

# NOVEMBER



Elementary principal Kim Reazin reads to students on pajama day!



After school art grant activities have students getting hands on experience working with earth clay, polymer clay, and henna.

## The Kinder-Jets welcome November with fun lessons!

Kindergarten has been busy practicing rhymes, vowel sounds, and blending phonemes into words, as well as learning many new letters and sight words! They have made it to Unit 3 of their reading curriculum, titled "My Community Hero's" and will soon begin writing sentences where they will focus on capitalization of the first word, spacing between words, and punctuation at the end. In Math students are learning to classify, count, and sort objects, as well as addition and subtraction within 5. They will celebrate thankfulness and teamwork by reading *Stone Soup* on Monday, November 22 after which they will work together to make their own version for a classroom treat! Yum!



## LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SECOND GRADE!

Hello from 2<sup>nd</sup> grade! We have been having a great deal of fun here in class. Right now, we are learning about place value up to the hundreds. Plus, we are working on all the different forms of 3-digit numbers. Of course, we are always practicing our addition math facts. It is hard work, but so far the students are doing a great job!

It is going to be a Social Studies filled quarter. After we finish our Economy Unit, we are going to learn more about Maps and our continents. I also teach Math to the third grade class. They have been working hard with their multiplication strategies and all of the Properties. I think their favorite is the Distributive property. This is when you split one large or harder multiplication fact into two smaller ones, to help you solve it.

For example, take  $7 \times 8$ . This is a fact that most students struggle with. Seven and eight facts are a bit harder to be able to in your head. By using the Distributive Property of Multiplication, I can split it into two smaller facts and then add the products together to get the total product (answer) to  $7 \times 8$ .

In my class, we have a class/family meeting once a week, and a morning meeting every day. During our class meeting on Friday's, the students are asked to give a compliment to a fellow student in class. This really builds up relationships within the classroom, and lets everyone know that they are important, and how their kind acts make a difference in each other's day. Today, I challenge you to give someone you work with or someone in your family a compliment, and let them know how special they are. Simple things like giving a compliment, smiling at someone, or giving a hug, can make a big difference.

Have a happy Thanksgiving everyone!

Ms. Sample (2<sup>nd</sup> grade/3<sup>rd</sup> grade Math)

## THIRD GRADE ATTENDS WILSON COUNTY LAND HEALTH FESTIVAL



Third grade had a great time and learned a lot at the Wilson County Land Health Festival. We learned about soil, plants, animals, the water cycle, erosion, bees, oil spills, and more!



The last week of October was filled with tons of fun activities: class parties, pajama day, special Red Ribbon week activities, and of course, Halloween!



Third graders got creative and had a ton of fun decorating pumpkins! These are our contest winners!

## ELEMENTARY NEWS

BY KIM REAZIN

Our first nine weeks awards assembly was held Friday, October 24<sup>th</sup> virtually and has been uploaded to the district website and Facebook page.

High Flyer Awards were presented to:

**Arianna Curry is the morning preschool high flyer.** Arianna comes to class smiling and ready to learn. Her face always lights up when we are learning especially during sensory time. Arianna is always ready to know what we are doing or learning next. She is also very helpful in the classroom. Thank you, Arianna, keep up the great work. Ariana likes to color when she is at school, at home she likes to read and when she grows up she wants to be a teacher. Arianna is the daughter of Abbie Walker

**Marjorie Alavarado is the afternoon preschool high flyer.** Mae comes to class every day with a huge smile and hello! She always follows directions and makes sure to help the teachers. Mae is a great friend to everyone. Mae always makes sure to include others. Keep up the good work Mae! We are so proud of you! Mae's loves to read books at school, when she is at home, she enjoys spending time with her mommy. When she grows up, she wants to be a doctor. Mae is the daughter of Kailee Alvarado.

**Joshua Wilson is the kindergarten high flyer.** He is respectful to peers and adults, he is an enthusiastic learner who is eager to go above and beyond kindergarten expectations, and above all, Joshua is caring and willing to lend a hand to his fellow classmates! He is truly a high flyer student!!! Joshua's favorite subject at school is math, he likes to play with his friends when he is at home. He wants to be a police officer when he grows up. Joshua is the son of Jessica Wilson.

**The first grade High Flyer is Jesse Cook.** Jesse works very hard in our classroom! He is very kind and helpful towards his classmates, and he come to class with a positive attitude. He is willing to learn challenging new sills, and his work is always very neat. Congratulation Jesse! Continue to work hard and you will go far! Jesse's favorite subject at school is math and at home he likes to watch T.V. When he grows up, he wants to be a singer or a you-tuber. Jesse is the son of Diane Cook and Barry Cook.

**Ainsley Wheeler is the second-grade high flyer.** Ainsley has been a great role model for her classmates. She is extremely kind and it shows in all shapes and forms of how to be an awesome friend and student. She is one of the first students to go help someone in need, help grab items form the playground when someone else forgot to bring it in, and to politely hold the door open for others. Ainsley's hard work has paid her back with hearing a spot on the honor roll with all A's. Plus, Ainsley has already passed her addition facts on Xtramath. This is where students are tested on their fact fluency and automaticity on their math facts, and being able to answer them correctly within 6 seconds. Way to go Ainsley! I am so proud of you! Thanks for showing others how to be a JET! Ainsley's favorite subject at school is math, when she is at home she likes to play with her dog. When she grows up, she wants to be a teacher. Ainsley is the daughter of Kevin and Lacy Wheeler.

**The third-grade high flyer is Bristol Collins.** Bristol is a wonderful student to have in class! She always makes sure she puts in her best effort. She is a very responsible girl and someone that I know I can always trust 100% of the time. She is also someone who is incredibly respectful to everyone! She won't hesitate to give up something she wants for someone else, and is always kind enough to help ither when need be. This is one of the many reasons she is loved by all and is friends with everyone. I don't think anyone could ever have a bad work to say about her. Thank you, Bristol! We appreciate you! Bristol's favorite subject in school is handwriting, when she is at home, she likes to watch her.T.V. When she grows up, she wants to be a teacher. Bristol is the daughter of Luke and Cheyenne Collins.

**Payton Baird is the high flyer for fourth grade.** Payton has shown a lot of responsibility and self-control the first nine weeks. He has had situation in which he reacted in a responsible manner. He has worked hard at improving himself and being responsible for his actions in work and behavior. Congratulations Payton! Keep up the good work!

Payton's favorite subject is math, when he is at home he likes to go fishing. When he grows up, he wants to be a welder or work in construction. Payton is the grandson of Bonnie Baird.

**Destiny Raymond is the fifth-grade high flyer.** Destiny has all A's and B's. Destiny always does her best on assignments and tasks given to her. She does a great job at helping other students and her teachers as well, when they need it. I don't think our class can argue when I say that Destiny always puts a smile on our faces. She is a great role model for those around her. You gave a great future ahead of you and I can't wait to see where life takes you. Destiny's favorite subjects in school are art and p.e. When she is at home she likes to play in the park and when she grows up, she wants to be an astronaut. Destiny is the daughter of Tim and Tonia Raymond.

Mr. and Ms. Manners were Carter Beck and Bryn Wilson.

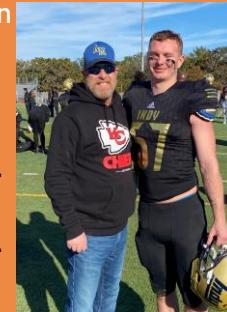
Have a Happy Thanksgiving!!

Mrs. Reazin  
AMES Principal

## A WORD FROM MR. ASHMORE



Mr. Ashmore with Dayton Marsh on 10/31/21.

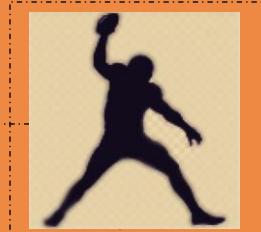


Hello, Jets Family! It is hard to believe November is already here! Football and volleyball seasons are over, and we're headed toward basketball. I want to thank all of those students who participated in football, volleyball, and cheer this fall. Middle school and high school participants represented Altoona-Midway very well. We are proud of them all.

We were able to finish the first quarter strong, despite some COVID attempts to stop us. Overall, students have done well adapting to wearing masks once again. We do ask that you remind your child to bring a mask every day. We only have a limited number we will be able to supply right now, and students will need to either call or go home to get one here. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

I would like to take a moment to highlight one of our former students. I was able to attend an Independence Community College football game on October 31<sup>st</sup>. Dayton Marsh is in his second year with the ICC football team. After the game, my family and I were able to talk with Dayton to tell him we are very proud of his hard work, both on and off the football field. I know we have many other former students out there doing great things. I would love to hear their stories! Please let me know and I will highlight them, too!

Thank you to everyone out there for your continued support of all we do at Altoona-Midway. Please contact us if there is anything we can do for you.



### AMHS FOOTBALL

The Altoona-Midway High School football team struggled for wins during most of the 2021 season, but the Jets finished the year on a very high note with a 50- 7 victory over Chetopa in the season finale. That season-ending contest was a “trial run” for both schools, as they will be making the switch from eight-man to six-man football, beginning with the 2022 season. The schools announced the move after the Kansas State High School Activities Association voted to sanction six-man competition beginning next fall. Jet senior Dalton Smith had a career night, amassing six touchdowns and rushing for an incredible 319 yards on 25 carries against Chetopa. Brandon Johnson and Chase Nalley also scored touchdowns for AMHS. The Jets struggled in their eight-man contests during the campaign, dropping all six games played. AMHS was also forced to cancel two games in mid-October because of quarantine issues. The AMHS coaching staff was very proud of all the players that persevered through struggles throughout the season and gave it their all every time they stepped on the field.



A

Art students have been working on clay creations, painting, drawing, bracelet making, and henna.

R

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In science class, eighth graders are focused on learning about weather patterns and geographical influences on weather. In doing so, they are also learning how to measure data from the wireless weather sensors obtained from last year's eMNTS grant.

Using different temperatures of water, Colby learns about dew point and humidity by reading data on his Chromebook, provided wirelessly by the weather sensor.

Chantal and Alexis work together to record the information provided by the wireless weather sensor.



Seventh graders are learning why cells are considered the building blocks of life, as well as the life processes that occur within cells. Using KNex pieces to represent atoms, students were challenged to use the pieces to build the molecules used in photosynthesis and respiration.

Taj shows the glucose molecule that he constructed from the reactants of respiration.

Lizzy and Mka hold their 24-atom molecule of glucose.



The high school Environmental Science class collected data from gravestones at some nearby cemeteries this month. Students collected birth- and death-year data as part of a Human Demographics project.

Blaine and Lane gather data from a headstone in High Prairie Cemetery.



Top Picture: Biology students continue their study of cells and get the unique opportunity to view their own cells.

Bottom Picture: Students make and study flashcards to learn about the organelles of cells.



In explorations the students chose a survival theme. They have designed and are now making an outdoor shelter.

# Murder Box

2021 Fall Production

On Friday, November 5, 2021, the Altoona-Midway MS/HS Drama Club presented the fall production of *Murder Box* by Reid Conrad and published by Eldridge Plays and Musicals.

The dark comedy was performed at 1:20 p.m. and at 7:00 p.m. to two wonderful audiences. Our two main leads were Chase Nalley (Jr.) as Marshall and Mariah Stackhouse (Sr.) as Margaret. Louis (Joseph Leach, Sr.) and Binky (Karissa Cook, So) drew lots of laughs and tears as a brother and sister team of stagehands. The cast included actors of all ages from Seniors to Sixth graders.

The play took place in an old theatre building which is about to be torn down. As the theatre's acting troupe is packing up the props, costumes, and set pieces, an old magician's trunk is wheeled onstage. Suddenly, members of the company are turning up dead. Margaret, the director's assistant, is the only witness to these crimes, and no one will believe her!

Can she solve the mystery, or at least convince her fellow cast and crew about the sinister happenings, before the entire company is doomed? How will this twisted tale end?

The students did a wonderful job and put lots of heart and effort into their performances. The directors, Cynthia Dvoracheck (HS ELA) and Cathy Taylor (FACS) give our thanks to all of our talented and fearless actors and actresses. The students put in lots of time for the production.



2021 Debate By Cynthia Dvoracheck

Kaylene Dorsey and Joseph Leach won the school's first policy debate round this weekend at Olathe Northwest High School. The two teams of Kaylene Dorsey/Joseph Leach and Karina Sanchez/Alexa O'Connor were up against 5A and 6A schools like Turner, Blue Valley Northwest, Shawnee Mission, Olathe South, Bonner Springs, St. James, Bishop Miege, and Lawrence Free State.

Although we have a squad of four teams, we are just starting to debate in tournaments. In September, the squad visited Washburn Rural to watch debates in action. On November 6, 2021, Kaylene and Karina teamed up to debate at Fort Scott. Last weekend, we went to Olathe Northwest High School.

We will continue to improve and involve all teams at Haven High School, El Dorado High School, Shawnee Mission, and Augusta High School.

Last weekend, we were celebrating the improvement in speaker rankings when we saw the "W" for "win" show up on the digital ballot. Kaylene and Karina Sanchez placed 1st in several rounds. In a 2-person policy debate, the two teams are ranked by the judge from 1 - 4 in speaker points. One is highest, four is lowest.

Joseph and Alexa O'Connor debated for the first time at Olathe Northwest High School. It was a learning experience and they both improved. The other two teams in our squad are Karissa Cook and Chase Nalley and Summer Raymond and Sophia Dannels.

This year we are debating the resolution: "I stand firmly resolved that the United States Federal Government should substantially increase its protection of water resources in the United States." The novice case lists break the resolution into four main areas: Lead in the Drinking Water, Ag Run-Off, Wetlands, and Fracking.

Good luck to our teams!

## Cast

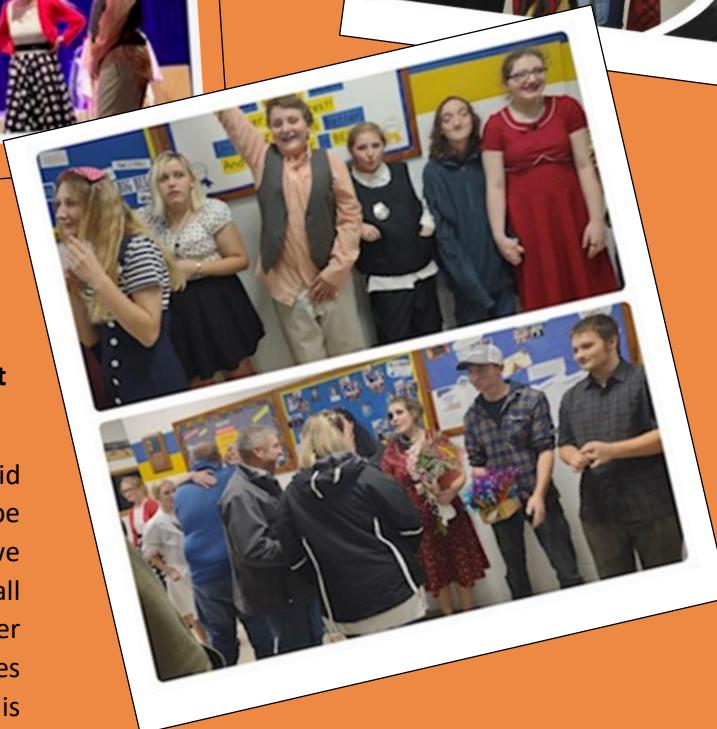
<b>Margaret</b> , Asst. Director .....	Mariah Stackhouse, SR
<b>Louis</b> , Stage Hand .....	Joseph Leach, SR
<b>Binky</b> , Stage Hand .....	Karissa Cook, SO
<b>Eve</b> , Actress .....	Summer Raymond, SO
<b>Marshall</b> , Director .....	Chase Nalley, JR
<b>Vera</b> , Producer/Actress .....	Tiffany Kuhn, SR
<b>Julia</b> , Actress .....	Kaylene Dorsey, SO
<b>Stan</b> , Actor .....	Kyler Nalley, 8th
<b>Madigan</b> , Chorus girl .....	Shelbi Bryant, 8th
<b>Emily</b> , Chorus girl .....	Eryn Tiger, 8th
<b>Priscilla</b> , Chorus girl .....	Chantal Morales, 8th
<b>Jeanie</b> , Chorus girl .....	Abby Relph, 8th
<b>Policeman 1</b> .....	Kelsea Dorsey, 6th
<b>Policeman 2</b> .....	Hadlee Pupanek, 6th
<b>Nurse</b> .....	Sandra Morales, 6th
<b>Doctor</b> .....	Peyton Drake, 7th

## Crew

<b>Spotlight</b> .....	Terry Williamson, SR
<b>Lights</b> .....	Caden Crawford, SO
<b>Makeup</b> .....	Alexa O'Connor, SR

## Directors

Cathy Taylor, HS FACS  
Cynthia Dvoracheck, HS ELA



**Updates from Interim Superintendent  
Mr. Kastle:**

The school year is moving along at a rapid pace. We will soon be taking time to be thankful for all of the opportunities we have in this great country that we call home. Thanksgiving break will begin after classes on November 23<sup>rd</sup> with classes resuming on November 29<sup>th</sup>. Then it is just a short time until we break for Christmas and with that the end of the first semester. Time does fly when you are having a good time!

At the district level we are working on plans to expend federal funding as it relates to COVID. Patrons can expect to see a survey relating to this topic shortly after the Thanksgiving break. Please take the time to complete and submit to us. Your input is valued and needed.

We are also in the process of selecting a construction firm as we move forward from the Altoona Elementary School fire. The firm should be selected during the first week of December.

The Board has posted the notice of vacancy for the district superintendent. The plan is to have one selected by the first of the new year with the successful candidate beginning his/her duties on July 1, 2022.

Thursday is Veteran's Day. Please take a moment and thank a Veteran. They have given, and continue to give so much in order for us to have the freedoms we all enjoy.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING for all of us in the Altoona-Midway School system!