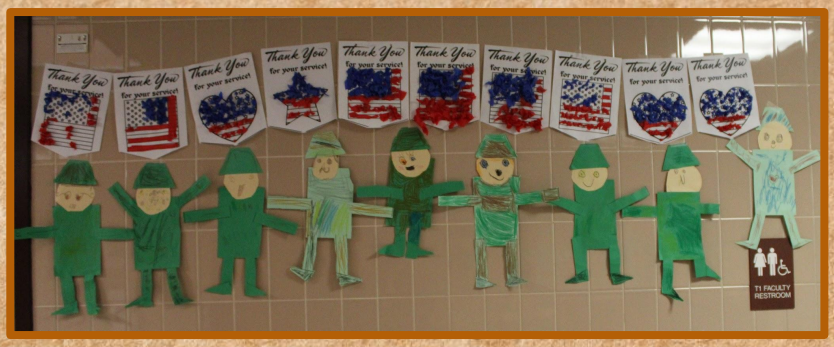
N. A. Walbran
November 2026 Newsletter









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Veterans Day Assembly

By Kaelyn Wiand and Vanessa Alden













This year's Veteran's Day Assembly took place on November 10, 2026. First, all the veterans were greeted with coffee and cookies and waited in the gym. After they settled in, they took a group picture, then lined up to go to the cafeteria. Student council, family, and friends walked the veterans down. Once the veterans were on the stage, the fifth and sixth grade chorus sang "The Star Spangled Banner." Then, we took a moment to thank all of the active service members and veterans for taking time out of their day to come to our school and honored them for their service to our country.

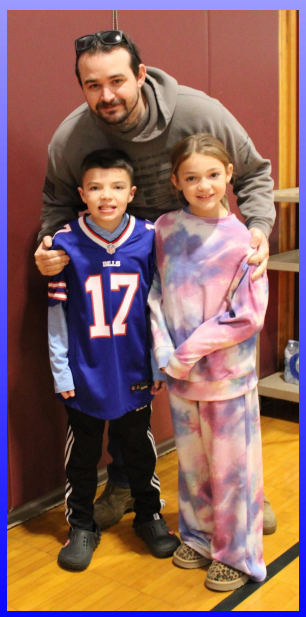
Next, we welcomed MaryAnn Buttenschon to talk about what amazing people the veterans are. Then our superintendent, Mr. Cuthbertson, gave a speech as well. He said that veterans are ordinary people who did extraordinary things. After his speech we all took a moment of silence to remember all the veterans who didn't get to go home.







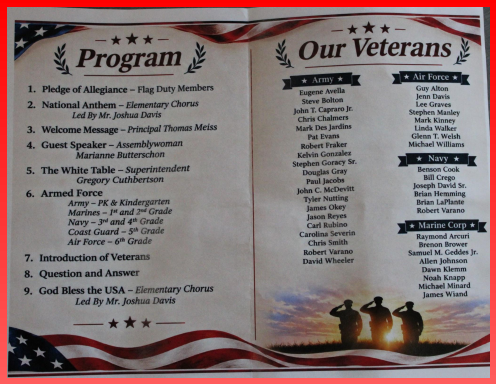
Next, Maddalena Pettinelli and Douglas LaCombe set the table. First, they placed a white tablecloth to represent the purity of the service members' motives and intentions when they answered their country's call to serve. Then, they placed down a single slice of lemon on a plate to represent the bitter fate of service members who are missing in action, captured, or never able to return home. After, they sprinkled salt to represent the tears shed by waiting families and loved ones of fallen, missing, or imprisoned service members. Then, they placed a chair cover on a chair and tilted it against the table to represent the absence of fallen, missing, or captured service members who cannot be present to share the meal or gathering. After that, they placed a black napkin on the table to represent the sorrow of captivity, the emptiness left in the hearts of families and loved ones, and the unknown fate of missing service members. Then they put a glass to represent the inability of fallen, missing, or captured service members to share a toast with their comrades. Next, they placed a white candle to represent prisoners of war and service members missing in action who have not yet returned home. After that, they placed a single red rose in a vase tied with a red ribbon to represent fallen, missing, or imprisoned service members.









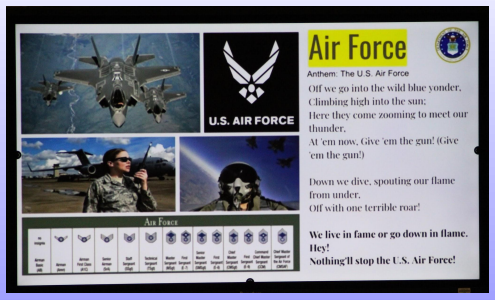



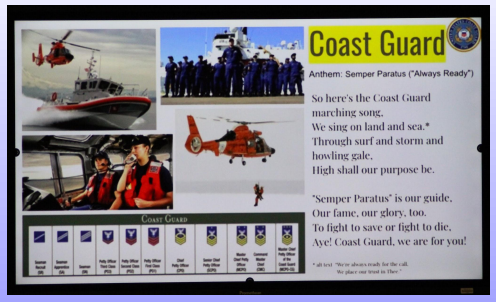


Then Mr. Cuthbertson had the veterans introduce themselves with their name, branch of service, and their connection to N.A. Walbran. After that, kindergarten through 6th grade sang songs about the different branches. Finally, the students asked the veterans questions that the veterans answered. To conclude the assembly, the fifth and sixth grade chorus sang “God Bless the USA”. After everyone was excused, the veterans stayed back to take one more group photo to wrap up everything.













November Skyhawk of the Month: Mr. Wright

By Nora Gleason



N. A. Walbran would like to announce Mr. Wright as the November Skyhawk of the Month. Mr. Wright is a fifth and sixth grade social studies teacher. His favorite activity to do with his students is any activity that deals with working with students that allows them to work independently to achieve a similar goal. In sixth grade, they will be working on a model of a pyramid from Egypt in the near future. Fifth graders will all become travel agents and try to get tourists to come to their assigned region of the thirteen colonies. He was inspired to work with his students because he has always enjoyed working with people and N.A Walbran is perfect for that. His favorite memory from working at N.A Walbran was when he put popcorn in the microwave too long. He said, "Let's just say the school got a little smoky."

He said that if he could take his students anywhere he wanted for a field trip, he would have us go to his house to meet his dog Kodiak. That way, we would be able to put a face to a name in his family for all the stories that he tells. A secret talent that he has is that he can bounce with his bicep back to his hand. Mr. Wright's favorite book is Hatchet, by Gary Paulson. In his free time, he likes to spend time with his family. He also has a dog named Kodiak, a Siberian husky. Congratulations, Mr. Wright, for being November Skyhawk of the Month





Boys Intramurals

By Noah Citriniti & Vinny Chrystie

On Tuesday, October 20th, the sixth and fifth grade boys got to participate in football intramurals. Instead of just doing normal Ultimate Football, they played King of the Court. They had four teams: red, blue, orange, and green. There were four people on each team, besides the green team, which had five people. They also had a couple trades and whoever was the main person of each team could not be traded. The green team was in first place with ten points, blue was in second place with eight points, orange team was in third with five points, and red team was in last place with two points. The boys had a great time participating in Ultimate Football and competing against each other.



Girls Intramurals

By Maddalena Pettinelli

The November girls' intramurals were held at N. A. Walbran Elementary. All of the fifth and sixth grade girls were allowed to attend. It was hosted by Mrs. Brown and was for ultimate football and speed ball.

Eight girls stayed after school.There were four girls on each team and every game was five minutes long. To play speed ball, you play rock-paper-scissors to determine who starts with the ball. Then you can either play football rules or soccer rules. To play ultimate football, you use football rules but you can only throw the ball; you can't run with the ball. To score you have to catch a ball in the endzone. All of the girls had fun competing and playing.

Trick or Treat Night

By Maddalena Pettinelli







Here at N. A. Walbran Elementary, we hosted the annual trick or treat night. It was free for anyone to come. Every student that came was dressed up in a costume. Even the faculty dressed up! Faculty members were Pac Man ghosts and Mr. Meiss was Pac Man. Thanks to Ms. Brosmer's enrichment groups for the help making Mr. Meiss' costume.

The trick or treaters first went through the primary wing to get candy. Then they through the intermediate wing to trick or treat. The faculty members had a fun time handing out candy. The students had a blast going trick or treating throughout the school.



October P2 Assembly

By Autumn Volz

On October 21, the Oriskany Elementary School held an assembly as part of our Positivity Project. The character strengths the students were awarded this month were curiosity, teamwork, open-mindedness, integrity, and creativity. After the awards were handed out, different classes were awarded banners for great behavior in specials. Teachers get to hang the banner on their classroom door for the month until the next assembly takes place.

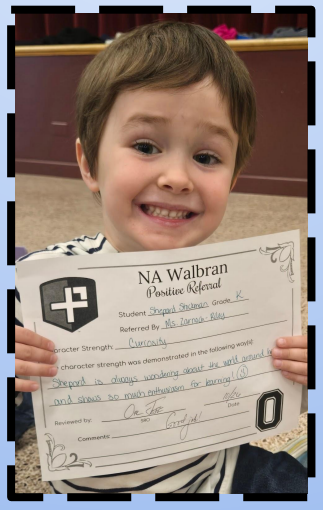
Mr. Tuttle's fifth grade class received the award for Music. Ms. Rieben's fourth grade class received the award for Physical Education. Mrs. Kreager's kindergarteners received the Art award, and Mrs. Phelps' class won the library banner. Ms. Fellone's class won for Digital Literacy.

After that, two third graders, Maggie Giangolini and Miguel Chum Ixlaj, were announced as the Students of the Month for October.

Our next assembly coming up will be in honor of our veterans for Veterans Day.







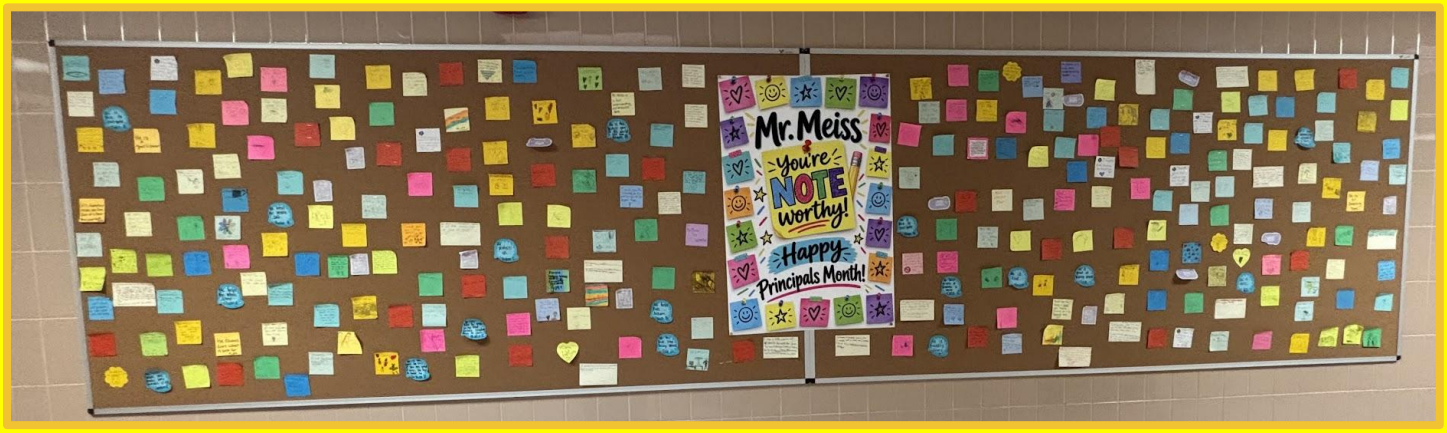






N. A. Walbran Faculty, Staff & Students Show Mr. Meiss Appreciation

By Vanessa Alden & Autumn Volz





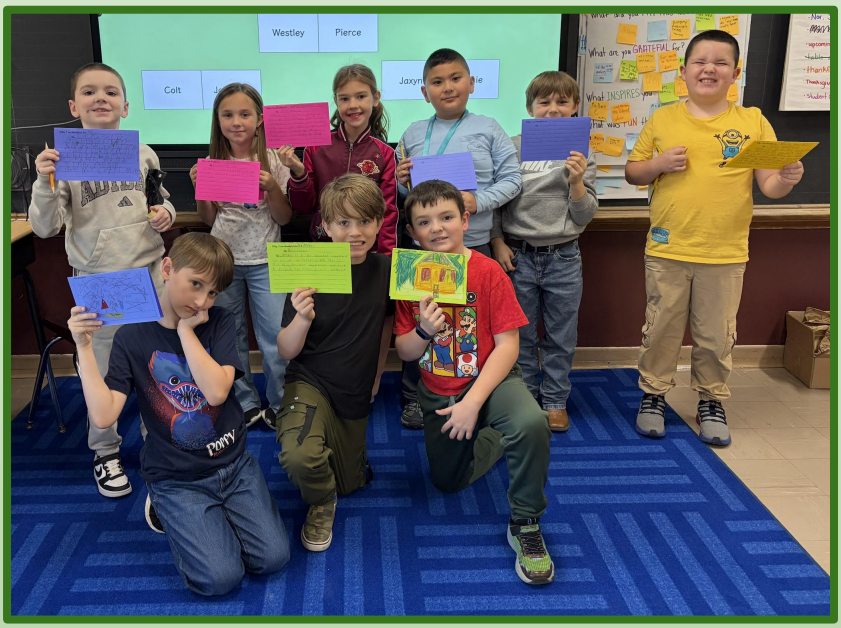


This month, every class wrote a message on a sticky note for Mr. Meiss to celebrate Principal Appreciation Week. While Mr. Meiss was working hard, Mrs. Davis thought of a sweet plan and got teachers invested. While teachers planned, kids sneakily wrote messages on sticky notes and Ms. Rieben collected them. Before they hung up the notes, all of the teachers told Mr. Meiss not to bring lunch. Each teacher brought food for him, whether it was dessert, lunch, breakfast, or even dinner. On October 29, it was trick or treat night. After everyone went home, Ms. Rieben went back at around 8:00 p.m., and stapled all of the sticky notes onto the bulletin board near the cafeteria. The next morning, Mr. Meiss walked into the building to see all of the sticky notes. Happy Principal Appreciation Week!

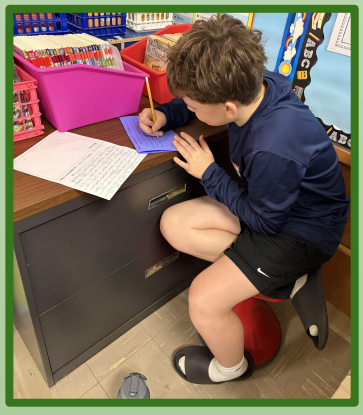
Thankful for Our Teachers & Staff

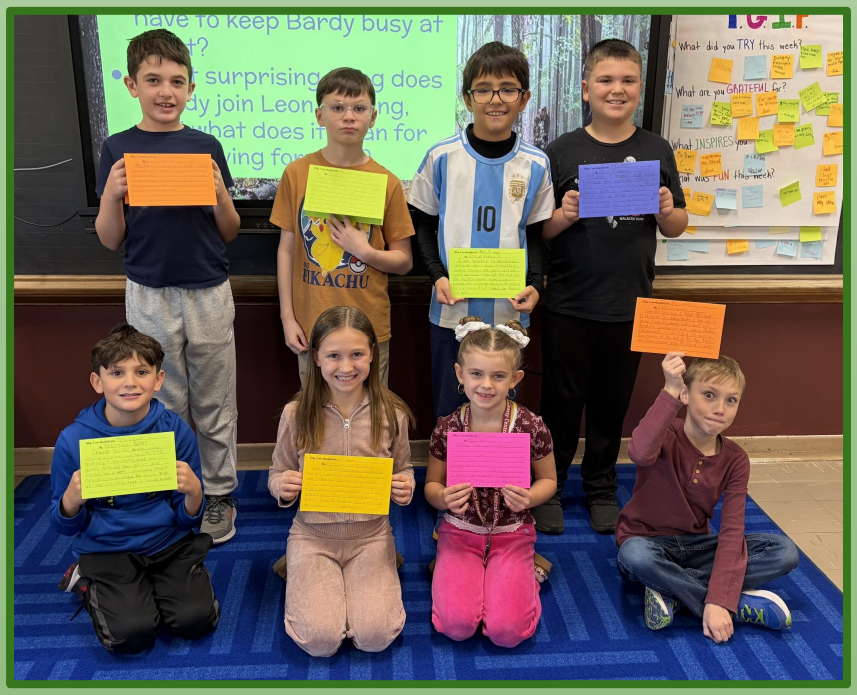
By Nora Gleason

Some students in the school are writing thankful cards to a teacher or staff member of their choice to show they are thankful for what these adults do for them. Each student writes a couple of sentences and an illustration to show their thanks to the teachers. On each card, a student will pick two traits for the teacher and evidence to go with each trait. Then, the students will write a final draft on colorful cardstock. They will turn each trait and piece of evidence into one or two full sentences along with an illustration. Before Thanksgiving break, each teacher will get their card at a faculty breakfast in the teacher's room.









October Mentoring Program

By Noah Citriniti and Kenzlee Camerota

Every month, some students in grades 1-6 get to go to an after school program called the mentor program from 3:15-4:15. There are many staff members that help them do different activities. First they go to the cafeteria and find their seats. Then they wait for Mr. Meiss to come and they pick out snacks. After they get their snacks, they wait a couple minutes until everyone is finished eating, then Mr. Meiss calls some tables to line up and go to the gym.

This month, people from Clark's Gym came and brought toys for them to play with. Grades 1-3 stayed in the cafeteria and painted pumpkins while the older students were in the gym. Halfway through, the 4-6 graders went back to the cafeteria, then the younger students went to the gym. The younger students played with the toys that the gym workers brought while the older students painted their pumpkins. After they were all done, all students went back to the cafeteria until it was time to line up and go home. They got their pumpkins a week later and they had a lot of fun.



Student Council

By Kenzlee Camerota

This year's student council was open to fourth, fifth, and sixth graders to join. Student council is a group that plans out spirit weeks and other fun things to do throughout the school year. This year, we have 36 students who joined student council. Student council is not just organizing spirit week. It is also following the rules during school. This year's officers are President Maddalena Pettinelli, Vice President Kaelyn Wiand, Secretary Kenzlee Camerota, and Treasurer Brianna King.

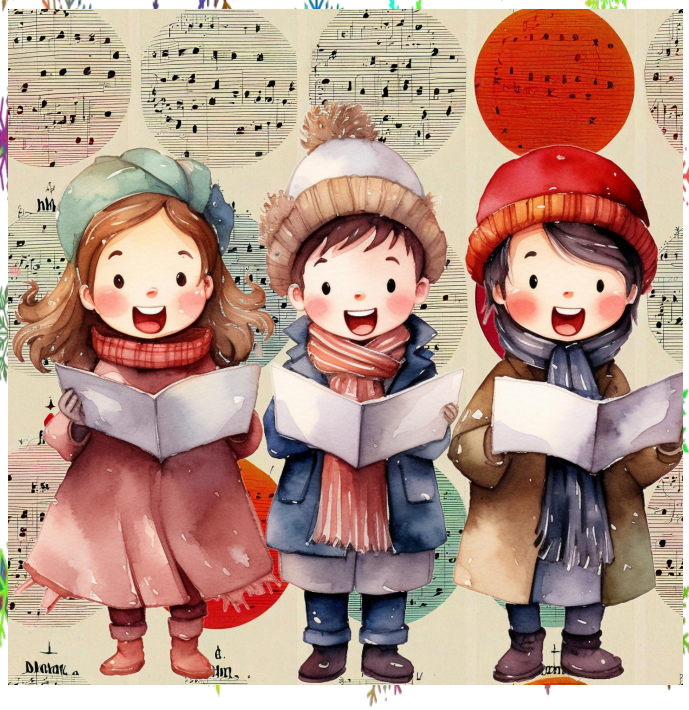
If you join student council, you have to wake up early because there are meetings to attend before school. This year we elected the president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer by voting for each office after each candidate gave a speech.

Upcoming Events
By Vinny Chrystie

Elementary Winter Concert: Dec. 16th, 6:30 p.m.

Concert Snow Date: Dec. 17th

Winter Recess, no school: Dec. 23-Jan. 4





Thanksgiving Food Drive

By Vinny Chrystie

The N.A. Walbran Elementary Thanksgiving food drive was going on all throughout November. A food drive is a food collection for supporting different charities. It is a good way to support and help the people in need. They accepted food that is non-perishable. This is food that does not need to go in a refrigerator and will not go bad in a few days. A Thanksgiving food drive is not just about giving canned food, it is a way to show an act of kindness. All you had to do was, go to the store, buy some food, and then just bring it to the food drive. Thank you to everyone who donated to our food drive.

N. A. Walbran Building Newsletter: Meet the Team



Back row: Vinny Chrystie, Autumn Volz, Kaelyn Wiand, Maddalena Pettinelli

Front row: Noah Citriniti, Vanessa Alden, Nora Gleason, Kenzlie Camerota