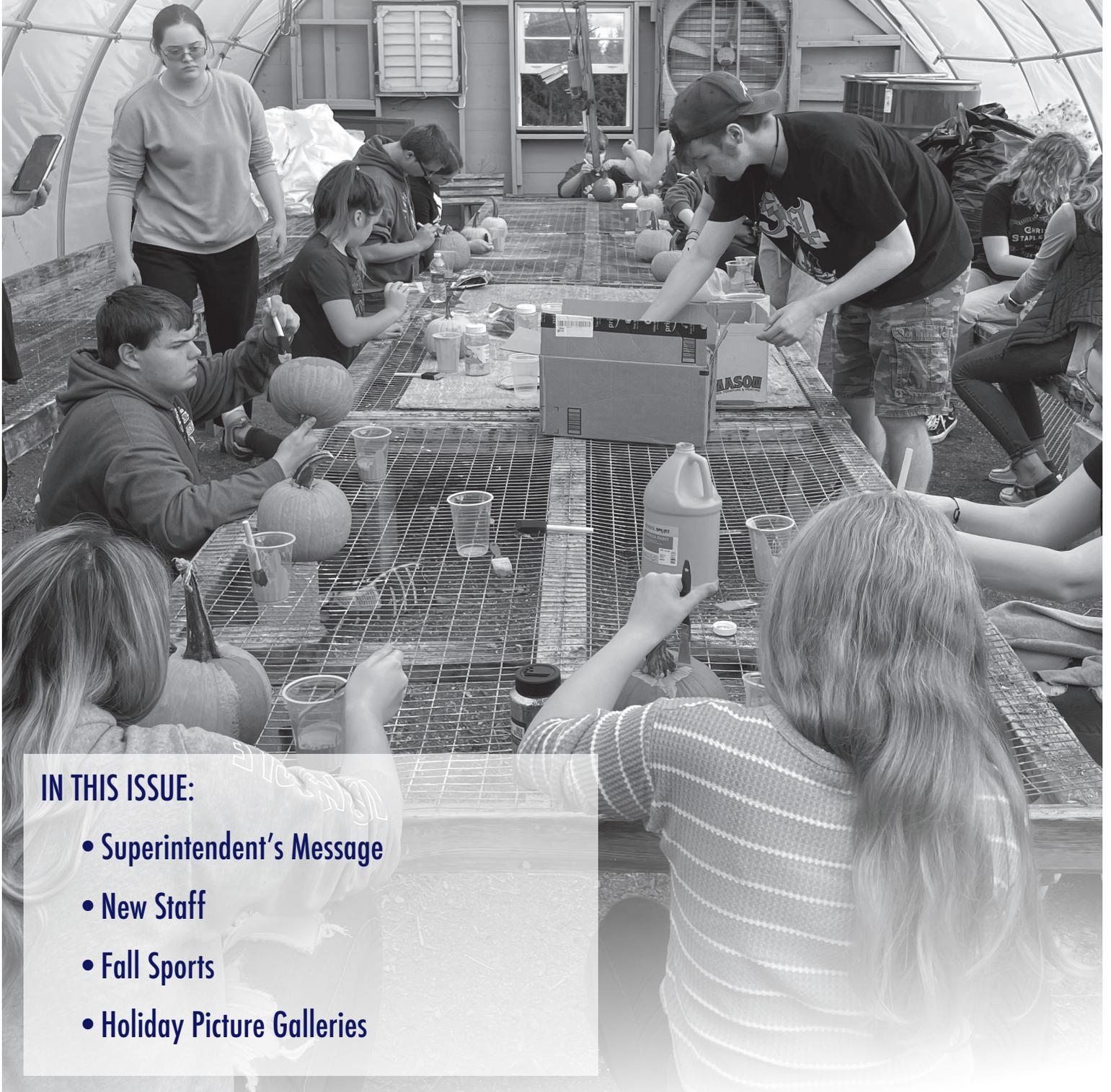


Richfield Springs Central School District

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



IN THIS ISSUE:

- Superintendent's Message
- New Staff
- Fall Sports
- Holiday Picture Galleries

Superintendent's Message



Happy New Year! Welcome to 2022. Even with the challenges that the pandemic has brought our way, the school year is moving right along. The variants of COVID have created more than five times the amount of positive COVID-19 cases in the school and region. We were still able to stay open through the holiday season, which is a testament to the staff at Richfield Springs Schools and the practices and procedures that have been put into place.

There has been a limited return to normalcy. We have been able to have sports seasons, concerts, presenters, club meetings and special events in our school. Hopefully, into the spring, we will be able to open up to more outside visitors and spectators. It has been a long road, but we keep pushing on and will make it through this pandemic together. And, it is our goal to remain fully in-person all year long, to promote and protect the wellness of all.

Normally, in October, we would have had our evacuation drill to the churches. Due to COVID, we did not put everyone close together in the churches. We wanted to remind everyone that if we needed to evacuate the school, the elementary evacuates to the Richfield Springs Bible Church and the secondary is across the street at the Church of Christ Uniting.

In crafting the 2022-23 school budget, the District is in a much better position than one year ago. Between Federal grants and increases to State aid, we do not anticipate any cuts to programs. It is also anticipated that the tax levy increase will be under 2%. We would like to thank the community in advance for their unwavering support of the students of Richfield Springs and all that we are able to offer our children through the District's programs.

Together in Success



Kinderstars First Day of School



Our Kinderstars loved going on a safari the first day of Kindergarten! Pictured above:

RSCS Honors Our Veterans



Photo from Left to right (back row): Isabella Johnson Adasyn Reed, Connor Steenburg, Patricia Matucha, and Hunter Gilbert. Front Row: Natasha Duncan Clayton Salomon, and Evan Zhang.

RSCS recognized our Veteran's Virtually again this year. Collaboratively, we hope we provided the men and women of our community with some well deserved recognition. Our highschool students worked with their history teachers Mr. Joe Manzo and Mr. Bill Kosina on postcards to show their gratitude. Our elementary students sent digital "Thank you's". And as tradition continues, we honored our family members with a slide show. Many thanks to ALL who served!

RSCS Fifth Grader Grips It And Rips It At Local Motocross Races



Pictured above: Lincoln Seamon, a fifth grader at Richfield Springs Central School, has placed first in one of four motocross heats! We could not be prouder!! Well done Lincoln!

Elks Hoops Shoot Winner



Aina Hunt is this year's 1st Place Winner for the Girls 10-11 division of the 2021 Herkimer Elks Lodge Hoops Shoot. She beat out students from Richfield Springs, Herkimer, West Canada and Poland this past weekend at Herkimer College.

New Year, New Faces at RSCS



*Mr. Matthew St. Peter
Middle and High School Principal*



*Mrs. Abigail Bliss
Sixth Grade Teacher*



*Mrs. Chelsea Owen
Secondary Administrative Assistant*



*Ms. Regina Paul
Special Education Teacher*



*Ms. Julie Smith
Vocal Music Teacher*



*Ms. Lauren Deptula
Elementary Guidance Counselor*



*Mrs. Lauren Stanton
Library Media Specialist*



*Mr. Michael Magliocca
Earth Science Teacher*



*Mr. Daniel Sportello
Teacher Aide*



*Mrs. Alexis Hungerford
Social Worker*



*Mrs. Laura Nelson
School Psychologist*



*Ms. Amber Jaeger
Kindergarten Teacher*



*Ms. Lisa Lauritsen
Resilience Coordinator*



*Mr. Daniel Marrone
7-12 Art Teacher*



*Mrs. Jessica Dunkel
Teaching Assistant*

Technology Course Receives New Equipment

Mr. Barkman was fortunate enough to be allowed to purchase new woodshop equipment courtesy of Mr. Piatti and the Cares Act Grant Richfield Springs received. He purchased a new Jet brand band saw, a drill press, three table top lathes, a sander and a “Saw Stop” table saw.

Austin Bowman and a few others have been coming down to the wood shop and putting this equipment together. Piece by piece, Austin has opened boxes, sorted pieces and assembled the new equipment. Mr. Barkman has started using some of the completed equipment in his classes and is looking forward to reorganizing the whole lab to accommodate the new equipment. Mr. Barkman said *“If Austin hadn’t tackled this job, I have no idea when I would have gotten to do what he has done. It is great to get new equipment but it is even better when I get some help getting it prepped and operation. - Thanks Austin!”*

Pictured right: Auston Bowman 22’ is busy assembling one of the three newly purchased BOSCH Table Saws. Austin volunteered his time and talents to assemble and test all new equipment.

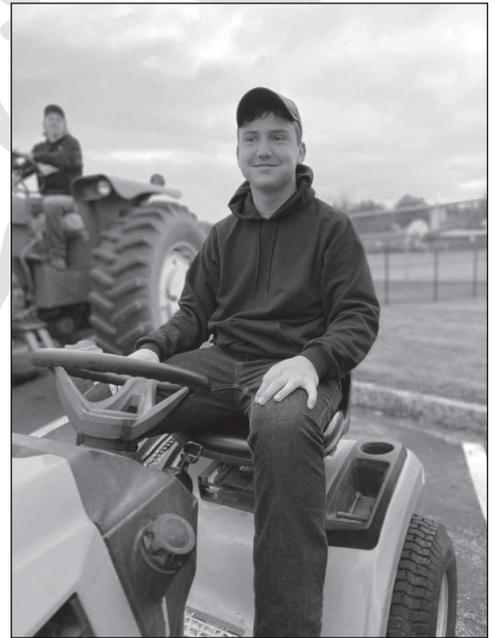


Full S.T.E.A.M. Ahead!



These are students that are members of the Steam Club. S.T.E.A.M. stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics. These pictures are from our December meeting where we are creating exploratory builds using our new LEGO Mindstorms sets. We will eventually design, build, and program (code) robots to perform tasks, and compete against one another in competition, during our club meetings. Eventually we would like to form a robotics team in FLL (First Lego League) to compete against other schools across New York State.

RSCS Traditions: Drive Your Tractor To School



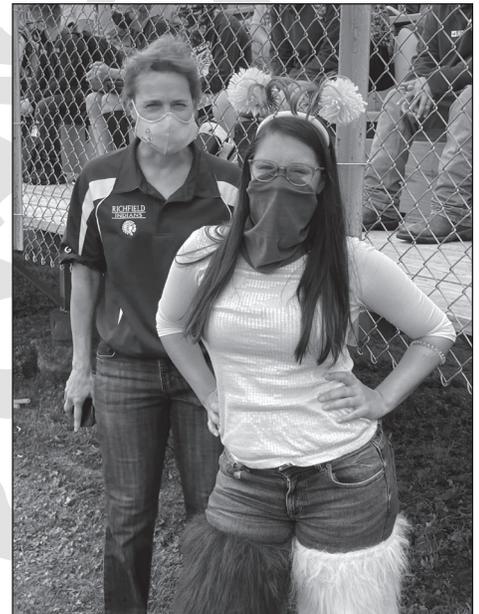
Pictured above, top left to right: Kalen Barnhart, Aaron Llewellyn, and Kelly Sheldrick.

Pictured second row, left to right: Carson Seamon, Bryan Webb, and Jesse Bowman.

Pictured third row, left to right: Dallas Miller, Josh Vickerson, and John Burditt.

Pictured fourth row, left to right: Mr. Kosina, Nathen Teachout, and Ethan O'Connor

Homecoming Week 2021



Go Indians!



Mrs. Cotto's Spanish Class Celebrates El Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead)



Pictured above: is the "altar" which consists of tributes to loved ones and famous Hispanics who have passed. Students made ofrendas or tombstones for the deceased, and paper flowers to adorn the shrine. The altar also included sugar skulls (a tradition that dates back to over 3000 years ago), candles (to light the way), marigolds (to attract the souls with their color and scent), water (for the souls to drink) and salt (symbolizes the continuance of life), all of which are typical components of a traditional altar.



Pictured above: Rylie Jasso is donning an authentic Mexican sombrero and skull mask, which is common attire during El Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) celebrations.



Mrs. Cotto's Spanish students celebrated El Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) in early November. Spanish 3 students honored their deceased loved ones with an "ofrenda", or offering which is placed on a home altar, that has multiple tiers. Photos of deceased loved ones, images of various saints, candles, candy, sweet bread and other items are placed upon each tier. The purpose of an ofrenda is to make the dead feel welcome and at home. The Spanish 2 students made tombstones as a remembrance of noted, deceased Hispanics. Spanish students in Grades 7 and 8 made calavera masks (skull masks) and paper flowers to adorn our shrine in the hallway. Everyone did an excellent job, had fun and learned a great deal about this tradition. ¡Excelente, estudiantes!



Pictured above : Spanish 1A 7th grade class that meets on B-D-F Days showing off their "calavera" masks they had made.



Richfield Senior Takes Aim At “25 Straight”

The Richfield Springs Central School District is running it's second year of the Clay Target League. Congratulations to Richfield Springs CSD senior Austin Bowman on his shooting a “25” Straight!



Pictured above left: Austin Bowman presenting his well earned “25” Straight patch. Pictured above right: Austin Bowman in proper shooting stance.

Local FFA Member Receives Grant from Fieldale Farms

A \$1,000 Fieldale Farms SAE grant has been awarded to Laken Dyn of Jordanville NY by Fieldale Farms.

SAE grants are designed to help FFA members create or expand Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects, a requirement that all FFA members must complete. An SAE requires FFA members to create and operate an agriculture related business, work at an agriculture-related business or conduct an agricultural research experience. Upon completion, FFA members must submit a comprehensive report regarding their career development experience.

This year 32 different sponsors made 39 different types of SAE Grants available. A full list of sponsors can be found on the National FFA Organization website on the SAE Grants webpage.

Dyn is a member of the newly formed



Pictured above: Laken Dyn, the recipient of the Fieldale Farms Grant, showing her beef cow.

Richfield Springs FFA Chapter. Her application was selected from among 1,086 applications nationwide.

8,817 local FFA chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The National FFA Organization is a school-based national youth leadership development organization of more than 735,000 student members as part of



Fall Girls Modified Soccer



Despite an emotionally trying start, the Girls' Modified Soccer team finished their 2021 season with much success! They played each game In Loving Memory of their dear Owen D. Young friend, Sofia Trusova. With a record of 11-1, these girls showed up every day ready to play and did so with

the kind of heart and hustle that makes RSCS proud.



Photo from left to right: Arianna Bevers, Dakota Butler, Cadence Conklin, Amber Connolly, Riley Constantietis, Laina Herron, Abigail Hosford, Morgan Hunt, Ella McLean, Madison O'Connor, Paige O'Connor, Riley O'Connor, Hunter Ough, Camdon Seamon, Gabrielle Seamon, Isabelle Seamon, Sophia Spencer, Alexis Stoddard, Isabelle Weiss, Coach Skinner. Missing from photo, Natalie Dumond.

Fall Boys Modified Soccer



Photo from left to right: Mason Campbell, Cayden Clawson, Cayden Cool, Dylan Dennis, Riley Jasso, Daniel Kane, Dominc Mang, Michael Mickle, Dallas Miller, Yuren Santis, Braedon Schultz, Christian Stegen, Jaden Jasso, Noah Mickle, Ashton West, Coach Wadnola. Missing from photo, Connor Wittwer.



RSCS Indian **PRIDE**



Fall Girls Varsity Soccer

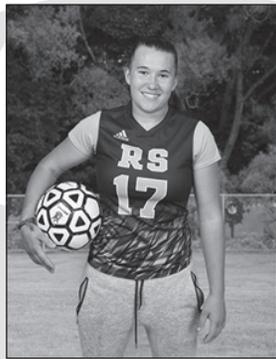


Photo from left to right: Molly Bobnick, Shonda Demorest, Laken Dyn, Danica Farley, Riley Francis, Fiona Gibbs, Anna Hawkes, Emily Kenyon, Mary Jane Kilbourn, Camryn Marshall, Madison Martin, Lauren Mclean, Cadence Moxham, Aedan Osbourn, Isabella Valentina, Dakota Vickerson, Emma White, Maggie Worobey, and Coach Wadnola..



RSCS

Indian

PRIDE



Fall Boys Varsity Soccer



A BIG shout out to this team - who received some well deserved recognition from one of their opponents this year. The Worcester fans and community members were quoted as saying "Best sportsmanship we have ever seen on the soccer field, tonight by Richfield Springs! If you have a player on that team, you should be proud!" Despite the many obstacles put in their way this season, these boys toughed it out, finished strong, and made us proud!

Photo from Left to right: Damon Boss, Austin Bowman, Jesse Bowman, John Burditt, Brett Clements, Jordan Diliberto, Brayden Dunckle, Brogan Graves, Devin Hollenback-Heap, Ethan O'Connor, Carson Seamon, Landon Shultz, and coach Terry Brant.

RSCS
Indian
PRIDE



For all scheduled RSCS Sports Events, Please visit:
<https://www.schedulegalaxy.com/schools/160>

Students And Staff Collaborate And Raise \$600 For The American Cancer Society



Pictured above left-right, top: Aliza Burdick, Kalen Barnhart, Amanda Buridck, Lauren Johnson, Zack Stetson, Rylie Chenel, Maura Buck, Ethan Helin, Abigail Diotte, and Katrina Schaefer-Gilbert. Pictured above left-right, bottom: Claire Collins, Roberta Schaefer-Gilbert, Isabelle Martinez, Mrs. Seamon, Trinity Appell, Nathan LaVere, Kiara Gray-Smith, Elaina Johnson, Brooke McCoord, and Mrs. Kingstrom.



Pictured above: Kiara Gray-Smith, painting pumpkins at the Cullen Pumpkin Farm.



Pictured above: Trinity Appell and Brooke McCoord, painting pumpkins at the Cullen Pumpkin Farm.

October was a month filled with pink pumpkins, pink ribbons, and pies in the face! This is our 2nd year in a row of combining our student community service projects and our faculty and staff initiatives. We never cease to amaze ourselves! This year, we together raised over \$600 to donate towards cancer research and comfort care. We'd like to thank ALL of those who donated, participated, and worked to make these events such a success. A special thank you goes out to the Cullen Pumpkin Farm for continuing to open their doors to our students and donating to our cause!



Pictured above left-right: Nathan LaVere, and Ethan Helin, painting pumpkins as Mrs. Seamon provides some painting pointers at the Cullen Pumpkin Farm. Pictured below left to right, getting a pie in the face: Mr. Urtz, Mr. St. Peter and Dr. Wilson with Hailey Hosford.



Pictured above left-right: Nathan LaVere, Ethan Helin, Camden Seamon, Zack Stetson, Abigail Diotte and Maura Buck, painting pumpkins at the Cullen Pumpkin Farm.



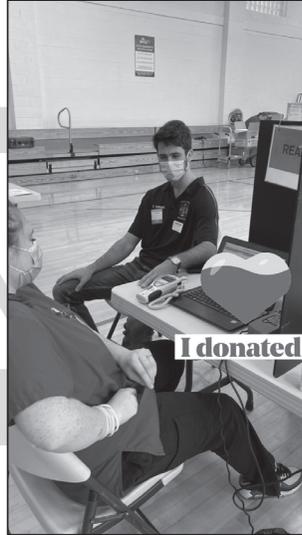
National Honor Society Hosts Fall Blood Drive

The National Honor Society hosted a Red Cross Blood Drive on October 28, 2021. National Honor Society members recruited donors and helped with registration and canteen. Thank you to everyone who helped make the drive a success. We will be sponsoring another drive on March 25, 2022.

**ONE
DONATION
CAN SAVE
UP TO 3
LIVES**



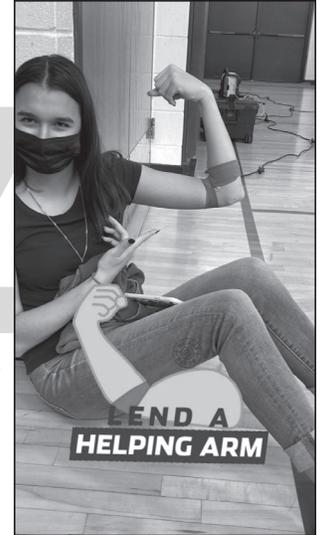
**American
Red Cross**



Pictured above: Class of 2021 graduate Cole Bobnick completing the registration process prior to his donation.



Pictured above: Sophomore Ethan O'Connor completing the Rapid Pass questionnaire. Congratulations to Ethan for making his first donation!



Pictured above: Senior Caroline Furner sporting the red tape following her donation.



Pictured above: Ellen McIntosh checks on Cole Bobnick after his donation.



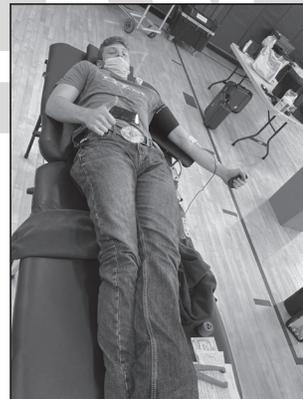
Pictured above: Sophomore Ethan O'Connor gives the thumbs up during his donation.



Pictured above: Senior Kalie Evangelow sporting the red tape following her donation. Congratulations to Kalie for making her first donation.



Pictured above: Senior Kalie Evangelow shows us where they put the needle.



Pictured above: Thumbs up from senior Austin Bowman during his donation.



Pictured above: Mr. St. Peter completing the registration process before his donation.

RSCS Students Attend National FFA Convention



Richfield Springs FFA students made a quick stop at the Cleveland Museum of Science. Pictured left to right: Mr. Barkman, John Burditt, Anna Hawkes, Carson Seamon, Laken Dyn, and Robert Kovatchitch.

FFA National Convention: Mr. Roger Barkman escorted 5 Richfield Springs students to Indianapolis, Indiana this year, for their first ever experience at the FFA National Convention. Sophomores, John Burditt, Laken Dyn, Anna Hawkes, Robbie Kovatchitch, and Carson Seamon were among those lucky enough to attend.

The trip consisted of a stop in Cleveland to the Museum of Natural History, a visit and tour of the Fair Oaks Farm (they have 11 farms with 36,000 cows, capacity of 8000 pigs, 19,000 acres, and many other features and buildings to explore), several days of convention presentations and competitions, a live Rodeo, communication and collaboration with students from schools across the country, and even some down time scootering in downtown Indianapolis. This trip is surely an experience that these students will NEVER FORGET!



Things Get Saucy In Kindergarten



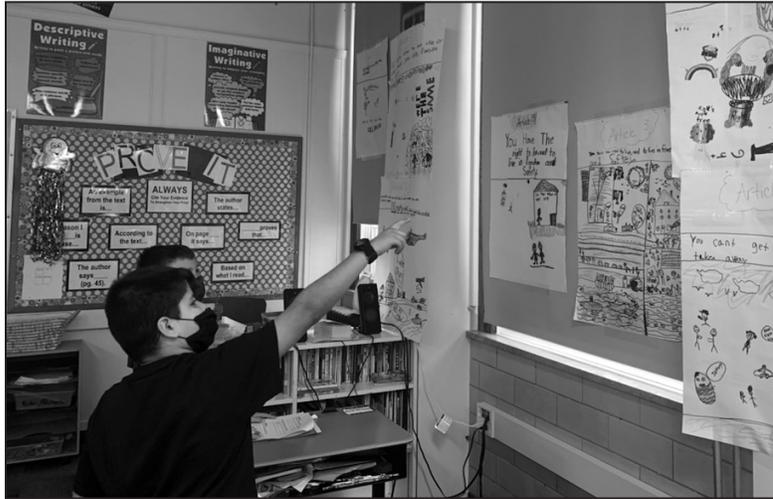
The Richfield Springs Kinderstars learned all about making applesauce in October! They loved using all of the tools themselves to get the apples ready to be cooked in the crockpot. All the students loved the process and enjoyed the end result!

Top left to right: Levi Effner, Zendeya Bond, Eli Yuhasz, and James Seamon. Bottom left to right: Jennifer Bowman, Alexandria Ruffles, Hayden Lemmon, Layla VanBuren, and Jaxon Hudson.

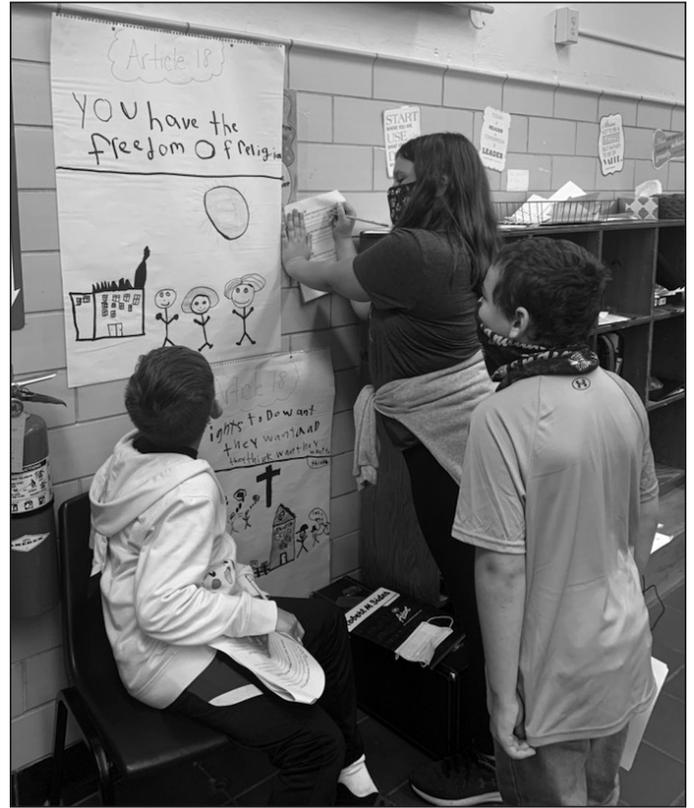


Fifth Graders Are Drawing Connections in ELA

Fifth graders have been learning about the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in their ELA classes. They are analyzing this document and putting it into their own words! Now they are making connections with a novel they are reading, *Esperanza Rising*.



*Pictured Above: Alejandro Cotto (front), and Chester Seamon (back).
Pictured Left: (Left to right): Logan LaFrance, David McGrath, and Emaleigh Dennis.*



RSCS Staff Participated In Canalway Challenge

Last Spring several members of the RSCS staff signed up to participate in the Canalway Challenge. The challenge was to bike, run, walk, or paddle along the Erie Canal for a choice of fifteen, thirty, ninety, one hundred eighty or three hundred sixty miles. The four that completed the challenge are Celia Rathbun, Rachelle Robbins, Nancy Potter and Lisa Trask. Nancy signed up for and completed the End to Ender challenge which is 360 miles. She biked, ran, and kayaked across the canal-way. That is quite an accomplishment, way to go Nancy!



Pictured above: Nancy Potter, outfitted with her kayak gear as she prepares to head out on the canal.

*If you are interested in participating in this challenge next year, please visit:
www.eriecanalway.org*



Pre-K Visits The Richfield Springs Firehouse



Pictured above: The Pre-K students are given a kitchen fire safety demonstration.



Pictured above: The Pre-K students are given a demonstration on what to do in case of a fire.



Pictured above: The students are given a hands-on demonstration of the firehose. It was a blast!

The Pre-K class visited the Richfield Springs Firehouse on Tuesday, October 5th, 2021. During our visit, the Richfield Springs Firemen gave us a tour of the facility and gave us an understanding of what a day in the life of fireman is like.

They taught us about kitchen safety. There were demonstrations of what to do when a fire breaks out in the kitchen. We were able to explore the inside of the ambulance and learn about what ambulance staff do when called to an emergency. We also had the opportunity

to learn about the different fire trucks and what they each do. It was an exciting visit for all involved. I wonder how many future firefighters we have in our class!

Second Grade *Falls* Into Place Value

In second grade, we have been working on mastering place value to the hundreds place. We have learned many ways to represent three digit numbers. We have learned how to show a num-

ber in standard form, written form, expanded form, and unit form. We have also worked diligently to read numbers with up to three digits!

Pictured below (left): A Halloween themed worksheet for students to show their work. The proof is in the potion!

Pictured below (right): Mrs. Snell's Welcome Autumn board, highlighting student work and celebrating their learning successes.



RSCS Winter Concert



The RSCS Music Department presented their Winter Concert on December 16, 2021. This was the first concert since 2019. Our students worked

very hard, and did a marvelous job. We welcome home, Julie Smith, as our new Vocal Music Director. The groups that performed were: Elementary Chorus,

Elementary Band, Jr High Chorus, Sr High Chorus, and the 7-12 Band. It was so exciting to be able to see our students perform again.

Cutting Lumber The Old School Way

Mr. Barkman had the opportunity to help out a group of Agriculture advisors the weekend of Dec 3rd and 4th in cutting lumber up at Camp Oswegatchie. The saw mill had stamps from 1903 on it and clearly could use some modern day safety shields and guards. While we don't have students help with its operation they do benefit from its usage.

Many of the buildings were built from wood from the property and even in some of the newer fancy building we have incorporated wainscoting from our mill and planer. Agriculture teachers harvest the trees and cut it into usable lumber which keeps costs down at camp and allows us to use some vintage equipment most people only see in books. Mr. Barkman's back told him it was a good workout also.

The Oswegatchie Educational Center in Croghan, New York is nestled on 1200 acres of wooded land within the



Pictured above: Camp Oswegatchie lumber mill in action.

Adirondack Park. Oswegatchie was bought in 1946 and is owned and operated by the New York FFA Leadership Training Foundation, Inc. The center operates as a youth camp during the summer months and is open throughout the year as an educational and rec-

reational retreat center. Mr. Barkman took nine campers this last summer and hopes to visit this spring as well. Summer camp is an annual FFA activity so keep an eye out for more information this spring to send your campers.

HALLOWEEN



Pictured above: Mrs. Barracco and Mrs. Wust Kindergarten classes.



Grades 9-10 Haunted Hallway. Pictured above left-right (back): Madison Martin, Abigail Diotte, Lila Galbreth, and Tyla Howard. Pictured above left-right (front): Kaidence Pearce, Dakota Vickerson, Riley Francis, Danica Farley, Summer Smith, and Mariah Stetson.



Pictured left-right: Mrs. Boss, Mr. Wadnola and Mr. Downs show their Grade 4 unity in a themed costume "Boss Landscaping". Pictured above right: 4th grade students donning their Halloween holiday attire!



Pictured left: Mrs. Trask escorts some students through the annual Haunted Hallway event!



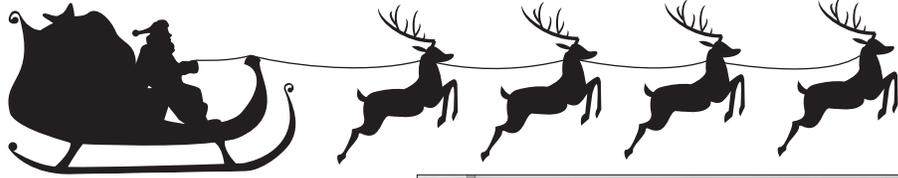
Pictured above: Mrs. Cotto gets a scare in the Haunted Hallway!



Pictured above: A huge shoutout to Mr. Andy who always goes above and beyond to help make our holiday celebrations special in kindergarten!



Christmas



Students of Third Grade classes of Mrs. Collis and Mrs. Dandrea have been learning about Holidays Traditions around the world.



Mrs. Simpson's first graders are dressed in their favorite Christmas characters!



Mrs. Barnhart's second graders are busily working on their gingerbread houses.



The many Christmas themed outfits of Mrs. Bard! It's hard to top her holiday spirit!



The fifth graders are donning their holiday plaid!



Olaf pays a visit to the RSCS Elementary Library.





Richfield Springs Central School
93 West Main Street
Richfield Springs, New York
13439

Happy Holidays & 2022!

