



# N.A. Walbran Elementary

May 2021 Newsletter



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

## From the Principal:

Dear N.A. Walbran Families,

As we head into the home stretch of the year, things seem to be looking up. The world is slowly reopening and we have been grateful to have had five days per week instruction in-place since April 2021. Thank you to our students, parents, teachers, and staff for remaining steadfast in our approach to always going the extra mile and for working hard to make N.A. Walbran the special place that it is.

June is always an exciting time for students. Back when I was a student in elementary school in the 1990s at Onondaga Road Elementary, I fondly recall June as a month of celebrations, positivity, and gratitude for growing another year older (and hopefully wiser!). The weather gets warmer and sports are in full swing. Leaving the last day in June is always a bittersweet time, knowing we will miss our current teachers, but looking forward to the challenge of a new teacher and grade level. Here at N.A. Walbran we also celebrate the accomplishments of our sixth grade class through our moving up ceremony on June 24. To our sixth graders: thank you for all your contributions to our school, and best of luck as you enter the JS/HS. You are prepared and ready, and don't forget to visit us from time to time!

June is also the month of Flag Day, which we celebrate on June 14th. Flag Day was officially established in 1916 by President Woodrow Wilson. Our flag itself was created in 1777 by the Second Continental Congress to unite the 13 colonies under one banner. The flag since then has been a beacon during war and peace. Many brave soldiers have defended its honor at great cost while protecting our nation's freedoms. Here at N.A. Walbran, our sixth grade students raise our flag each morning and then solemnly salute it. At the end of the day, these students precisely fold the flag military-style and return it to a place of honor, to await the next day.

Thank you again and, as always, please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Proud to be your principal,

Mark Ranieri

# What's Been Happening..

## PRE-K GRADE

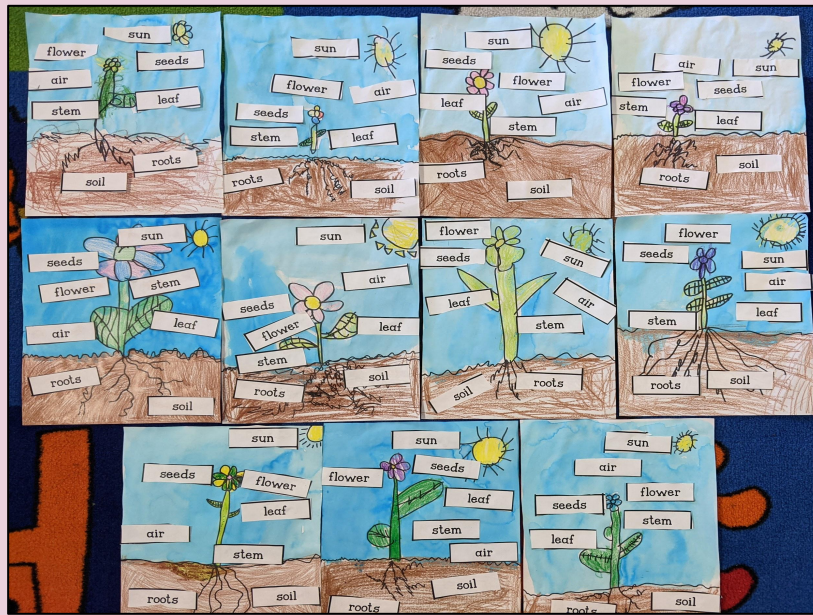


Students in Mrs. Graziadei's pre-k class are "on the move" working on their motor skills. They always look forward to Monday morning activities, led by Mrs. Schuster, PT and Mrs. Jensen, OT which focus on strengthening gross motor and fine motor skills.

# What's Been Happening...

## KINDERGARTEN

Mrs. Kraeger's Kindergarten students have spent their Spring learning about plants and ecosystems. The students planted sunflower seeds, watermelon seeds and grass! They are even growing beans without soil!

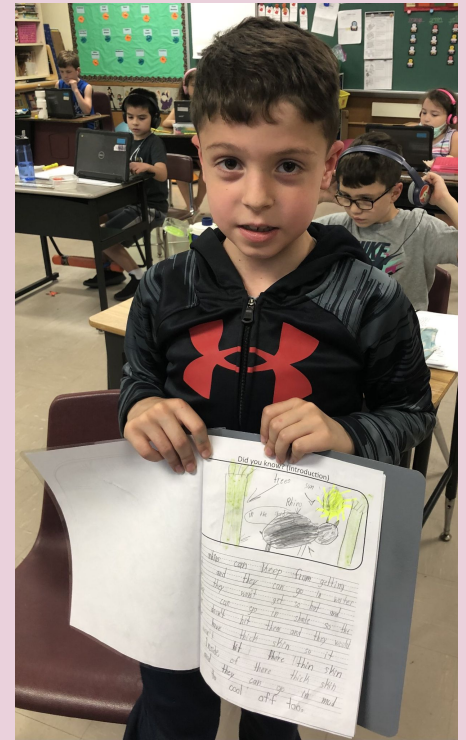
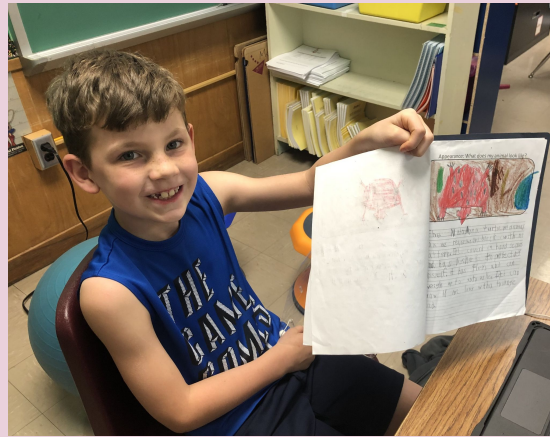
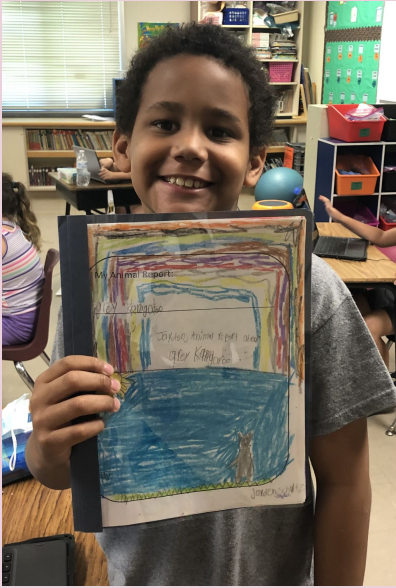


Students also have enjoyed observing a mini-ecosystem that is the home to their Betta-fish named "Cupcake" and two snails named "Tom" and "Jerry".

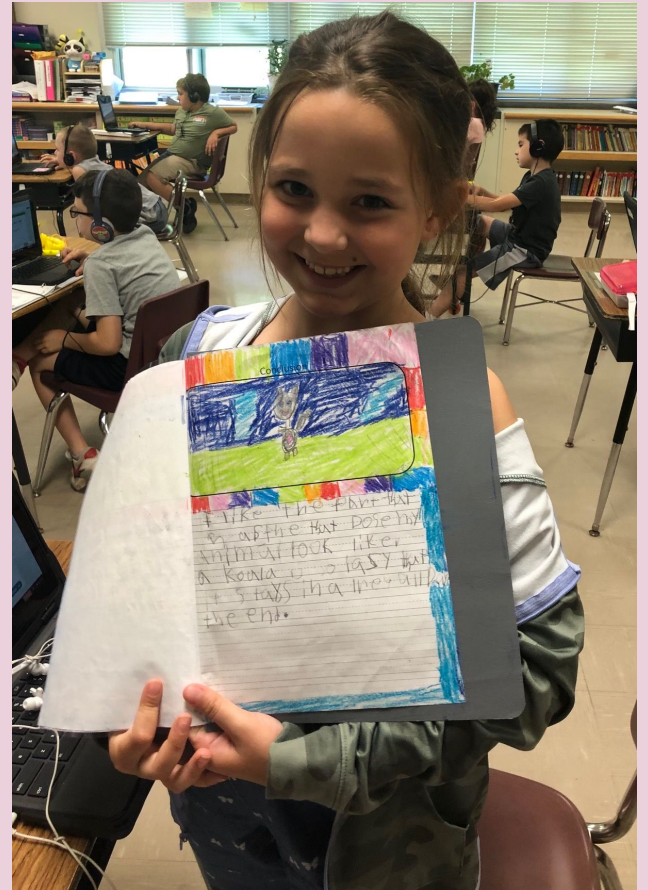


# What's Been Happening...

## 2ND GRADE



Each student in Ms. Zarnoch-Riley's class researched an animal of their choice while learning about writing to inform. Students used the research skills they practiced in library class with Mrs. Tamburino, and took notes from a variety of online tools and print books and magazines. Students learned and wrote about the habitat of their animal, its diet, and its appearance, as well as interesting facts learned while doing their research. Each student illustrated their books, and included an introduction and conclusion as well. The students were very proud of their final work and will be sharing their books with their families!



# What's Been Happening?

## ART SPECIAL



PreK students made 2D and 3D caterpillars with Mrs. Kane during their special.

Kindergarten students made pop up popsicles during class.



Grade 3 made Gnome homes

# CONGRATULATIONS

## TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK DAY 3: HONORING LOCAL EDUCATORS



It's Teacher Appreciation Week, and each day five educators throughout the region will be featured in recognition of their hard work and dedication.

Posted: May 5, 2021 4:57 PM

Posted By: WKTV



"Heather Gray is an exceptional teacher with a heart of gold and always puts her students first. She is a first grade teacher at Oriskany School, who not only goes above and beyond to help her students, but for parents as well. She has always made sure her students had the materials they needed. She would not hesitate to purchase them herself."

Congratulations Mrs. Gray. We are all proud of you for this incredible recognition!

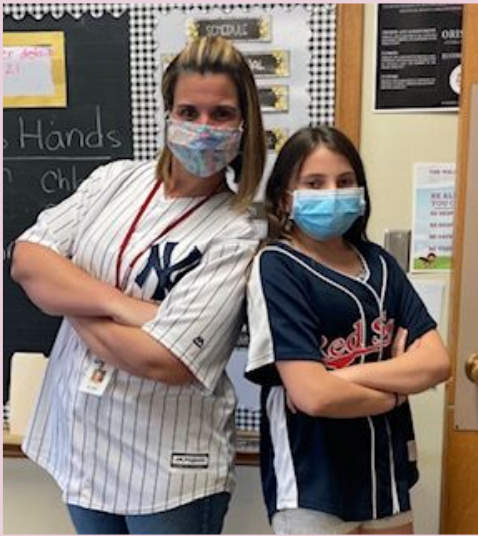


Freddy wrestles with the Proper-ly Trained Wrestling Club, and participated in the D4, 71-pound division. With eight other participants in his bracket, Freddy was able to secure second place and help his team in becoming the NYWAY overall champions.

Freddy Smith is a 3rd grader in Ms. Seamon's class. Congratulations, Freddy!

# What's Been Happening?

## STUDENT COUNCIL



“Cool to be Kind” Week.

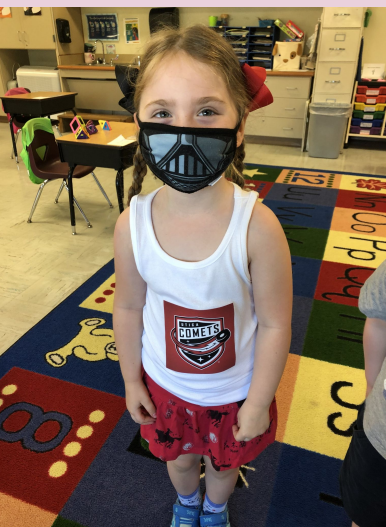
May 17-  
May 21



### Themes Included:

- Monday: Kindness is bright
- Tuesday: Kindness ties us together
- Wednesday: Team up for kindness
- Thursday: Kindness brings peace
- Friday: Powered by kindness

During the week everybody wore bright shirts, ties and bows, team t shirts, tye dye, and superhero shirts.



# What's Been Happening?

## THE MAPLE EXPERIENCE



N. A. Walbran students learned about maple syrup on May 26 through the 'Maple Experience,' which is an interactive exhibit that teaches kids about the history and production of maple.

Students were able to participate in tree-tapping demonstrations and even had the opportunity to taste test!!





# Upcoming Events:

Mark the  
dates.....



June 2: Next PTA meeting  
3:30 Elementary Room 1

June 8: Grade 4 Science Test (written  
portion only) 9:30-11:00

June 10: 6th Grade trip to Niagara Falls

June 11: PE Day

June 17: Chromebook collection

June 18: No School

June 22: PK Graduation, 10:00  
Bernie Block Field

\*number of guests restricted as per NYS guidelines

June 22: 11:30 dismissal (elementary school)

June 23: 11:30 dismissal (elementary school)

June 24: 11:30 dismissal (elementary school)

June 24: 6th Grade Moving Up Ceremony  
6:00, Bernie Block Field

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