

THE HURRICANE

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The Hurricane



www.albertct.k12.ia.us

Albert City-Truesdale Community School Newsletter

September/October/November 2015

1st Quarter – by Sarah Voyles, AC-T Principal

As we close out the first quarter, it's time to reflect on the beginning of the school year and look forward to the remainder of the year. I would first like to thank everyone who is part of the school "family" who has made me feel so welcomed. I have really enjoyed getting to know all of the students, families and staff. Albert City – Truesdale is a great school and I am very excited that I get to be part of it first-hand!

At the beginning of the year our school was designated as a School In Need of Assistance (SINA). This was not the news we wanted to hear, as we have fantastic test scores. Unfortunately, with the No Child Left Behind legislation, by 2014 all students need to be proficient on the Iowa Assessments. Since AC-T has missed that mark for two years in a row, we are now on the list for reading. With this designation, we are allotted money and will hold professional development around continued improvement in our reading instruction. These are steps that we were in the process of before we got the news. With the extra money we will be able to attend extra professional development and bring in necessary materials. At home to help, we ask you to continue to read with your child(ren), or help them to write letters to friends or relatives. For more ideas of ways to support at home, please check out www.iowareadingresearch.org. This website has a lot of great resources and articles about ways to support a child with reading. Overall, it's not a list that we want to be on, but is something that will guide our instructional practices as we move forward.

Below I have included a picture of our Super Achievers for the 1st Quarter. Super Achievers are nominated each week by teachers who have noticed their outstanding contribution to the school in one way or another. I am very proud of this group of students for earning this honor. Many of them have been chosen because of their hard work in the

classroom and their ability to work with others. Yet others have made major improvements in a short amount of time or are students who can be trusted to do the right thing. Please help me in congratulating our 1st Quarter Super Achievers!



As we continue into the second quarter of the school year, I hope to build better relationships with those who I have started to get to know as well as meet many more of you who make AC-T a "great place to start"! If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to give me a call or stop by the school.

Rob Olsen, Superintendent *Can you believe it?*

Our 1st quarter came to an end on Friday, October 23rd. It is hard to believe one fourth of our school year is already over. We have had such nice weather this fall which has provided for a successful harvest and an exciting start to our school year with many events and activities. With the end of our 1st quarter comes Parent/Teacher Conferences. Parent/Teacher Conferences are a great time for you to visit with our teachers to learn about all the great things your son or daughter has been doing this school year. Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Tuesday, November 3 and Thursday, November 5. Enjoy the rest of the fall season and we look forward to seeing everyone on November 3 and 5!

6th Grade Happenings by Mrs. Mathews

We are getting into the swing of things here in 6th grade. The students have already learned so much and they continue to impress me each and every day with their drive to learn! We have been using some fun technology in class (and it's educational too!!) We have been using Spelling Vocabulary City, Prodigy (math practice), and we have used PowerPoint to create presentations. The students enjoy using technology in the classroom.

Something that we have done that I thought was fun for them (and quite hilarious), was pretending to be 18th century settlers. Each student was paired up with a partner and given a location in which their team wanted to settle in the United States. They had to research the benefits of settling in their location by considering the resources available, geography, transportation, weather, and protection. Once they were done researching they had to have a "town debate" about where to settle, all while looking the part! They had to create pilgrim hats for boys and bonnets for girls. They had a blast, and so did I!



2ND GRADE NEWS BY MS. MANEMAN

There are many fun learning experiences happening in 2nd grade right now. This month the 1st and 2nd graders went to the Apple Orchard in Fort Dodge. While there, the students had the opportunity to pick a pumpkin and an apple. They loved searching for the perfect one. We were able to learn about the process of making apple cider, and the hard work that goes into growing all of the pumpkins and apples at the orchard.



Along with all of our fun activities we have been working hard in the classroom. We have been practicing our reading fluency and comprehension as well as sight words. In math we are becoming "Math Wizards" and learning about money. Although the school year is already flying by there is still much more to come for these hard working 2nd graders.

1ST GRADE FUN! BY MRS. STEFFENSMEIER

It has been an exciting fall in 1st grade! We have been learning a lot about each other and the world around us. We have been working hard on learning how to become better readers through our Daily 5 stations. While we are working hard in reading, we are also working hard on building our addition and subtraction facts.

Our science explorations have lead us to learn about solids, liquids and gases.

Although we have been working hard, we have also had some fun. We really enjoyed having our grandparents come in to visit for Grandparents' Day. The 1st graders worked with the 2nd graders to perform a poem. They also got to show their grandparents their classroom while sharing a cookie with them.

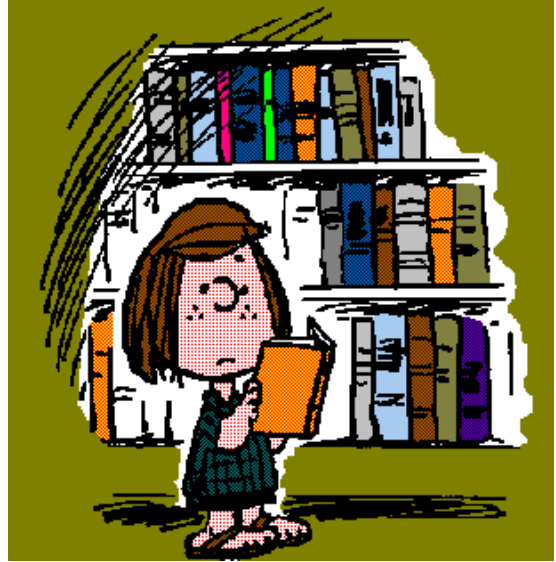


Library News from Mrs. Wells

As students walked into the library for the first time this school year, they were greeted with tables filled with brand new books... over 250 new books! I told them one of the best smells is that of a new book, and one of the best sounds is that of a book being cracked open for first time. We are very appreciative of being able to give the library shelves the update they needed and the opportunity to read so many great books.

Research shows that reading aloud is the single most important thing you can do to help your child prepare for reading, learning, and future success. Children who are read to and then move on to become

avid independent readers tend to be more successful in all areas of school. Just 15 minutes a day is enough to make a difference!



A reminder to all: Students have library time on Wednesdays. Please make sure they bring their books for return so they may check out new books each week. Thank you!!



Albert City-Truesdale Elementary Winter Weather Information

With the winter season just around the corner, it is possible we may need to delay the start of school or cancel school for the day due to weather conditions that make travel to and from school dangerous. Our district makes the decision on whether or not to hold classes in cooperation with the administration at the Sioux Central Schools. Therefore, when Sioux Central starts late or cancels classes, Albert City-Truesdale will do the same. We will notify radio and television stations of these decisions as soon as the decision is made in the morning. **You may listen to KAYL/Storm Lake, KICD/Spencer or watch KTIV/Channel 4, or check Facebook.** You can also sign-up for text alerts through our office. Sioux Central also offers text alerts via their website: www.sioux-central.k12.ia.us

Nurse Notes

Happy Autumn!

It is a privilege for me to spend every Thursday with our students and staff...

~Hopefully you and your family have been able to avoid illness this season, but remember that good handwashing is the single best defense against getting sick. What could be easier? Wash with soap and water for 15-20 seconds often, and teach your children to do the same.

~I am continuing to go into classrooms every Thursday; while we are no longer doing a fluoride rinse, I am teaching a mini-lesson every week about something related to good health. This fall, a few of the things we'll be talking about are respiratory etiquette (covering your cough and sneeze with the crook of your elbow, not your hand), taking care of our teeth, medication safety, portion sizes and preventing head lice.

~It's that time of year to think about getting a flu shot. Staff here at school had an opportunity to receive one this month. An ounce of prevention...!

~Please remember to keep your student home from school if they have a fever (temp 100.0 or higher) or vomiting, and keep them home until these symptoms are gone for a full 24 hours. This not only keeps illness from spreading, but allows them to rest and time for their body to heal.

As always, do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. Thank you!

Julie Olson, RN, AC-T School Nurse, 843-5416 ext. 272 nurse@albertct.k12.ia.us

5 SAFETY TIPS ABOUT OTC MEDICINE SAFETY



1. Read and follow the *Drug Facts* label each time.

This is the label on all over-the-counter (OTC) drugs that tells you the name(s) of active ingredients, warnings you should consider when using the medicine, and the correct dose and schedule for taking the medicine.

2. Measure carefully.

It is important to use the dosing device that comes with the medicine. Never use household spoons to measure medicine. Never take more than the recommended dose, and don't redose sooner or more often than directed by the *Drug Facts* label. Medicines can cause harm when they are not used as labeled.

3. Ask a pharmacist, nurse, or doctor.

Pharmacists, nurses, and doctors, like those who answer the phone at your local poison center, are resources that you can rely on to answer questions about medicines, dose, medicine disposal, and overall responsible use.

4. Store OTC medicines "up and away."

Every year nearly 500,000 parents or caregivers call poison control centers because a child got into a medicine or was given the wrong dose. Store all medicines out of the reach and sight of children immediately after each use.

5. Know the active ingredients.

Know the active ingredients in your medicines. Take only one medicine at a time that contains the same active ingredient. Taking more than one medicine with the same active ingredient can be an overdose and can cause harm.



Save the Poison Help number in your phone: **1-800-222-1222**.

Your local poison center answers calls 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Simple Ways to Help AC-T!

POP CANS/ POP TABS

Pop cans can be donated at Crossroads gas station to help the school. Each year with your donations of pop cans we are able to defray the costs of field trips and other educational experiences for students at AC-T!

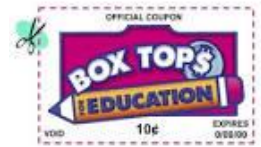
Your aluminum can tabs go a long way with Ronald McDonald House Charities.

You can help by saving **pop tabs**. Simply remove the tab off your can, save them in a wide-mouth container or large zip sealed bag (Not in milk jugs, please) and when you have a large amount, drop them off at our school or send them with your student.



BOX TOPS

Clipping Box Tops is an easy way for you to help our school buy what it needs. Box Tops are each worth 10 cents and they quickly add up to real cash for our school. To help our school, just look for pink Box Tops on products, clip them and send them to school. It is helpful if they are clipped along the edges and are submitted before their expiration date.



LABELS FOR EDUCATION

Labels for Education are another thing to look for before throwing away your packaging on food items. These labels have a point value and can be found on many different brands such as Campbell's V8, Pace, BIC and SpaghettiO's. Again, it is helpful if they are clipped along the edges and sent to school in a baggie or envelope.

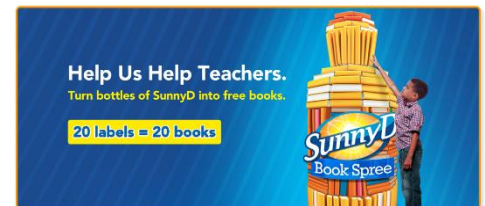


HY-VEE RECEIPTS (Storm Lake Only)

We accept Hy-Vee receipts from Storm Lake Only. Please drop off your receipts at school or send them with a child. We total up the cost from each receipt and get them sent off.

SUNNY D LABELS

Sunny D labels can be turned in for books. For every label that we receive we can earn one book for our school!



TYSON LABELS

Tyson labels are worth 24 cents for the school. Again, just clip the labels and get them sent in to the school for the school to be able to redeem them for cash!



News from the 6th Grade

Toby Kruse by Isaac Albeus

Toby Kruse was born May 9, 2004 in Pennsylvania, and has two siblings who are Titus Kruse and Alyssa Kruse. His mom and dad are Amy Kruse and Jason Kruse. His favorite color is neon orange which he had trouble on picking it out. His favorite T.V. show is Hulk Agents of S.M.A.S.H. which I

think is pretty cool myself. Toby's favorite food is frosted cinnamon rolls and he said, "I like cinnamon rolls anywhere... but mostly at school." Toby's best friends are Isaac Albeus, Paige Eral, and Matthew Goeller, and his favorite author is K.A. Apple Gate from the book series Animorphs. One thing Toby is proud of is his cardboard wingsuit made out of cardboard, duct tape, and markers. Sadly, Toby can't find it.

MORGAN GRIFFIN BY PAIGE ERAL

Good afternoon everybody! I interviewed Morgan Griffin a few weeks ago and this is what I discovered! Morgan is a very interesting person. She is very...well...fun! First things first... Morgan's Mom is Lynette Gilmore. Morgan's favorite thing to do with her mother is spending time with her mom at the mall. She loves getting her nails done with her mom! Morgan loves to goof around with her younger brother Jett Griffin. She also loves to go bowling with him. Morgan loves going swimming at Kings Pointe with her dad. Her dad is the one, the only; Tim Griffin!

Morgan's favorite fictional character is Sponge Bob so I asked her if she would rather bring him to our world or go to his world and why? She said "I would bring Sponge Bob to our world so we can hang out and chill at my house". If Morgan could have one magical power it would be invisibility. Don't ask me why; just go with it! Morgan enjoys hanging out with her best friends Taylor and Paige. As she says "Besties for the resties".

I hope you all enjoyed this glimpse of Morgan's life. This is Paige Eral signing off! Good Bye!

A LITTLE ABOUT MRS. VOYLES BY Sara Feeley

I interviewed Mrs. Voyles and learned a lot! Mrs. Voyles was a 2nd grade teacher before she came to AC-T and she lives on an acreage right outside of Sac City. She has pigs, a dog named Moose, and two kittens. In her family, she has a husband named Reggie, and two sons-William who is in Kindergarten and Landon who is in Preschool.

Unfortunately, her favorite team is... the Cyclones! Her birthday is on February 12th. How old do you think she is going to be?! Her #1 rule for students is to be kind and respectful and to have a lot of fun learning! Mrs. Voyles told me that she doesn't have a lot of hobbies, because she loves teaching and being a principal. She is doing a very good job at it too! Hanging out with kids cheers her up and her favorite quote is from the movie The Lorax. It says,

*"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot,
nothing is going to get better, it's not."*

I like that quote too!

DONATIONS AND/OR MITTENS FOR MITTEN TREE NEEDED

PLEASE!!! ~STUDENT COUNCIL

New 1st Grade Teacher by Larene Scruggs

I interviewed the new first grade teacher Ms. Steffensmeier. I asked her some questions. She's new to AC-T so not a lot of people know about her. She was born in the year of 1990 so she is 25 years old. She is the oldest of four girls. Ms. Steffensmeier's favorite colors are all of them because it reminds her of a rainbow. Her favorite food is pizza. Why? She doesn't know because it's just so good. Ms. Steffensmeier has a favorite book. It's called The Guardian by Nicholas Sparks. I asked what her parent's names are. She said their names are Pat and Peggy Steffensmeier. She has siblings and their names are Kelli, Beth, and Becka. When she was growing up she had a friend named Ally Den Boer. I asked what school she went to when she was my age. She went to Marquette Catholic. Welcome to AC-T Mrs. Steffensmeier!

Gabrielson Park Trip by Brooklyn Taylor

On Monday, Sept. 15, 2015 the fifth and sixth grades went to Gabrielson Park for a canoeing trip. We went by bus. People were getting caught in willow trees hanging over the lake and it was pretty funny. I had fun until we switched paddles and I got splashed in the face by the next person in line to paddle. I was soaked. Our instructor was Katie Struss. She was really nice. And we all appreciate her help and for letting us ride the canoes. It is a lovely place to go whether you're camping, having a picnic, or just running around. And another shout out to Judy, our bus driver! She was a big help! We couldn't have gone canoeing without her driving. 95% of my class said they had fun. The other 5% said they would rather have done things different but they still had some fun.



Homecoming Week by Ethan Schultz

Homecoming week was from the September 21st through the 25th. Monday we dressed up in our hurricane gear or colors. * Tuesday we dressed up as our favorite superhero or someone who is your hero. * Wednesday we wore our silly socks and silly hats. * Thursday we dressed in our class color. * Pre-Kindergarten - red * Kindergarten - yellow * 1st - orange * 2nd - pink * 3rd - blue * 4th - green * 5th - purple * 6th - black * Staff - rainbow * Friday was Rebel colors red and gray.

Here are some things kids liked about homecoming. Larene said she liked the pep rally because she liked the dancing. Sara said she liked what dances they picked. Toby liked everything that happened that week. Isaac said he liked playing songs with the High School Band. Brooklyn said she liked silly sock day. Morgan said she liked the super hero day. Paige liked getting to hang out with a friend at the homecoming game. Ethan said he liked the Maker Fair. Everybody is looking forward for next year's homecoming.

The Maker's Fair by Toby Kruse

The Maker Fair, which was an event we had done at our school for the past two years, was a huge hit this year (2015-2016) at AC-T. And it seems that the sixth grade's favorite was the sphero. If you didn't know what sphero is, it is a small robot that you can control from an iPad or other electronic devices that have the sphero app. For Sphero we had to build a chariot. Then pull it with the sphero. My personal favorite, was something we did, called cardboard creations. We



got to take cardboard and make whatever we wanted. I made a wingsuit. Others made a whole bunch of things including: a house, a dog, a chocolate factory, armor, and a Television set. There was also other activities, like, art, brain gym (I have absolutely no idea what a brain gym is), paper circuitry, marble run, photo walk, and many more. Any way it was a huge hit, and everyone had loads of great fun. And if you didn't know what paper circuitry was. It was something you got to make. It was a piece of paper you got to color or draw and then you had to put a circuit on the back so you could put one light any place you wanted. I did Thomas Edison with the perfect lightbulb. And the lightbulb was, well the lightbulb. That is the makers fair.



GRANDPARENTS DAY BY: MORGAN GRIFFIN

On Friday October 2nd the school had Grandparents Day. First we had a presentation to Leah Bean for winning the State Soil Conservation Poster Contest and to Mrs. Bean for being honored with the Soil Conservation Teacher of the Year Award. Congrats to both of them! They have made AC-T proud!

Then the Pre-K and Kindergarten sang "I'm a Little Grandchild' and "Grandma, Grandpa". Then Pre-K-Kindergarten sang "The Little Red Hen". 1st and 2nd said a poem and 3rd and 4th said 28 reasons why we love our grandparents. 3rd -6th sang two songs and then 5th and 6th said a couple poems. At the end they had a slide show. It was a lot of prep; but at the end it turned out pretty good.

Keep up with your AC-T school happenings! Listen to the KAYL (101.7FM) School Spotlight at 7:25 AM on the following dates: Nov. 4th, Dec. 2nd, Jan. 13th, Feb. 10th, March 9th, April 6th and May 4th!

KK1200E
10/2015



AC-T Hurricanes Apparel

Ordering Deadline: November 17, 2015

We have made every attempt to create flyers free from errors. However, we do reserve the right to correct pricing errors. Color choices may also vary when printed on paper compared to actual fabric.



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Short Sleeve Tee
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SKU: DT87
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BAW
Ladies Dry Tek L/S
\$19.00
SKU: DT87
SCR Design 544135



Baw
Men's Dry Tek L/S
\$19.00
SKU: DT86
SCR Design 544135



BAW
Youth Hood Sweatshirt
\$26.00
SKU: F150Y
SCR Design 544135



BAW
Hood Sweatshirt
\$29.00
SKU: F150
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