

# Walbran Newsletter

September/October 2024



## **Message from the Principal**



Dear N.A. Walbran Families,

We are off to a great start to the 2024-25 school year as we focus on our school theme of "Watch us Grow". As I visit classrooms throughout the building, it is evident that we have shown growth academically, socially and emotionally.

The strong partnerships that we share with the PTA and Oriskany Volunteer Fire Department were on display this fall. Thank you to the PTA for organizing the Book Fair and sponsoring the Halloween Fun Night. Thank you to the Oriskany Volunteer Fire Department for their work with Ms. Debbie Waskiewicz to plan activities and field trips for Fire Prevention Week.

The Jr./Sr. High School Pep Rally was a great opportunity for our students to connect with the high school students. We celebrated their team work and accomplishments on Friday, October 18 in the Keith Davis Gymnasium. It was a great connection to our Positivity Project Kick Off Event!

I am so appreciative of the relationships that I have been able to make with students, staff and community since beginning the role of Elementary Principal in August. Oriskany has always been such a welcoming place and my goal is to continue to build on the positive culture throughout the building and community.

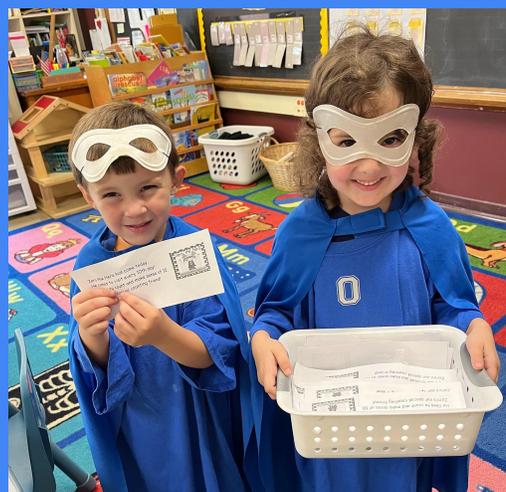
Thank you to our families that are so supportive of your child's education! We are excited to see you for Parent Teacher Conferences on November 13-15.

Sincerely,

Mr. Tom Meiss, Principal

# PreK Presents Zero the Hero

Every tenth day of school, two heroes visit each of the classrooms. They enjoy letting all the students know that we have had another tenth day of school. The idea behind these special visitors is this: when you see the number cards for One-Nine, there are dots or pictures that correspond to that number. The story is that Zero (the character) is so sad that there are no dots or pictures on his card. However, after the number nine, there are no more numbers. But Zero grabs the hand of One to make a new number, ten! So that makes Zero the hero!



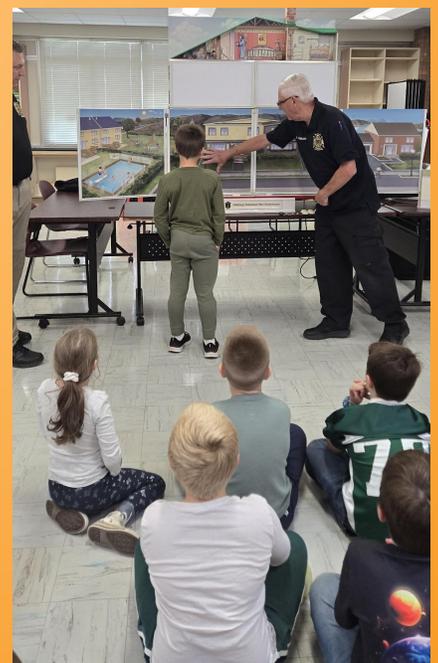
# Kindergarten Fall Activities

Students in kindergarten participated in many fall activities, including making applesauce, dissecting, carving and decorating pumpkins, and using their senses for Halloween fun!



# Fire Prevention Week

Miss Armstrong's third-grade class participated in the "Hazard House" during fire prevention week. Students had a chance to identify different fire hazards that could be found in a home.



The kids had a great time coming up with solutions to the different hazards!

# Fire Prevention Week

Kindergarten students visited the Oriskany fire house in October to learn about fire safety and prevention.



# PreK Visits the Nurse's Office



PreKindergarten students had the chance to spend time with our new nurse, Nurse Britt!

The students took a trip to the nurse's office to see what they might experience if they need to visit the nurse. Nurse Britt showed them how she might need to look in their mouth, clean a boo-boo, check their temperature, or give them an ice pack. The students enjoyed their visit, and now have a new school friend!



# Happy Creating with Mrs. Kane's Art Classes



Each student created a unique flower using a plastic water bottle. We watched our garden grow to represent our school theme this year. Let's continue to grow together!



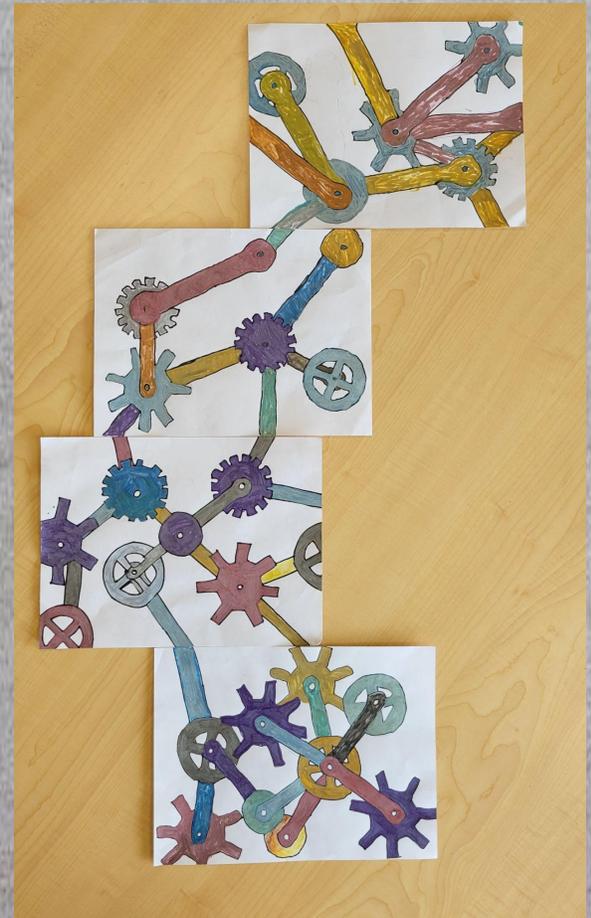
Students looked at and created art in new ways while enjoying Peter Reynolds's books in art class. *The Dot*, *Ish*, and *Sky Color* make up what the author calls a "Creatrilogy." Each of the books celebrate the power of original thinking.

# September/October Art Creations

Kindergarten students looked at the art and listened to the message in *Only One You* by Linda Kranz. They painted rocks to represent fish that were added to the school's rock garden in the bus circle. They helped make the world a more beautiful place.



In art, fourth graders used gears as their inspiration. Students created compositions full of overlapping and movement. They also played deal or no deal with Spirograph.



# Physical Education Intramurals



**Football & Soccer with Mr. Enos & Mrs. Brown after school**

**Teamwork, Leadership, Effort!**



# Positivity Project



On Friday, October 18 we celebrated the kick-off to our positivity project by supporting the high school fall athletes at the annual pep rally. This tied into our theme of teamwork!!



Students and Special Area classes recognized for demonstrating the following characteristic traits:

- Curiosity
- Open Mindedness
- Teamwork
- Integrity
- Creativity

## Special Area

Art:

Library:

Music:

Physical Ed.:

Technology:

## Homeroom Recognized

Mrs. Caruso (1st)

Miss Ricci (K)

Mrs. Servadio (4th)

Ms. Island (2nd)

Mrs. Goodenough (3rd)

## Future Assembly Dates:

- Thursday, November 21
- Thursday, December 19
- Thursday, January 23
- Thursday, February 27
- Thursday, April 17
- Thursday, May 22

Officer Jeff Blovat distributes the positivity certificates to the recognized students each month.

# 5th & 6th Grade Recess

The beautiful weather has allowed for some outdoor time during recess!



# Thank You, PTA!!

We appreciate you hosting the Halloween Fun Night on Wednesday, October 30. Students had the opportunity to parade around the circle and meet faculty and staff as they trick or treated through the school.



# Upcoming Events and Reminders

- ❖ November 8: Veteran's Day Assembly (for students and guests only).
- ❖ November 13-15: Early release days for Parent Teacher Conferences (no lunches served).
- ❖ November 27-29: No School. Happy Thanksgiving!