

COXSACKIE-ATHENS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
“Good News” - - - February 2010

High School

Two C-A student journalists were recently recognized by the American Society of Newspaper Editors (ASNE) with selection of their stories for publication in the highschooljournalism.org “National Edition.” The stories “The Physical Education Failure” by 10th grader Devin Wallace and “Gamescore; Video Game Reviews” by 9th grader Luke Randzaao were posted on the February 8th edition of the National Edition. Professional newspaper editors select stories from student newspapers across the nation for publication on this website.

Middle School

58 students tried out for the Spelling Bee. Congratulations to the winners:

- 1st Place – Alicia Decker
- 2nd Place – Chase Cross
- 3rd Place – Clarence Chan

On Saturday, January 16th, Cossackie-Athens Middle School participated in the Future Cities Competition. Representing C-A MS were:

Sarah Andrews, Alex Hanse, Benito Flores, Connor Allen, and Chase Cross

Thanks to the wonderful generosity of students, staff, parents and the C-A Rotary Club, \$800.00 was donated to Doctors Without Borders, for Haitian disaster relief. The donation was sent via credit card and is available for medical support for the people of Haiti affected by the devastating earthquake.

Anthony Patsky

During his last week of employment, Mr. Posillico offered his tie collection for a “Silent Auction” to raise funds for the local food pantry. Thanks to the generosity of the Middle School staff, \$171 was collected and donated.

Cossackie Elementary School

We had the 15th annual Spelling Bee in January at Cossackie Elementary. Declain McSherry was our first place winner, followed by Ciera McDonald and Nicole Weidel. Our third and fourth graders who were in the Bee, demonstrated a genuine interest and pride in being part of this special event.

We are pleased to announce that Jean Cardany, second grade teacher, submitted a grant to Greene County and was awarded \$300 for the grade level trip. The money was used to send two buses to the Schenectady Planetarium for this curriculum based trip. Both students and chaperones found it to be educational as well as enjoyable. Our thanks to Ms. Cardany for all her efforts and the writing of the grant.

Our First Graders had two spectacular performances for their play, entitled “Dot, the Penguin”. The costumes created by parent volunteers, enhanced the play.

The PTO held the special recognition of students who sold ten items or more recently. The two celebrations, one for K-1 and the other for 2-4 students, included an ice cream sundae and the opportunity for children to win special door prizes donated by the Fundraiser Company. Our PTO is very supportive to all of our activities and school events. We could not have some of these activities, were it not for their financial support.

The Fourth Grade classes each had a special classroom program provided by the Historical Enrichment Program of High Falls. This was one of three sessions that will be brought directly into the classrooms. This first program Document Detectives, prepares students for Document Based Instruction and Learning.

Our students received their second dosage of the H1N1 Vaccine. We are happy to say that our children and staff have for the most part been free of flue like symptoms since Christmas.

On Friday, the children enjoyed our annual “Pajama Day” and “Read to Your Bear Day.” It was a nice end of the week activity to a busy week!

The teachers-both classroom and AIS have met again with Rochelle Soloway to put the final touches on a revised Writing Plan for the elementary schools. In March, Rochelle will visit both buildings and model as well as debrief with grade level teachers after each classroom lesson.

Edward J. Arthur Elementary School

Spelling Bee – Third and Fourth grade students participated in the annual spelling bee. It was an exciting completion for those participating in the bee as well as audience members. This year’s winner is fourth grader Rita Luccio!

Duck and Cover Drill – Students and staff did a fantastic job during the Duck and Cover Drill.

Writing Initiative – First through Fourth grade teachers continued to work collaboratively with Coxsackie Elementary teacher implementing a writing program. All grade levels are piloting the writing initiative for the rest of the year into next.

PTO Dance – The PTO Dance for K-4 students was a success! Students enjoyed contemporary music as well as some “oldies”. It was a great opportunity for kids to socialize and be healthy at the same time!

Donors Choose – Lucille Mozzillo received funds in the amount of \$317.00. Mrs. Mozzillo created an account with an online service that helps teachers seek funds for classroom projects. Mrs. Mozzillo will use these funds for her music curriculum as well

as her before school Chime Choir – Congratulations!

UNICEF - In the fall many EJA students chose to participate in UNICEF's Trick-or-Treat fundraiser. With an overwhelming response, EJA well-exceeded last year's count of \$593.37 by collecting \$662.10! In the wake of Haiti's recent disaster every penny we collected IS making a difference! A special thank you to Miss Capeci's Second Grade class for leading the fund-drive.

Ground Hog Day at EJA – Students celebrated Ground Hog's day by predicting an early spring or winter. During Monday Morning Assembly Kindergarten students read poems about the groundhog and weather.

Children's Museum of Science – Second Grade students visited the museum. The trip ties into the second grade science curriculum maps and made a lasting impression on these youngsters.

Reading Contest – Students are in full throttle with the reading contest. Mrs. Mergendahl in conjunction with classroom teachers is preparing for PARP – Parent as Reading Partners and is actively seeking autographed children's books for the book auction in March.

President Day Presentation – Third Grade students presented "Presidential Facts" to the entire school during our Monday Morning Assembly.

Can Tabs for Shriners – EJA students have collected over 30 pounds of can tabs to benefit the Shriners of Catskill – Nice Work!