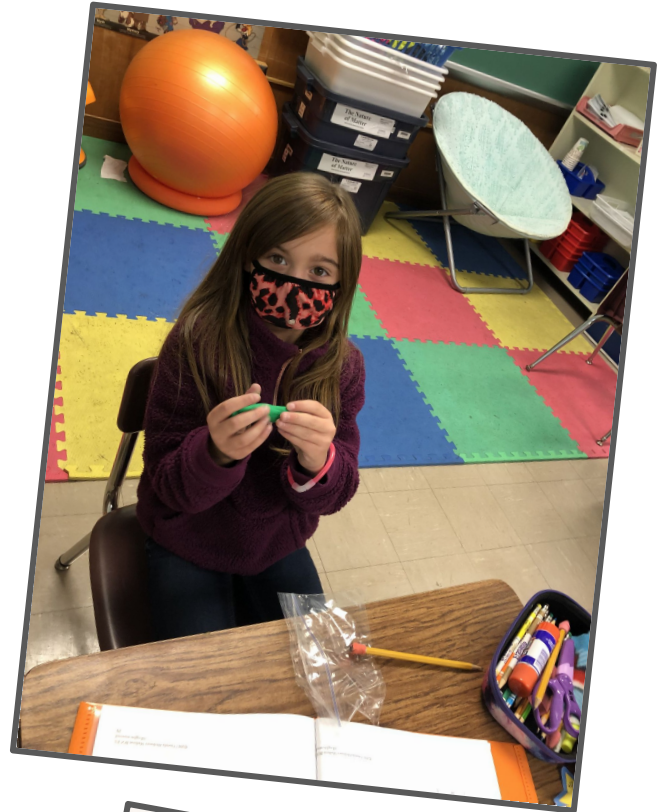


A fun and informative week for students at NA Walbran learning about fire safety.



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

Students in Ms. Zarnoch-Riley's second grade class are learning the difference between reversible and irreversible changes in matter! Since modeling clay can be changed back to its original form, using it is a reversible change. On the other hand, cracking and activating a glow stick is an irreversible change because it can't go back to looking the way it started!



2nd Grade...Ms. Island's Class



Students in Ms. Island's 2nd grade class had an amazing time deciding how to decorate their class pumpkins for Halloween. They decided on a silly face and a scary face. The best part was putting on the hair! They named their pumpkins Gerard and Silly Willy. It was so much fun!



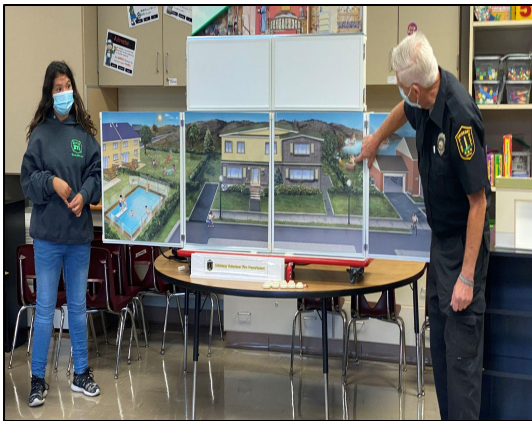
3rd Grade...Ms. Gadbow's Class

Ms. Gadbow's 3rd Graders have been SPOT on since Day 1
(Successful Positive Outcomes Together)

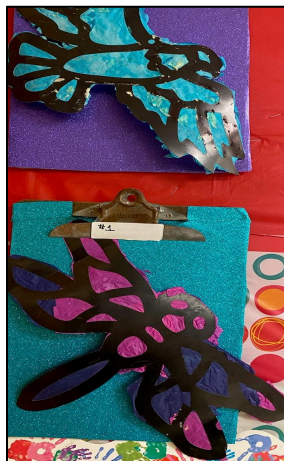
Together students have listened to two Junie B. Jones stories (realistic fiction), three Magic Tree House Stories (historical fantasy), and currently The Little House in the Big Woods (autobiographical).



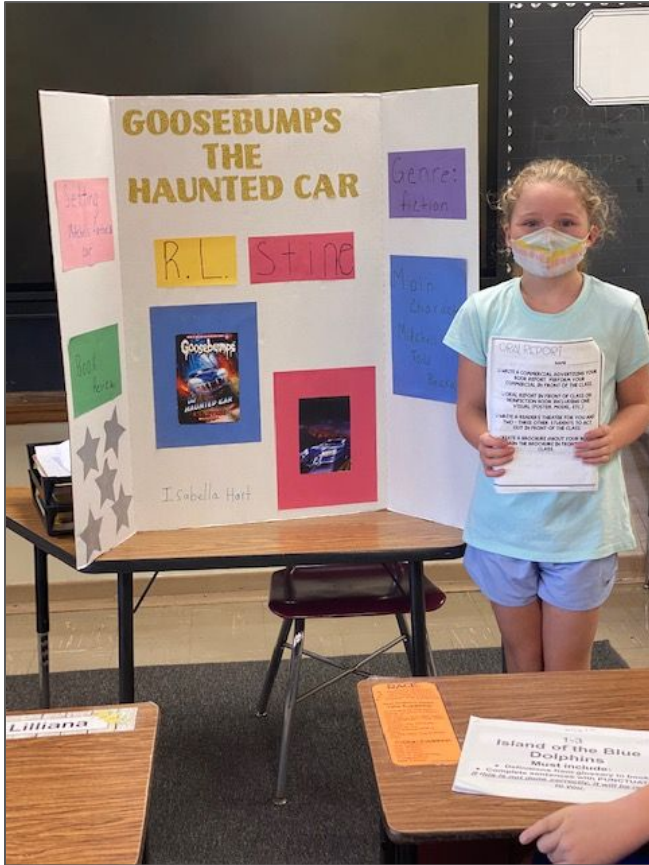
During Fire Prevention Week, the Oriskany Fire Department came to review the best ways to be safe. The students saw the "Hazard House." The class appreciated the time and lessons the Oriskany Fire Department members shared with them.



The class's amazing ideas, hard-work, responsible and respectful behavior has allowed them to fill the "SPOT" jar to many levels. Class rewards that have been given so far are: extra recess and arts and crafts in the classroom.



5th/6th Grade ELA...Mrs. Caruso's Class



For the October book report, students could read any book of their choice as long as it related to Halloween. Students were then given the opportunity to present their book to the class.



Each week the PPS team pushes into classes to teach social-emotional learning to the students. This past week, Ms. Bostic talked to the students about the many different emotions we experience and how our bodies feel with each emotion. To help Ms. Bostic get to know the 6th graders, she had them toss the ball to one another to take turns playing charades. They were asked to say their name and the activity they enjoy doing the most in their free time.

Art Special...Mrs. Jordan



This year's school theme is "Ride the Wave." Students worked individually and then together in art classes to create water related displays.



Mrs. Brown and Mr. Enos created a ride the wave board for PE. Third graders got on board by designing and displaying surfboards.

Second graders used paper plates and fluorescent paint to make tropical fish. Starfish were given dimension and sparkle by fifth graders. Pre-k "fed" their bottle fish with tissue paper to give them color. Shells were created by prek students who used model magic and plastic molds. Acrylic turtle paintings on canvas boards were made by sixth graders. Beaded wire fish sculptures on a seaweed base were sculpted by first graders. The work of Alexander Calder inspired the first graders. Sand is at the bottom of the ocean which was added to drawings by fifth graders.



Third graders upcycled plastic water bottles and used colored wire and sharpies to create 3D jellyfish. Students decided where on the board to place each creation.



Ride the Wave

Student Council



Congratulations to the following students on being selected as this years Student Council Representatives

Ms. Fazio- Natalino Orcutt

Mrs. Irwin- Vito LoCaccio

Mr. Tuttle- Mya Avery

Mrs. Commisso- Ceci Piersma

Mrs. Caruso- Tyler Yan

Mr. Wright- Gianna Deitrick

Student Council October theme day:
Friday, October, 29

Students are encouraged to dress in their favorite Halloween shirt or color.

No costumes or costume masks!



Upcoming Events and Reminders

Picture Day:	November 4 + 5
6th Grade Utica : Coffee Fundraiser (Help	Now through November 5 support their Nlagara Falls Trip in June)
PTA Book Fair:	November 8 - 12
NO SCHOOL:	Thursday, November 11
Parent/Teacher Conferences:	11:30 am dismissals November 17, 18, 19



Stella



Stella is a three-week old black and white Holstein calf from DiNitto Farms that the 2nd graders have adopted for the school year. Students will learn about her life on the farm, what farmers do to take care of her and cows like her mom. They will also learn how their dairy products get from the farm to their tables at home! In June, Stella will come back to school to show her students how she's grown!





Happy Halloween

**Village of Oriskany
Trick-or-Treating:**

Sunday, October 31

5:00 - 8:00

