

African Road Elementary School
 600 S. Benita Boulevard
 Vestal, NY 13850
 607-757-2311

April 2024

ARE Newsletter

PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

Dear ARE Families,

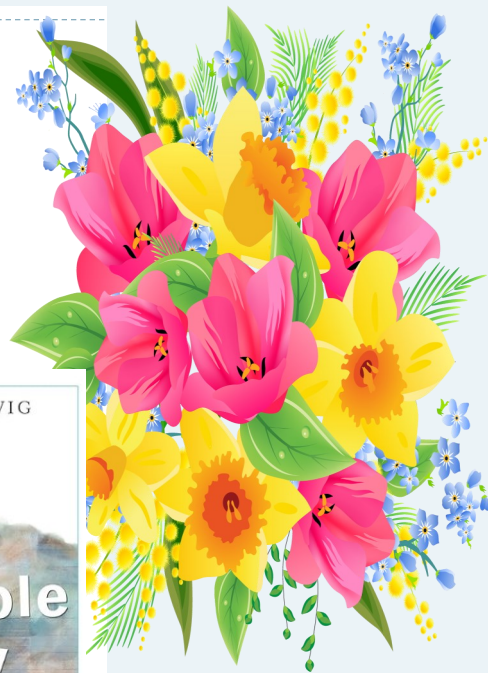
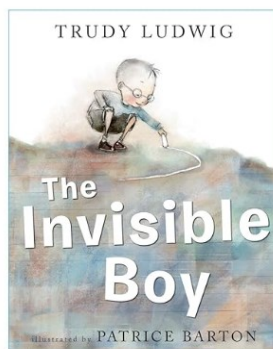
We are looking forward to an exciting spring and being able to get outdoors for playground.

Our Book of the Season is *"The Invisible Boy"* by Trudy Ludwig

Read aloud here: [ResqueStick US V12 16x9 VO2 \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ResqueStick_US_V12_16x9_VO2)

Our IB Learner skill for the month of April is BALANCED. Through morning meetings, your children will learn that being balanced means balancing different parts of your life (mind, body, and emotions). When you are balanced you are interested and involved in many different things. Being balanced is understanding that taking care of one's self is important. Throughout the months of April, May and June, we will be learning about mental health and how to have a growth mindset. Students will learn that taking care of their mental health is very important and that it is always okay to make mistakes and learn from them.

April is the start of state testing. In your child is in Grades 3 - 5, they will take state tests following the schedule below.



ELA exam	
Grades 3, 4, & 5 ELA	Wednesday, April 10 & Thursday, April 11 (COMPUTER-BASED)
MATH exam	
Grades 3 & 4 Math	Tuesday, May 7 & Wednesday, May 8 (PAPER-BASED)
Grade 5 Math	Tuesday, May 7 & Wednesday, May 8 (COMPUTER-BASED)
SCIENCE exam	
Grade 5 Science	Tuesday, May 14 (COMPUTER-BASED)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Counseling Corner.....	2
Band.....	3
NYS Master Teachers.....	3
Art Glow Show.....	4
Science Fair.....	5
Cubs Night Out.....	6
Calendar.....	7

Thank you for supporting our wonderful school!
 Meghan Stenta, Principal

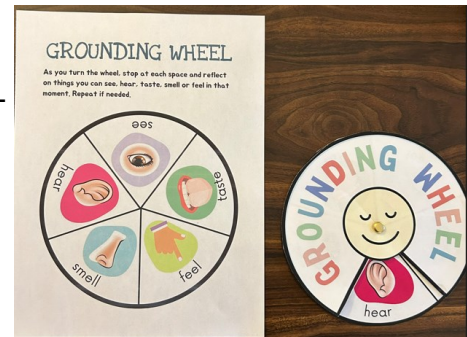


Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow
We ARE African Road Elementary



CLASSROOM LESSONS:

K-2: Second Step lessons continue! We have cruised through Unit 3: Emotion Regulation, where students learned about what they can do when they have strong feelings! As we are ending the unit, students are creating their own grounding wheel. Where they can focus on their senses one at a time to help them calm their mind and bodies down! Here's a picture of what they look like-->



April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. During this month and throughout the year, we are dedicated to supporting families to reduce the risk of child abuse and neglect. Communities like African Road do as much as we can to support, protect, strengthen and prevent child abuse and neglect. To find out more information on what you can do, visit www.childwelfare.gov.

During the spring months, I will be in all classrooms giving lessons on personal safety and abuse prevention skills. The topics are developmentally appropriate per grade level and include topics like stranger danger, physical and sexual abuse and self-respect. As school counselors, we are mandated by New York State Commissioner's Regulations to provide this instruction for all students

Happy April!

Mrs. Pittari



BAND

We had a great performance at our Music in Our Schools Month assembly, on March 26! Students played “*Variations on Hot Cross Buns*” and “*Popcorn Prelude*.” After the assembly, we enjoyed having our Hot Cross Bun Party, too! Please see the picture from the Music in Our Schools Month assembly.

We're looking forward to seeing you at our Spring Concert beginning at **5:45 p.m. on May 9!** Students will need to be at school by **5:15 p.m.** to warm up for the concert. This concert will take place prior to ARE's Open House.

Please be sure your student is practicing at least 20 minutes for five days a week. This practice time is crucial for concert preparation and for getting ready for Sixth-Grade Band.



NYS MASTER TEACHERS

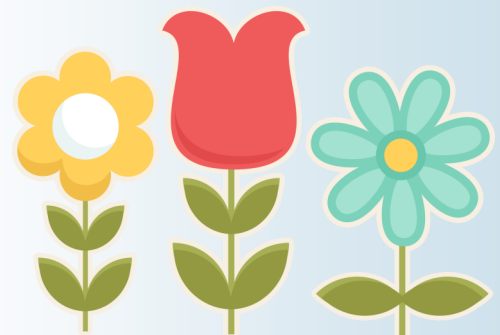
Congratulations to Vestal CSD's newest New York State Master Teachers!

Four of our elementary teachers were selected for the 2023–2024 cohort of NYS Master Teacher Program for the Southern Tier Region. They are...

- Molly Russell (Fourth Grade Clayton Avenue Elementary)
- Heather Bogart (Third Grade African Road Elementary)
- Sara Cook (Fourth Grade African Road Elementary)
- Krista Little (Special Education Vestal Hills Elementary)

The New York State Master Teacher Program is a vibrant professional network of more than 1400 outstanding public school K-12 STEM teachers throughout the state who share a passion for their own STEM learning and for collaborating with colleagues to inspire the next generation of STEM leaders.

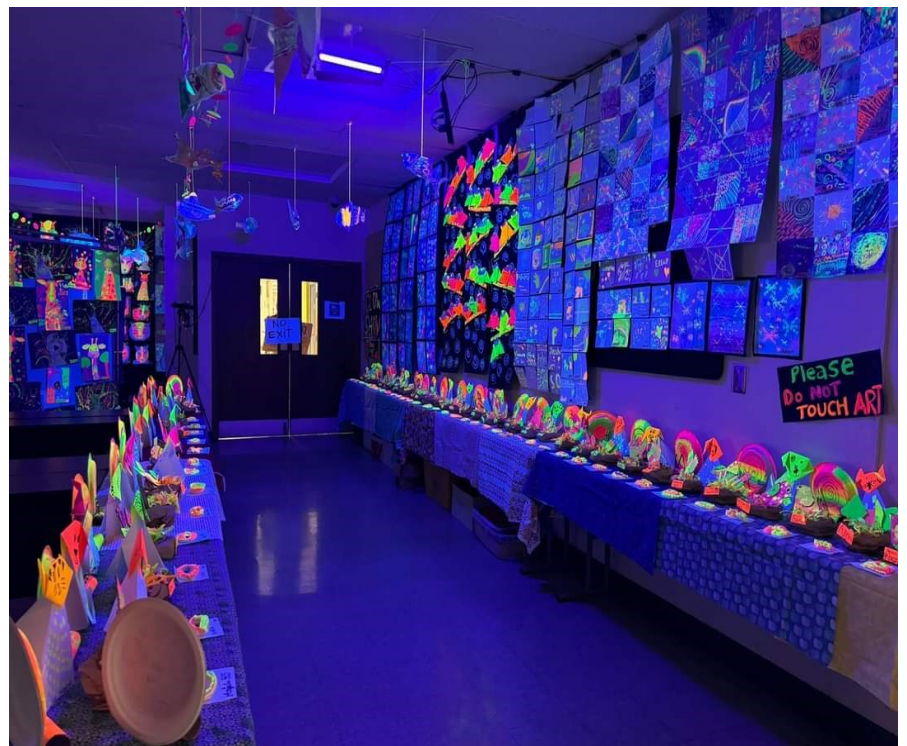
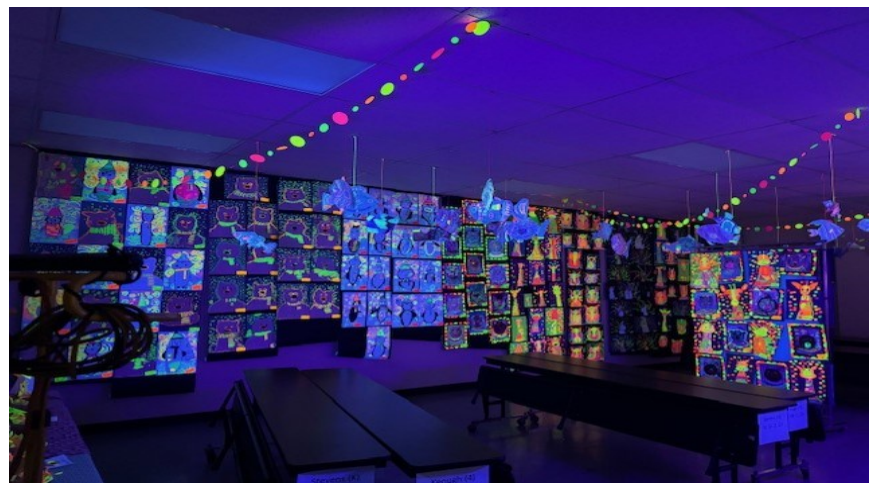
For more information about the NYS Master Teacher Program, visit <https://www.suny.edu/masterteacher/>



ART GLOW SHOW

ARE had our first Glow Art Show!

Art teacher Mary Merta and our students worked so hard bringing this glowing display to life. It was an amazing sight, enjoyed by all. Our students had so much fun creating their pieces, and seeing all the artwork put together! GREAT JOB, ALL!

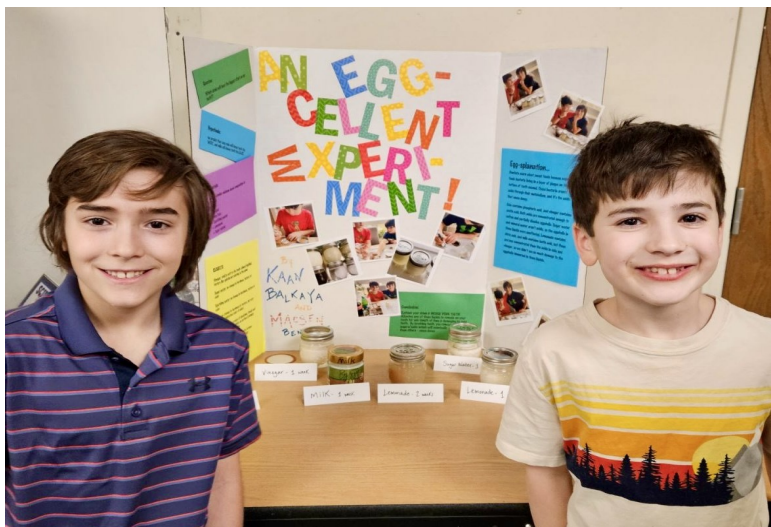


SCIENCE FAIR

ARE is thankful to every student, teacher, and parent who came to enjoy our Science Fair.

Big thanks to ARE parent Rosalie Scarangella, who put a lot of time and work in to our afterschool Science Club, as well as for her assistance with setting up the Science Fair.

Our students worked so hard to create unique and detailed experiments.



CUB'S NIGHT OUT

We will be opening our doors to all 3- and 4-year-old future ARE students and their families during our 5th annual **ARE Cubs Night Out: Under the Sea** event from **5:15-6:30 PM** on **April 18, 2023**. During this event, groups of children with their parents rotate through 6 stations around the school. The stations include snacks, sensory and make-and-take tables, an obstacle course in the gym, arts & crafts, music, and read-aloud in the library.

[A.R.E. Cubs Night Out - Registration Form \(google.com\)](#)

Please join us for African Road Elementary's Annual



Is your child 3 or 4 years old, and a future ARE student? Come and join other families and ARE staff for an evening of fun and exploration. During this event, you will tour our school, get creative with art, sensory, and music, have a healthy snack in the cafeteria, enjoy story time in our library, participate in an obstacle course and more!

Thursday, April 18th, 2024

From 5:15-6:30 pm

ARE Auditorium Lobby

FREE for ARE Families (pre-registration required)

For more information,
contact Brianna Stevens via email at:
bmstevens@vestal.k12.ny.us

ARE PTA
African Road Elementary

Pre-register
here!



April 2024

Sun

Mon





Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Spring Break No school April 1-5					
7	8 Early Release 1:50	9  Board of Education 6 pm	10 Grades 3-5 NYS ELA	11	12	13
14	15	16  5th grade cap/gown pictures/groups	17	18  Cubs Night Out 5:15-6:30 pm	19	20
21	22  Board of Education 6 pm	23	24 Kindergarten Parent Orientation 6 pm	25	26	27
28	29	30				