

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

February 2024

ARE Newsletter

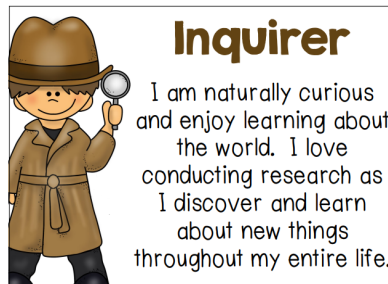
PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

Dear ARE Families,

February is here and so is the cold, snowy weather! Please continue to send your children to school with the proper clothing to keep them warm during recess and Physical Education class. We will be going outside if the windchill is above 20 degrees. Please send students with snow boots to school so they can change for recess.

This month we will continue reading our One Book, One School book, *Zoey & Sassafras*, *Dragons & Marshmallows* by Asia Citro.

Our IB Learner profile of the month is **Inquirer**. Students will learn that to be an inquirer, means to be curious and always interested in learning more about the world. Inquirers ask questions and conduct research.



This month we have our Valentine's Day Showcase on February 14th at 9:30 am in our auditorium. Kindergarten and first grade students will be performing. Kindergarten and first grade parents are welcome to attend. Students will stay at school for the remainder of the day. Please enter through the auditorium doors 9:30 am to attend. Other events coming up are an assembly about African Dance, February 20, and the ARE Science Fair on March 25th.

Thank you for your continued support of our wonderful school.

Sincerely,

Meghan Stenta, Principal



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Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow
We ARE African Road Elementary



MRS. PITTARI'S COUNSELING CORNER



FEBRUARY
2024

CLASSROOM LESSONS:



K-3 has been super busy learning all about what makes us a better learner, the different feelings we all have, and how we can understand others! Understanding others helps us get along with peers, respect everyone, and form new friendships!

In addition, we have learned about being able to show empathy for others and that we can put that into action by being compassionate! We will finish Unit 2 (Empathy) in February and will be moving to Unit 3 (Emotion Management) sometime in March!

5TH GRADE FAMILIES:



In February I will begin the introduction to the middle school for your child! We will have a short discussion about the transition process, the many steps we will take together to get them prepared for the move to Vestal Middle School and the elective choice they will make for 6th grade music. All 5th grade students will be required to pick a music they would like to take for next year. Upcoming events for you and your child will include:

- a parent night presentation given to you by the middle school on February 26th in the auditorium (more information will be coming to you on this event)
- a tour of the middle school for all 5th grade students that will take place during the school day sometime in June.

NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK:



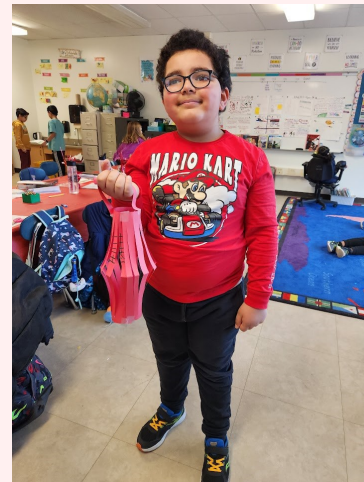
This year, National School Counseling week takes place February 5-9th. It is a time to focus attention on the unique contribution of school counselors within the school system and the support provided to students. This week highlights the tremendous impact school counselors can have in helping students achieve school success.



3RD GRADE

Third graders began with a 'flight' on Wednesday and entered 'Beijing' first thing Thursday morning. Students had their passports stamped and we started on our journey! Our 4th grade friend, Eric, gave a presentation on China. Next, students rotated through centers and had a chance to try paper cutting—an ancient art form from China, Tangrams—a dissection puzzle created during the Tang Dynasty (and is still challenging today!), calligraphy with paintbrushes and finally, each student made a paper lantern. Mid-way we stopped for some taste testing of dumplings, rice, mandarin oranges and a fortune cookie. Each student tried using chopsticks to eat, too! Asian clothing was brought into the classroom and the children had the chance to hold, examine or try on silk garments that are from China! We wrapped up our day with a 'flight' back to the US! It was a very fun-filled day! .

Mrs. Bogart, Mrs. Lanz & Mrs. Turner



BAND

Congratulations to the 5th Grade Band on a wonderful first concert! ARE students performed *Ode to Joy*, and also combined with the VMS Beginning Band for *First Chorale* and *Variations on Hot Cross Buns*. It was amazing to see a stage full of beginning musicians! Thank you for your continued support of our students' musical endeavors!

We look forward to seeing you at our Spring Concert, on May 9th, at 5:45 PM!

Mrs. Lacey-Corcoran

The poster features a light pink background with several 3D-style hearts in red and light pink scattered across it. The text is centered and uses a bold, rounded font with a pink-to-white gradient and a subtle drop shadow.

ARE VALENTINE'S DAY SHOWCASE

**FEATURING SONGS FROM
KINDERGARTEN AND 1ST
GRADE**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2024
AFRICAN ROAD AUDITORIUM
9:30 AM**

**STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO
WEAR RED, WHITE, PINK, OR BLACK**

QUESTIONS? TKGRAHAM@VESTAL.K12.NY.US

African Road Elementary

PTA

everychild.onevoice.®

Officers

Emily Dabek, President

Carrie Greenstrom, Vice President

Christine Petras, Treasurer

Lucia Esposito, Secretary

AfricanRoadPTA@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/arepta>



JOIN



LEARN



VOLUNTEER

Dear Families,

Do you know what the ARE PTA does? Do you have an idea for an event? We want to hear from you! Please take a few minutes complete a short survey to help us plan for the future:

bit.ly/PTAtellus

The ARE PTA recently sponsored the activities below, which would not have happened without our parent volunteers. Thank you to Jessica P., Alex K. Rosalie S. and Mrs. Cushner for your leadership in these events, and to those who volunteered their time in working at one or more events.

Scholastic Book Fair
Family Game & Movie Night
Science Club
One School One Book

We would also like to extend our appreciation to Sound Go Round for sponsoring our Game Night Raffle. Congratulations to Mandy D. and Haider Y., who each won a \$50 gift certificate to Sound Go Round! In addition, Zeki K., Darren Y. and Matt B. have won a copy of Diary of a Wimpy Kid No Brainer, courtesy of Scholastic.

Finally, a HUGE thank you to Jessica P., who applied for a CVS grant for the PTA. Due to her many hours of volunteering for our organization we will be receiving \$1500 from CVS!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



Thursday 2/8 - Blaze Pizza Fundraiser - use code **1268A** when ordering online or in the app, or show our flyer in-store 5:00-8:00pm

Friday 2/23 - Family Night @ Binghamton Black Bears Game 7:00pm
 Purchase tickets at bit.ly/AREstore

Tuesday 3/19 - PTA Meeting 6:30pm

Monday 3/25 - Science Fair 6:30pm



Enjoy yourself and support our cause at a special fundraising event for:

Organization name: African Road Elementary PTA

Date: Thursday, February 8th

Time: 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: 3714 Vestal Parkway, Vestal, NY

Order Mode: In-Restaurant, Blaze Pizza App, Blazepizza.com

Blaze Pizza will donate 20% of proceeds from your meal back to our organization.

TWO WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR ORGANIZATION:

In-Restaurant: Bring in this flyer or show it on your phone before paying.

Online Orders: Orders must be placed online via the Blaze Pizza App or blazepizza.com. Enter the code below into the 'Promo Code' field at checkout to have your transaction count toward the fundraiser. If entered correctly, you'll see a \$.01 discount applied to your check which confirms that 20% of your transaction will be counted into the total donation.

VALID FOR PICKUP, CURBSIDE & CARRYOUT ONLY.

For orders on blazepizza.com or Blaze Pizza App

PROMO CODE: 1268A



VALID FOR DINE-IN, PICKUP, CURBSIDE & CARRYOUT ONLY THROUGH THE BLAZE PIZZA APP & WEBSITE. For online orders, only transactions that have the promo code applied during the time and date specified above will be counted toward the donation total. Donation amount excludes proceeds from tax and gift card purchases. Excludes 3rd party delivery or phone orders. Alcoholic beverages excluded. Event proceeds void if flyers are distributed in or near the restaurant.



African Road PTA Fundraiser

February 23rd 7pm

**VISIONS VETERANS MEMORIAL ARENA
BINGHAMTON, NY**



**Return form by
2/2/24 or
purchase tickets
online at
bit.ly/AREstore**

Number of \$15 tickets:

*TICKETS ARE LIMITED & SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY
**PRICE PER TICKET

☐ Check/Money Order payable to: Carousel Sports LLC
☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover

Name (as it appears on card)	Credit Card Number	
Billing Address (if different than provided)	Expiration Date	Security Code
City/State/Zip		

NAME:

GROUP NAME: African Road PTA

ADDRESS:

CITY/STATE/ZIP:

PHONE:

EMAIL:

Please return your completed form and payment to school in an envelope labeled "ARE PTA" by 2/2/24. After that date you can bring this form to the Binghamton Black Bears front office. \$3 from every ticket will go to the African Road Elementary PTA. Any tickets bought day of game will have a \$1 convenience fee.

Tickets purchased through the PTA will be sent home with your child the week of February 12.

**ALL SALES ARE FINAL, NO EXCHANGES OR REFUNDS
ALL PERSONS TWO (2) YEARS & OLDER REQUIRE THEIR OWN TICKET
FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ALTERNATIVE TICKET OFFERS OR ANY
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT US AT 607-722-7367**

February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Early Release 11:45 am	3
4	5	6	7 ARE Winter Concert 7 pm	8 BLAZE PIZZA PTA FUNDRAISER 5-8 PM 	9	10
11	12	13	14 K & 1st Valentine's Day Showcase 9:30 am 	15	16 NO SCHOOL	17
18	19 NO SCHOOL 	20	21	22	23 Black Bears Game 7 pm 	24
25	26 5th Grade Parent Meeting 6 pm Auditorium	27	28	29		