



Ashern Central Newsletter

April 2023

Happy Spring!

Important Dates

May 4	Mothers Against Drunk Driving Presentation (AM Only)
May 22	Victoria Day - School Closed
May 23	Admin Day – No school for students
May 25	All Grade 9 & 10 students to Career Fair in WPG
May 26	All Grade 11 & 12 students to Career Fair in WPG
June 8&9	High School Band Trip
June 20&21	Grade 12 Exams
June 22&23	Grade 9-11 Exams
June 24	2023 Graduation!
June 29	Grade 5-11 Report Cards Issued Last day of school for the 22-23 school year
June 30	Admin Day - No school for students

At Ashern Central School we believe learning needs to be connected to places, people and purpose for students to be interested and engaged in their education.



We are hopeful that spring is just around the corner. Our creative and industrious middle years students have certainly made the most of our variety of snow conditions throughout this winter. Whether it needed to be carved, stacked, compacted, or dug, they found the best building option for each fresh snow fall! Engineering structures has been a theme on more than our playground this semester. Mr. Bamford's engineering course has been using their knowledge of the design process, forces, structures, and simple machines. The students researched and constructed a counterweight Trebuchet that can accurately hit targets at 10 feet. They also constructed towers resistant to a simulated earthquake.



Land Based Education



Grade 7 and 8 learn about our local natural resources at Peguis Camp



Ashern Central School has welcomed Mr. Bruce to our program as our new Land Based Education coordinator. This was made possible through provincial grant funding and we are grateful for the opportunity to have a land based coordinator right in our building until June of this year.



We have been learning about respectful use of the land and life around us. This has involved walks in our area as well as field trips. Mr. Bruce has a classroom where he has Ojibway Language classes and creative art or building projects with various grade levels.



Marshmallows and hotdogs are a must for any outdoor learning day in cold weather.

Our marshmallow chefs preferred to cook them to VERY well done!

Thank you to Peguis Land Based Camp for their hospitality!

Lakeshore Proficiency Awards



The Proficiency Awards is a yearly competition in Lakeshore for all graduating students across the division. It is based on student's academic marks, contribution to their community and public speaking ability. Our own Kierra Hickman took home top honours this year. Kierra won us the privilege of hosting the Proficiency Awards at Ashern Central next year as the reigning champion. Well done Kierra!



Community Futures West Interlake Youth Leadership Day



Our grade 10 students represented us at the Community Futures West Interlake Youth Retreat in March. This event was a chance for them to meet community leaders, have their voice and opinions heard, and learn leadership and business skills along the way. The day ended with a competition against Lundar, Fisher Branch and Warren to build the most well planned and advertised Lemonade stand. We are proud to say that one of our Ashern teams also won top honours at this event with the best formulated business plan. Our other two teams had fun and "turned lemons into lemonade" (literally)!

The ACS Auto Shop Projects



This project was made possible through grant funding supporting Land Based Learning in Lakeshore.

Mr. Tindall's shop has been busy with many projects on wheels. He has also generously made space for projects of a different sort in the shop.

These students are working with our Land Based Coordinators to learn how to harvest fur from coyotes donated to the school. These coyotes were trapped due to overpopulation and are now being fully used for teaching purposes. Each student will keep their own full hide at the finish.



Drama, Music and Art News



Our Drama and Music Clubs are busy with practices and plans as always. Senior Drama Club is currently writing an original play of their own and they are scheduled to perform it on June 1 at the Manitoba Drama Youth Festival at the University of Winnipeg. They will also share their play in a school evening performance in early June (date to be announced)

Ashern Central's music club is planning a spring band concert including our musicians from grades 7 through 12. We hope to hold this concert outdoors at the school weather permitting. This date is also soon to be announced.



Miss Clow's Art class has had a very special opportunity made possible by provincial Elder and Knowledge Keeper Funding and one of our talented local knowledge holders, Rose Anderson. Rose is working with our students to bead and sew their own beautiful moccasins.

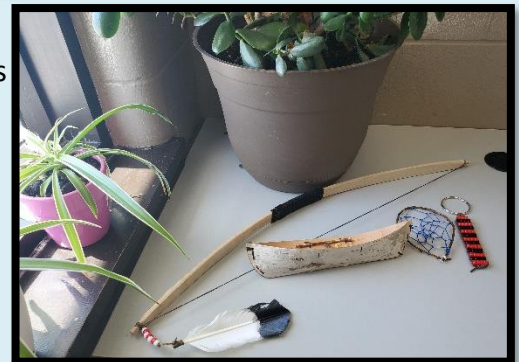
Mrs. Bjornson's Drama students had great fun with this project. The challenge was to recreate a famous work of art by becoming the characters.



Thank you to the RM Grahamdale and Camper Hall for again donating to our student field trips.

Our grade 5's and 6's are very excited to be returning to Camp Arnes for 3 days in June!

Our own land based coordinator Mr. Bruce is also quite the artist and has been working with our middle years students on birch bark canoes, bows and beaded key chains.



Mr. Bruce's classroom is filled with the smells of the forest from all the natural building material he collects for his many projects.

One of the things we appreciate is how our students start spontaneous volleyball and basketball games during their class breaks. Our students love their gym-time and they will set up a net even for a 15 minute break. Our current school sport is badminton, and we would like to thank Mr. McPherson for volunteering his time to coach our teams this year!

