



PIONEER CONNECT

March 2023

PIONEER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, YORKSHIRE, NY

WINTERFEST ART SHOW RESULTS



Macy Bigelow's "Fall Tree".

The annual Arcade Winterfest Pioneer Student Art Show recently wrapped up at the Arcade Historical Society (former Arcade Fire Hall on Liberty Street).

In the People's Choice Awards, 237 votes were cast for 83 artists across the four buildings. Thank you to the artists, their teachers and the public for making this show such a success, and also to the sponsor, Arcade Historical Society.

Congratulations to the winners in each building:

- Willow McDonald's "Mama and Baby Penguin" – 2nd grade, Arcade Elementary
- Macy Bigelow's "Fall Tree" – 2nd grade, Delevan Elementary
- Celsy Colombo's "Bridge View," Media Triptych – 8th grade, Middle School
- Morgan Wright's "Mushrooms," Oil on Masonite – 12th grade, High School

SELECT GROUP OF MIDDLE SCHOOL ARTISTS INCLUDES ONE 'BEST IN SHOW'

Six Pioneer Middle School students recently had artwork selected for St. Bonaventure University's annual Quick Center for the Arts Middle School Show.

The pieces were chosen from among hundreds of submissions throughout the Western New York region and were on display at the Quick Center in Olean from Feb. 7 through March 19.

Congratulations to the following Middle School art students :

- Yuya Zhu (a Best in Show winner)
- Raelyn Tingue
- Kloe Hirsch
- Caleb Wilcox
- Katarina Nava-Andress
- Autumn Sampson



Katarina Nava-Andress, Yuya Zhu, and Raelyn Tingue display their art.



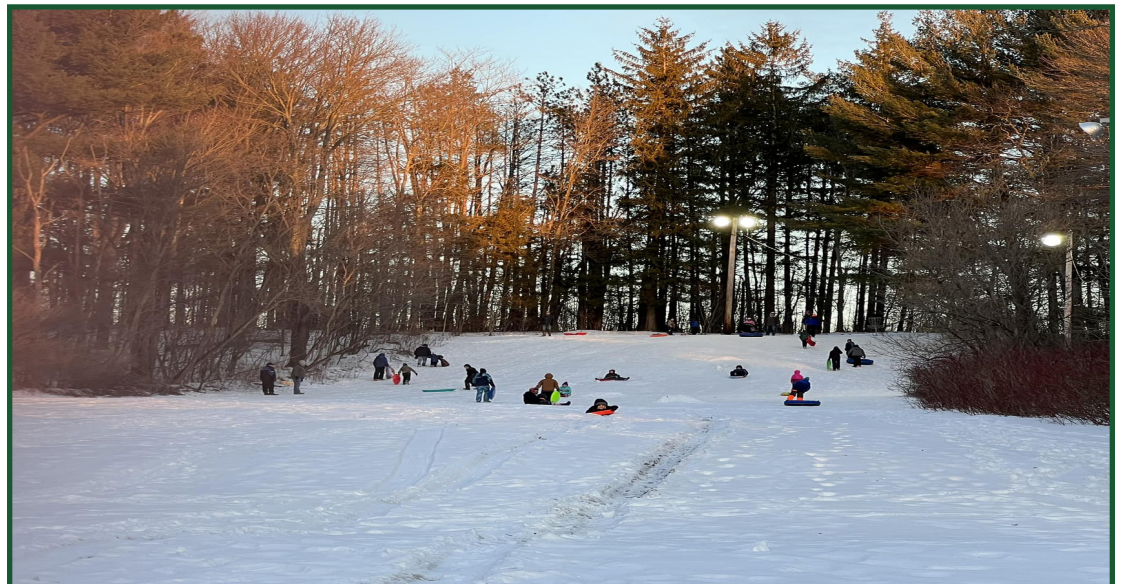
ON THE GO, IN THE SNOW

Pioneer High School students recently enjoyed a Wellness Hike in Allegany State Park. They were even able to snowshoe across the trails.



FAMILY SLEDDING NIGHT EXCITES ARCADE STUDENTS

Pioneer at Arcade Elementary's Helping Students Achieve (HSA) committee hosted a family sledding night. The families gathered at the Village of Arcade Park. The students had snacks and sledding and a lot of family fun. This was the monthly event for our families sponsored by our HSA. The students look forward to the monthly events. Our next event is movie night at Springville Theater!



RIFLE HOPEFULS

Section VI All-Stars Cohen Lyons (left) and Seth Higgins focus in on a state title. The New York State Rifle Invitational took place on March 11 at the Lancaster Field House. This was Cohen's 3rd and Seth's 2nd appearance in the State Tournament.



BUDGET VOTE, BOARD ELECTION ARE MAY 16

Pioneer School District voters will decide on the 2023-24 general fund budget and elect two Board of Education members on Tuesday, May 16.

Nominating petitions for Board of Education candidates are due to the district office by Monday, April 17, at 5:00 p.m.

A public budget hearing and board candidate introductions will be held Tuesday, May 2, at 5:30 p.m., inside the high school board room.

This year's budget vote and Board of Education election are Tuesday, May 16, from 6:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., at the high school.

INTEREST IS BUILDING IN DELEVAN'S LEGO CLUB

Delevan Elementary School students will soon have the chance to join the new Lego Club with advisor Mrs. Jenna Driver before school. Together students will build, create, and collaborate, while focusing on teamwork and problem-solving skills.

Over mid-winter recess, Mrs. Driver conducted a DonorsChoose campaign to raise funds for purchasing Legos and supplies for the

club. Through donor-matching, the goal was reached in less than a week, and materials were delivered to the school just days later.

The Lego Club will continue to accept new or gently used Legos as student participation is expected to grow. These donations can be dropped off at Delevan Elementary School.



PIONEER FFA COMPETES IN LEADERSHIP CONTESTS AND VISITS ALBANY

It has been a busy winter for Pioneer FFA.

On Feb. 4, Pioneer FFA attended the District 9 competitions at Springville-Griffith High School. A total of 24 members participated in various competitions including Chapter Meeting, People in Agriculture, and Prepared Speaking .

Congratulations to our Parliamentary Procedure team of Seth Higgins, Courtney Keem, Chloe Phetteplace, Lexie Phetteplace, Jeremy Hibsich, Mulligan Palmerton. Also participating was the Chapter Meeting team of Chloe Landphair, Jenna Whiting, Payton

Shuman, Olivia Clayson, Autumn Becker, Emma Inthavong, and Sam Borer. Both teams took first place.

The Ag Issues team, consisting of Courtney Keem, Connor Windsor, Jake McCormick, Mallory Petri, and Ella Fyock, took second in their competition. In individual competitions, Jake Jewert competed in Extemporaneous Public Speaking. Madison Smith also competed in Prepared Public Speaking and expressed the importance of mental health in agriculture.

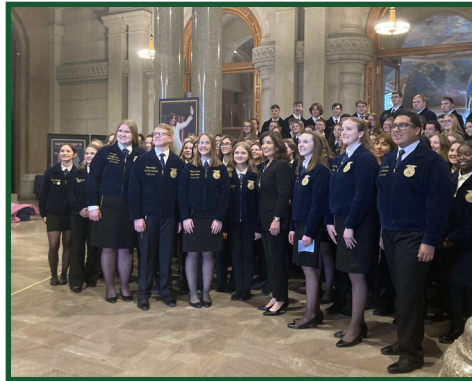
There were five participants in the Junior People in Agriculture event, including Trevor Keem, Chloe Landphair,

Desiree Vanderlaske, Alexis Bertozzi and Trinity Smith. Ella Fyock competed in the Employment Skills Competition.

Also, on Feb. 6-7, Pioneer FFA members Seth Higgins and Jeremy Hibsich traveled to Albany to attend the FFA State Leaders Conference. These members toured the state capital grounds and learned how government works. They met with local assembly members David DiPietro and George Borrello about the future of Agriculture Education and thanked them for their continued support in the next generation of agriculture. They ended the event by listening to a speech by Governor Kathy Hochul.



Seth Higgins, left, and Jeremy Hibsich with State Assemblyman George Borrello.



Pioneer FFA members enjoyed their time in the State Capitol.



FFA members with State Senator David DiPietro.

PEN PALS, PARTNERING AND THE POST OFFICE

Arcade Elementary students have been sharpening their literacy skills in the month of February.

We held a pen pal activity in which students partnered with other classes to show off their great writing skills. All of the partners met in the auditorium to learn about the post office, and then sang and danced to the song "Mr. Postman."

Each class designed a mailbox and shared notes and pictures as the month went on. There was a post office set up so that the kids could write and send letters to others in the school.

Two United States Postal Service vehicles visited, and students could ask questions of workers and see the inside of

the vehicles. The event ended with a meeting of pen pals and a scavenger hunt throughout the school.



WORKSHOP HELPS BOLSTER PERFORMING SKILLS AHEAD OF 'BEAUTY & THE BEAST'



In the lead-up to the Pioneer Music Department's production of Disney's "Beauty & the Beast," cast members had the phenomenal opportunity to participate in a masterclass with actor Trevor Braun. Trevor is the longest-running Chip in the Broadway production of BATB and is currently starring as Dennis in "The Play That Goes Wrong" on Broadway. Cast members said they learned a lot and were grateful for the experience. Later they gave four great performances that delighted adults and children alike!



GENEROUS DONATION FOR FACS

Pioneer Middle School students Max Trowbridge, Carson Bockhahn and Garren Hardman are shown (at right) delivering a very generous donation of fabric to the Family and Consumer Science Department in the Middle School.

to the Middle School but also to The Rural Outreach Center, according to FACS teacher Jody Zacaroli.

Mrs. Zacaroli said the fabric will be used for the after-school sewing club and for 7th grade pillow-making and upcycling.

Many thanks to Mrs. Clester.

The donation was made by Delevan Elementary 2nd grade teacher Colleen Clester, and not only was a blessing



DELEVAN ELEMENTARY KICKS OFF ITS READ-A-THON FUNDRAISER

Delevan Elementary is excited to announce its first ever Read-a-thon fundraiser. The Read-a-thon program brings students together with family and friends and encourages reading and builds literacy skills.

The main focus of the Read-a-thon is for everyone to know that Delevan Elementary is committed to improving reading skills. The Read-a-

thon will run through the entire month of March. Friends and family anywhere in the world can show their support for the readers by making an online donation to individual students.

Furthermore, donations can be made directly to the school at <https://www.read-a-thon.com/reader/2115540947>. All proceeds will benefit the PTA and school-related events.



Pictured are Willow Lazara, Macy Bigelow, and Steven LeRoy from Mrs. Jessica Mueller's 2nd grade class.

DELEVAN HAS READING FEVER

Delevan Elementary kicked off its 2023 School-Wide Reading Challenge on February 27, with an assembly in the auditorium followed by a rocket popsicle treat in the cafeteria. Students

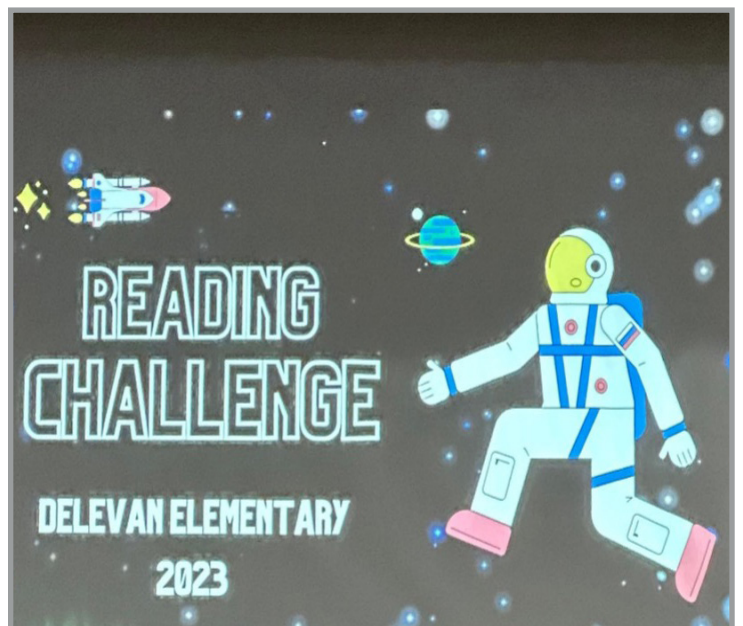
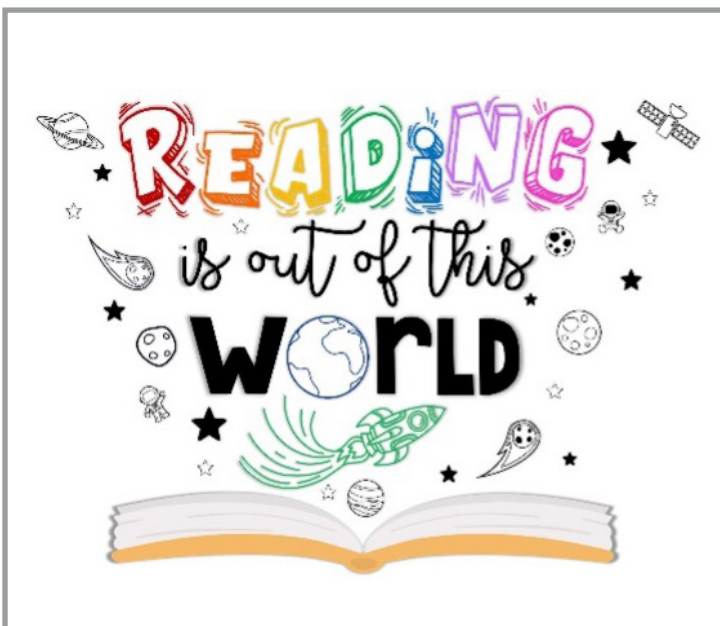
also viewed a story read from space.

For this year's reading challenge, with theme "Reading is Out of this World", students will be working toward classroom reading challenges, as well

as recording the number of minutes read at home for the PTA's Read-a-thon fundraiser.

As the challenge progresses, students will get to explore Mr. K's mobile planetarium when

he visits the school in mid-March. The students who participate in the challenge will also be rewarded with a field trip to the Challenger Learning Center in Allegany after spring break.





READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY & DR. SEUSS'S BIRTHDAY

Read Across America day was celebrated March 2 at Delevan Elementary, coinciding with the birthday of Dr. Seuss. Special guests included Cat in the Hat, an astronaut, and Pioneer mascot Paws.



BOARD OF EDUCATION

Melissa Nocera-Collins, President
Edward McCarthy, Vice President
Linda Rule, Darla Schwab, Denise Urbino,
Wendy Burch, Mark Kless, Shawn Hannon, and Angela Wiseman

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

Nicholas Silvaroli, Superintendent of Schools
William Weidner, Director of Athletics
Michael Irizarry, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Technology
Jean Vallance, Director of Special Education
Katelyn Welker, High School Principal
Melissa Prorok, Middle School Principal
Mellisa Devitt, Arcade Elementary Principal
Matthew Langworthy, Delevan Elementary Principal
Jeannene Wagner, Director of Human Resources

ECRWSS Postal Patron
or Current Resident

GIRLS FLAG FOOTBALL SET FOR SPRING DEBUT

A new girls flag football program will be debuting in the spring for Pioneer athletes.

Flag football launched in Spring 2022 in a partnership among the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) and the NFL's Buffalo Bills, New York Giants, and New York Jets. Following a successful start, flag football is now categorized as an "emerging sport" by the NYSPHSAA.

Teams will field 7-on-7 squads, utilize a smaller field and ball, and play two 24-minute halves. There will be no tackling and only limited contact, among other rules that differentiate flag football from the traditional game.

More on flag football rules: https://sectionv.org/documents/2022/5/4/NYSPHSAA_Girls_Flag_Football_Gameplay_Rules.pdf

Interest in flag football has been great, according to Pioneer Athletic Director Bill Weidner. "I decided to begin the program here because I can see it's going to grow quickly in the state and nationwide, and because it fits our kids and community so well," he said.

Flag football will be coached by Chris Edwards, a former Pioneer wrestling, tennis and assistant football coach. Players in grades 9-12 are eligible.

NYSPHSAA has also proposed creating a state tournament for flag football in 2024.

The Panthers Spring 2023 schedule for flag football:

- April 11 vs Dunkirk, 5:00 p.m. (scrimmage)
- April 15 vs Lew-Port, 5:00 p.m.
- April 19 at Amherst, 4:30 p.m.
- April 29 vs N. Tonawanda, 10:00 a.m.
- May 6 vs. Iroquois, 7:00 p.m.
- May 10 at Williamsville East, 5:00 p.m.
- May 13 vs Hamburg, 10:00 a.m.
- May 18 at Williamsville South, 5:00 p.m.

