



## Amesbury Turns 350 *By Jackson D.*



Amesbury turned 350 years old in 2018. Early settlers came here from England and nearby coastal towns. Originally, this area was part of what was known as Salisbury. Amesbury was founded in 1668 after enough settlers had moved here to call it home. In 1640 settlers used the great power of the Powow River to build a sawmill. Later, grain mills, clothing mills and eventually carriage mills were built along the river. Amesbury was home to the first nail factory in the world and the famous poet, John Greenleaf Whittier. The early labor and education advocate, George McNeill, was also from Amesbury.

The milestone was celebrated all year long with parties and events: On January 9th Amesbury's 350th Anniversary kickoff was at Trina's Starlite Lounge where they had a live auction of Amesbury themed items. On March 4th the Chamber of Commerce ran a raffle by Discover Amesbury England! to win a trip to Amesbury, England. Many residents, including Rosie Warner were in Amesbury for the 300th anniversary and Amesbury 350 organizers Peter and Patty Hoyt wanted to make sure the 350th was celebrated with the same amount of events.

There have been many events all year to celebrate the 350 years. Some of the more popular events were held at local restaurants and breweries like cooking classes. Mass Memories Road Show came to Amesbury on April 21st to add details about Amesbury to their digital history project that documents people, places and events in Massachusetts's history through family photographs and stories. There were organized group efforts to cleanup the Riverwalk by the Coastal Trails Coalition. Local churches joined together at All Saints Cathedral downtown to sing hymns on May 6th.

May 27th was the official Birthday of Amesbury. Happy Birthday Amesbury!! Opening ceremonies started at 11am at City Hall. Invited guests and dignitaries include Paddy and Richard Allen from our sister city, Amesbury, England! The celebrations continued throughout the summer and included events like a block party, car show, Amesbury Days, walking tours and a music festival in the Pines. There were events and celebrations all year to celebrate Amesbury turning 350 years old with something for everyone to enjoy. I'm already looking forward to the Amesbury 400 celebration in 2068!

## **Topsfield Fair Field Trip** *By Zach G.*

On Thursday, October 4, the first grade went to the Topsfield Fair. Amesbury first graders have been going to the fair for the last seven



years. The trip funding is provided by the Larner Family Foundation because they wanted to do something for kids in agriculture in the town.



Mr. Helliessen prepares to lead the trip!

The first graders rode the bus to the fair, which they thought was very fun because it is a longer bus trip than they usually have. They were split into small groups with one adult and one to three students. The adults were told that the students could not ride any rides, play any games, or buy any food or souvenirs because it wouldn't be fair to anyone else. Unfortunately, some adults did not listen and bought their children stuff which other children thought was unfair.

When they got to the fair, the groups got to explore the fair on their own. Some groups stayed together to form a larger group with more adults and kids. They saw the chickens and got to hold a baby chick. They watched chicks hatch in incubators. They spotted the queen bee in the beekeeping building. They also saw rabbits, cows, and pigs. They got to pet a rabbit, too. They also saw the painted pumpkins and the winner of the biggest pumpkin contest. The pumpkin weighed over 2,000 pounds!

One of the highlights of the trip for some of the students were

the pig races. In the pig races the students yelled "sooie!" to have the pigs run to their places. All the pigs had fun names like Luke Skywalker, Darth Vader, and Princess Leia. Luke Skywalker won his race! There were about six races all together. Some kids were chosen as cheerleaders for the pigs and won Oreos and a pig nose. Sadly, no one on the field trip won.

At lunchtime the students gathered together at picnic tables to eat the lunches that they brought with them. After lunch, they played tag while waiting for everyone in their groups to finish. They finished exploring the fair and then it was time to get back on the buses. When they got back to school they went to their classrooms and colored a coloring page before it was time for dismissal. Overall, the first graders loved the field trip and will remember it for a long time.

## Newspaper Club

*By Sofia L*



The AES Newspaper Club is built out of 3rd and 4th graders this year. Last year it was just built of 4th graders although one 2nd grader and two 3rd graders attended. There are 18 kids who are writing articles for the Newspaper Club. Our newspaper kids are Abby, Adele, Samantha, Cambria, Collin,



Jackson, Jessica, Josiah, Lila, Lucas, Marguerite, Mary, Nicky, Noah, Sarah, myself, Sofia and Zach. We also have our student editor, Natalee, to help us with our stories and parents to help edit inside of school. We have many exciting things planned for the newspaper! Our stories will be published online as well as printed. The biggest event that we have to prepare for is the news show that we will be creating that will be shown on cable TV.

Our stories are going all around the world for everyone to see. Each member of the Newspaper Club is writing about a difference subject. Some of the topics are subjects or events that are happening in our school. Other team members are writing about events and interesting subjects within our community. The great thing is that everyone will have something different to share. Some of the kids are going to interview some important people within the community. One of our newspaper students interviewed our new Superintendent, and one spoke with our Principal, Mr. Hellison. This year he will be retiring from our school and another person will be taking his place when he retires. Another student wrote about the Ice Cream Social at Cashman Elementary school. Her mom was the one who organized the Ice Cream Social along with some help from the PTO.

It takes about two to three months to write an article for Newspaper Club. We started by choosing a topic to write about, then

we met with Mr. McBrien to go over the rubric that we'll be following as we write our articles. We are able to share our stories on Google Drive so that our classmates and parents can read our articles and give us their opinions. We spend a lot of time putting together questions and ideas before our final article is published. In the Newspaper Club we are all working hard, and having a lot of fun.

## Interview with Mr. Fulgoni

*By Noah M*



This fall, Amesbury got a new Superintendent. My mom knew him because she used to work at the same school as he did. My whole family actually knows him, but he only knew me as a baby. When I joined Newspaper Club, my mom suggested that I could interview him, so I did. I live near the High School, so it was not far to drive but when I went to the High School I discovered that it was big. We had to go down a couple of really long hallways to a very nice lady with candy. Her name was Carol, and she took me to the Superintendent.

For my first question, I asked him if he had ever wanted to be a superintendent, and he surprised me by saying no, but he likes it here Amesbury because the Haverhill schools were big and had a lot more people but this District is smaller so



you get to know more people. He said he enjoyed all of his jobs leading up to being superintendent, but does not like paperwork. The job comes with hard decisions, like having to figure out when to cancel school or call a delay. Then he said to me, "I do not know a kid who wants to be a superintendent, do you?" I answered no. "I did not always want to be a superintendent," he said. "I always like working in school and working as the principal with people like your mom."

Next, I asked him what he did outside his office, and he said "I enjoy helping people like doing things like fun runs and raising money for schools". I was also interested if he had any hobbies, and he told me "I like playing outside because it is hard for me to sit still. I enjoy skiing, tennis, sailing, golf and watching Michigan football."

For my last question I asked him what his thoughts and plans were for the Amesbury Schools, and he told me that he wants to replace the current Amesbury Elementary School with a new, nicer one. I hope he can do that, even though it will happen after I leave. I really enjoyed talking with our new superintendent, Mr. Fulgoni.

## Ice Cream is Awesome

*By Lucas K*

Mostly everybody loves ice cream, right? A lot of people like different flavors. We will be asking kids in the school what flavor they like the most. It helps you in summer and cools you down. In

scorched weather ice cream helps the most or when you just did a sport in hot weather. I am doing this report because a lot of people like ice cream and I like ice cream. It is an exotic desert.



Ice cream is sweetened frozen food/desert. It is eaten as a snack or desert. The main ingredients are milk, cream and sugar. Ice cream can be served in a dish with a spoon or it can be in a cone. For centuries frozen foods were luxuries. Roman emperor Nero is said to have sent slaves into the mountains to fetch snow to mix with nectar, fruit pulp and honey although this widely-told tale may be a myth. In 1813 President Madison's wife, Dolley, served a magnificent strawberry ice cream creation at President Madison's second inaugural banquet at the White House in Washington D.C.



In Amesbury we had an ice house. An ice house is where they kept and preserved ice for use in the summer, which they do by putting hay on the ice. The ice house in Amesbury was on Lake Gardener.





When the lake was cold the icemen came out with huge ice saws and cut the ice in squares that they brought back to the house.

I wondered what the kids in our school liked for ice cream, so I asked 50 kids and 22 liked vanilla and 28 liked chocolate. I was surprised how many people liked chocolate. Do you like chocolate and vanilla I do !!!

## Ice Cream Social

*By Abby L*



The PTO had an Ice Cream Social this fall, and there were many different kinds of ice cream like sherbert, chocolate and vanilla. There were also a lot of great toppings. My mom, Michelle Lamott is the person who ran the ice cream social. There were a lot of people there, and the DJ rocked it. There was no outside time - we could only play inside.

A lot of people were scooping the ice cream, like the Mayor. There were no special guests, but the scoopers were local celebrities, like our city counselors, the Mayor, the Superintendent and many teachers. Mrs. Lamott said the set-up was very easy, but that is probably because she has done it before. She had to call and order the ice cream, book the DJ and get space in the school. The Ice Cream Social took place at

Cashman, and went from 6pm to 8pm. They didn't hold it to raise money. It's just a fun event for kids and families to come hang out and dance, and also to eat yummy ice cream. There were about 200 people who came. I think everyone had fun.

The ice cream social was magnificent. It was super busy there, with many families who were new to town. You don't have to go to that school to go to it. The DJ did a limbo pole drop game that's when you drop a pole and try to catch it before it touches the ground. Sophie Wagner won the Starburst because she was the closest but there were 328 of them. There was a twist contest and I won that because I am a good twister. I won a black hat sunglasses and a medal, and I can't wait for next year!

## AES Puts the "Fun" in Fundraising: Fun Run 2018

*By Noah M*



At our school, we have an AMAZING PTO, or Parent Teacher Association. Each year they raise funds to help pay for programming, field trips and teacher supplies. Last year we started working with a group that sets up a "Fun Run" Boosterthon for us as a fundraiser. This year the



fun run theme was called “Mind Spark”. “Mind Spark” was story about a group of kids and one adult that solve problems around the world. Our challenge began in early September, and the way it worked was each day we would collect pledges from family and friends for ever lap that we would do out on our field. Every day we would watch a fun video they sent us about topics like citizenship, zest, growth, integrity, teamwork and other related things. This year the Amesbury Elementary School (AES) Fun Run started with an awesome pep rally led by Pac Man Patrick instead of Jetpack Jamie, who led it for us last year.

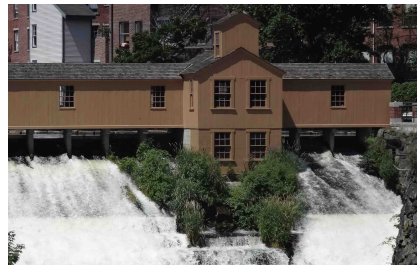
On the first day everyone received a package of tokens, and the team in the videos thought that these are clues to the villain's identity, but at the end of the last video he said “They may have figured out all of my five mysteries, but they will never figure out who I really am.” We were all on the edge of our seats waiting to figure out the end of the mystery. It turned out to be someone who tried to join the team but did not make it, so he was mad.

During the week of the Boosterthon, Jessica Silva, threw a cream pie at Pac Man Patrick in the face because she raised the most one day. She really got him good! The mission for AES was to raise \$15,000. Students ran up to 35 laps on Friday, September 14th. Lots of people ran about 35 laps and since AES did reach their goal our reward was for Mr. Helliesen to get covered

in slime. Three retiring teachers, Ms. Berry, Ms. Dower, and Ms. Zappalla poured a bucket of gooey red slime over him! It was really fun to watch! I’m already excited for next year’s boosterthon! Thank you, PTO!

## Lowell Mills

by Lucas K



This fall, the fourth grade classes at AES went to Lowell National Historical Park. The Mill was named after Francis Cabot Lowell. He introduced a manufacturing system known as the Waltham-Lowell System. Lowell Mills is a very unique place, because the Lowell System was a labor production model. The Lowell System was first used in the Waltham and Lowell textile mills during the Industrial Revolution. There were many different groups of kids that went on field trips to Lowell. For example the engineers or workers built and experimented on a water way!!!

In historical Lowell, the working conditions were bad during the Industrial Revolution. As factories were being built, businesses were in need of workers. With a long line of people willing to work employers could set wages as low as they wanted because people were willing to do work as long as they got paid, even if the conditions



were bad. Lowell's Mill Girls became fairly famous because they worked so hard, but most girls are unknown. Based on the visits, Thursday is the most popular day for tours or just regular visits.

At Lowell Mills the fourth grade classes rode a trolley to get from mill to mill. A trolley is an open train car that carries people along tracks in the street. The staff and tour guide talked about water power, which is how the mills worked, using the flow of the powerful Merrimac river. People also learned about gears, pulleys, and cams that could change the position of a rod or staff in the machinery of the mills. They saw people using teamwork to make cloth. They saw a room full of sewing machines which they ran for us. It was very loud. Lowell Mills is a very unique and interesting place.

## The Green Team

Colin C



Being part of the Green Team and collecting the recycling is a really cool thing to be doing, but it can be dirty and really smelly.

In our school, Mr. Dave collects our recycling and puts it all in a special dumpster by the playground. All of the recycling then goes to a recycling plant where they turn recycling into new things like Legos. At the plant there are digging

vehicles that move the recycling and giant presses that crush the recycling into giant cubes. Some of the things that get recycled are paper, cans, glass, and bottles. There are some small blue recycling bins in all of our classrooms at the school. In our bin, we only allow paper. I learned that there are recycling dumps all over the world and that there is a difference between what a recycling truck collects and a garbage truck takes as trash. The recycling truck has levers that are on the back of the truck that compacts the recycling into the truck when the handle is pulled. If there weren't any people that took out the recycling and trash our world would be polluted even worse. I am glad that there are many people that clean up the recycling, helping us to make less trash. I hope you had fun learning about the GREEN TEAM.

## 1st Day of School

By Josiah F



The first day of school is a very exciting day for students at Amesbury Elementary School. Students meet their classmates and get to know the teachers. On the first day of school, children become familiar with the weekly program.

Some children love school because they have the opportunity to see their friends and spend time with



them at recess or lunch. Other people like to get away from annoying siblings. I like school for both reasons, getting away from my boring little brothers and seeing my friends after a whole summer.

Levi Fugate, a 2nd grade student at Amesbury Elementary School, loves school for many reasons. "I like playing at recess with my friends," says Levi. At school we learn history, math, science and other things that will help us find a job. Sometimes the school can be fun, like during recess or lunch outings. Sometimes we do things I do not like as much, such as writing or doing paragraphs.

When I arrived at school, my friends and I made crosswords with everyone's names. Our new teacher, Mrs. Chabot, said she spent a few hours making crossword puzzles for all of us. When we did it we got a chance to learn each other's names and how to spell them and who we would be in class with for the rest of the long school year. At recess we did all the things we had done last year before the end of the school year. I played tag or Infection with a big group of friends from last year. By the end of recess I knew it was going to be a good school year!

## Mexico

*By Zach G*

This year, all of the fourth grade teachers at AES swapped classrooms to teach about Mexico. This was helpful because students can learn from other teachers, which will help them when they go to fifth

grade at the Middle School. The fourth grade students learn by filling out a timeline. The timeline is about Mexican tribes that have lived in Mexico. The tribes they learned about so far are called the Olmec, the Mayans, and the Aztecs. Each tribe existed at different times which they showed on the timeline. They also included a picture of each tribe's art and a descriptive bullet list of what each tribe did. Some of the things they have learned are that the Aztecs were corn farmers, warriors, and temple builders who built their capital in the city of Tenochtitlan. The Mayans lasted much longer than the Olmecs. The Olmecs did not build large cities but the Mayans and Aztecs did. The Olmecs were in BC and the Mayans and Aztecs were in AD. The Aztecs were conquered by the Spanish, and the Olmecs and Mayans slowly disappeared.

The teachers also showed the classes some fun videos about Mexico starring the characters Tim and Moby. Moby is a robot and Tim is a boy. The videos were educational but made learning about Mexico fun and exciting. They really kept the student's attention.



Día De Los Muertos, or the Day of the Dead began on October 31 and ended on November 2. It is a Mexican holiday celebrated in most of Mexico and by many people in other parts of the world. Family and friends get together to pray for and





remember friends and family who have died. In Spanish it is called Dia de los Muertos. People visit the graves of the dead family and friends and leave gifts for them. On Day of the Dead the fourth graders filled out a packet about the holiday to help them learn about it. The packet included information about Day of the Dead, a word search featuring words like "Day of the Dead," altar, calavera, happiness, ofrenda, November, and sugar skull and a coloring page featuring a piece of art called "Catrina" by Guadalupe Posada. The students will continue to learn about Mexico in this way off and on through the rest of the year.

## Summer Reading

*By Natalee P*



The Amesbury Public Library sponsored the Summer Reading Program for all Amesbury Public School students, who currently are in grades K-8. I had the pleasure of interviewing Claire Dombrowski, who is the Head of the Children's Department at The Amesbury Public Library. I chose her because she works really hard to make the Summer Reading Program fun for all the children of Amesbury.

On a random summer day, I was walking with my grandmother and decided to see if she was available to speak with. Mrs. Dombrowski agreed to speak with

me. "Do you think summer reading is important?" I asked. "Yes, I know it is important. Studies show you lose skills if you stop using them." She answered. "What skills do children improve on during summer reading?" I asked. She replied, "They improve reading and comprehension skills. Kids should read at least 15 to 30 minutes every day, more is always better."

Every summer, the library has shelves of books that are designated for each grade level. I was curious to know if a child could choose to read a book that was a higher reading level than their peers. When I asked her the question, her answer was, "We encourage reading at the student's grade level, but if the student wants to try a higher reading level... that's great, JUST READ!"

I asked, "Do you think rewards, like beads or rock decorating, will make kids want to read more? Or, do you think those rewards are more to motivate younger children or older children?" "That depends on the kid," she said. "Whose came up with the idea to use the rocks and the beads as a motivator?" I asked. "My assistant, Nicole and I, came up with the idea. We thought it would be a fun way to combine some math into the reading." She replied. "Do you think you will continue with the beads?" I asked. "Yes," she said, "We had a good response, with more than 500 kids involved this summer." "Can you give me a hint of what the theme will be next year?" I asked. She said, "Yes, the theme will be Outer Space; A Universe of Stories is the name."



The interview came to an end and I thanked her for her time.

My hope is that everyone can take some time and check out what new and exciting things Mrs. Dombrowski has going on at The Amesbury Public Library. Just remember, Mrs. Dombrowski and the library are always open to new ideas.

## **My Great Little Brother**

*By Sarah D*

Calvin Davis is five years old and just started Kindergarten here at AES this year. He is also my brother. We have a sister at AES but Calvin is the youngest of our family of five. We've lived in Amesbury, MA our whole lives. Cal loves to eat watermelon, pasta, oranges, pickles and lots of sugar. He also likes picking flowers for people especially his Meme, Mimi and Mom. We have a very big family with dozens of aunts and uncles! Calvin is very lucky because he has a great Glam Pepe. Most kids do not have a great Glam Pepe.

Calvin has been coming to school with me and my mom for many years and was super excited to find out that his teacher would be Mrs. Naughton. It was really a coincidence because I had Mrs. Naughton for my Kindergarten teacher too! Mrs. Naughton started teaching after she graduated college in 1991. The biggest class she has taught had 22 students. This year Mrs. Naughton has 16 students in her Kindergarten class. She is usually here around 7:30 in the morning. Their schedule for the day

starts with math centers then a greeting, a morning message and then Foundations. They finish the day with a snack, a story and then a math job before they go home. Miss Naughton loves teaching!!!!

Mrs. Naughton and Calvin are a great team. She teaches him math and letters but also keeps it fun. Cal really loves coming to school. He's learning and having fun at the same time. I hope Cal enjoys every year as much as I have.

## **Nurse Kristen**

*By Lila K*



Nurse Kristen Lynch has impacted almost every child's life at AES. She has helped me many times over the past 3.5 year. For example on my first day of kindergarten I fell off of the purple swinging bar at recess and fell on my face. I had a wood chip stuck in my cheek, so Nurse Kristen cleaned it out and applied a steri strip and called my mom to tell her what had happened.

I interviewed Nurse Kristen to find out more about her job and why she became a nurse. Before she became a nurse, Nurse Kristen went to Art School and had to make a decision about her future. She decided she wanted to follow in her sister's footsteps and become a nurse and have more opportunities in the future. She went to Walden University and received her Bachelor's degree. She has been a nurse for 24 years.

Her daily routine includes getting to school early (because



nurses like to be early!) She has to document on every child that walks through the door. Her job is to help kids that get hurt on the playground or in gym class, and kids that aren't feeling well. She checks their symptoms to see if they can stay in school or if they need to go home. She wants to keep kids in school whenever possible. Nurse Kristen keeps track of every child's immunization record and also knows which children have allergies. She also gives out medications that are needed during the day.

I want to say thank you to Nurse Kristen on behalf of all the students at AES. We count on her every day. She is always there with a smile and willing to listen and ask important questions to help us feel better. Thank you Nurse Kristen =)

## Sunbutter in School

By Sofia L



In school some students in all grades have food allergies such as peanuts and other sorts. Kids are still allowed to sit with their friends, but they have to be careful with food. Kids carry around a red bag with an Epi-Pen in the bag in case of emergency. There are about 1-2 kids in each class with allergies or some classes don't have anyone with allergies. To be extra careful we have a peanut-free table in school. There are four classes in the

lunchroom at a time. There is one peanut-free table for each class. Kids with peanut allergies can sit there at the peanut-free table, but they also get to socialize with other friends, too. When students are told they have to sit at the peanut table they are sad they can't sit with friends, but they get to sit with other friends too.

An alternative for peanut butter is sunbutter. Peanut butter is made of peanuts, but sunbutter is made of US grown sunflower seeds. To have sunbutter in school leaves students the option for lunch or to bring their own lunch to school. If cookies are made with peanuts then students can have sunbutter cookies. To make sunbutter cookies you need one cup of sunbutter, one cup of sugar, plus more for rolling the cookies, one large egg, one teaspoon of baking powder, one teaspoon of pure vanilla extract, one fourth teaspoon of fresh lemon juice, and twenty four chocolate kisses candies (make sure they are gluten free).

To make sunbutter cookies first heat the oven to 350 degrees F. Line two baking sheets with parchment paper or silicone baking mats. Keep them set aside. Then combine the sunbutter, one cup of sugar, egg, baking powder, vanilla, and lemon juice in a mixing bowl and stir until well blended. Roll tablespoons into balls, roll in the sugar, and place on the prepared baking sheets 2 inches apart. Bake for 11 to 12 minutes. Let them cool for 2 minutes then press a chocolate chip into the center of each cookie,



pressing down slightly. Let cool for 10 more minutes. Then they can be eaten warm, right away, or saved for later. Store in an airtight container. Then enjoy.

## The Golden Sneaker Challenge

*Samantha E*



In this article I am going to tell you about the “Golden Sneaker Challenge” and here is what I learned. Ms. Welch, our gym teacher, is the one who runs the Golden Sneaker Challenge, so I went to her to talk about it. We met in the gym after lunch one day and I asked her to tell me about it. “Well, I’m glad you asked what the Golden Sneaker Challenge is,” she said. “It is a contest between all the classrooms in the school to see which class can wear sneakers to gym, 25 times.”

“Why are you doing this?” I asked.

“Well, we do the Golden Sneaker Challenge because we try to help kids remember to wear sneakers to gym class because it’s good for their body and to be more safe,” she answered.

Then I asked “The Golden Sneaker Challenge is located in the gym, but where did it all start? Did it start in the gym or somewhere else?”

“It is actually located in the gym and always has been,” she replied. I was curious about when

this all began, and she said, “It started in 2002-2003 and the kids weren’t wearing sneakers to gym class, so then an idea came into my head and that’s when I started the Golden Sneaker Challenge.”

“And... how does the Golden Sneaker Challenge work,” I wondered?

“The Golden Sneaker Challenge works like this..the whole class wears sneakers to gym and they earn one star. The first class to get 25 stars wins.”

“I thought you win the golden sneakers!” I exclaimed.

“Well, you’re sure wrong about that one,” she said, “You win free time in the gym that week and then I will buy little prizes. An example is like an eraser.”

“I see,” I replied, “How do you feel about the Golden Sneaker Challenge and how do you think the kids feel?”

“The kids are sad that they didn’t get a star and the class will get mad,” she said, “but I think it’s a great idea.”

I can’t wait to see who wins.

## Dinos and Me

*Evelyn H*



Hi my name is Evelyn and I like dinosaurs. My favorite dinosaur is Austifricosaurus. It ate meat which means that it was a carnivore.





Dinosaurs that ate plants are called herbivores.

Dinosaurs lived 65 million years ago. The Brachiosaur grew as tall as a ten-story building. They were so heavy that they spent much of their time in the water, which put less strain on their legs. The huge and powerful jaws of the allosauruses made them fierce hunters. The animals they hunted had some defenses, though. Some animals were speedy, like the dryosaurus. Others, like kentosauruses had armor plates along their backs and spikes on their tails. Troodon was the smartest dinosaur. It hunted in packs and its sharp claws helped Troodon hunt bigger dinosaurs.

Spinosaurus is my second favorite dinosaur because it lived in water! But it still walked on land. It lived one hundred million years ago and is named after its seven foot spines. Spinosaurus' family name is Spinosauridae.

Did you know that there are 1,000 kinds of dinosaurs? But I'm not going to tell you all of them. Another cool dinosaur is Stygimoloch. Stygimoloch wouldn't eat you, but that doesn't mean Stygimoloch couldn't knock you across a very large room with a solid head-butt. This mostly gentle plant-eater had a thick, bony dome on top of Stiggy's head. Stiggy liked to ram it's tough skull into enemies, knocking them down and severely injuring them. Stygimoloch also had spikes on the back of its head that protected it from rear attacks and significantly

increased the damage it could inflict. Luckily, Stygimoloch teeth were tiny.

DO'S and DON'TS for a dinosaur encounter:

- \* Do climb to escape.
- \* Do be on your toes and get ready to dodge.
- \* Don't ever whistle at them-- they hate that!

If you watched Jurassic World: The Fallen Kingdom, you know the Indoraptor, and if you think it's creepy well did you know Indoraptor's distinctive features are unknown? The Indoraptor was 14 feet and it's weight was 2,200 pounds. Indoraptor had the intelligence of a raptor, enhanced tracking ability, and a heightened sense of smell. She also had night vision! Her skills were slashing claws and ripping teeth. She had incredible speed too. I'm going to stop talking about her now because this is just getting creepy.

And if you know the Indoraptor you know the Indominus Rex. Her name meaning is "indomitable king" and I think that's a awesome name! Her length was 50 feet and her weight was 16,000 pounds! But the T. Rex's weight was 18,500 pounds, which is a lot!

Indominus Rex's distinctive features were white coloration and hollows on her snout in front of her eyes. She also had spines on the back of her head. Her dangerous features were she had a huge mouth full of razor-sharp teeth and long talons. Her skills were her sense of thermal radiation. She can also camouflage--she hides by changing her heat signature. She was highly



intelligent she had a unprecedented sense of smell. If you saw Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom you saw the carnataurus trying to eat Owen when Clair and Franklin were in the gyrosphere when the volcano was exploding. Here are some facts about carnataurus. Carnataurus length is 34 feet her weight is 4,800 pounds. But don't forget the claws on her feet! Wait one thing before you go you have to know the dos and don'ts! If dinosaurs take over the earth you want to know these so here are 3 DOS and DON'TS. DO watch out for her claws, DO try to position large objects between you and her, DON'T try to knock her out because her head is armored that will just make her mad! Well thanks for reading I hope you enjoyed it!! One more thing; if Jurassic World opens NEVER go because if you saw Jurassic World the first one you saw the indominus rex escape! Now it's the end so thank you for reading!

## Mr. McBrien's Extra Credit

*By Kenzie C*



Mr. McBrien is our technology teacher at Amesbury Elementary School. He has been teaching for 22 years. About twenty years ago Mr. McBrien started a chess club and it is still happening here at AES each

winter. Another thing he does is run after school programs for the PTO. The clubs are Lego Robotics, Stop-Motion Animation, and Photography. He works all through the year giving information about computers and technology. He also gathers news and shares it with local newspapers and through our newspaper club! Mr. McBrien likes to take pictures of animals for all the classes to look at and enjoy as well as photos of activities happening around the school. The pictures are all around the technology room. Lots of AES students think that Mr. McBrien is a great teacher!

Mr. McBrien is also the audio visual person for our school, and sets up all of the assemblies for the school with his Tech Helpers. Together, they run the camera, microphones, the projector and the computer. He is a very funny teacher, because he can make his voice echo and in every class everyone laughs! He has told the third grade that they will learn how to can make the echo sound in fourth grade. He also videotapes all the plays like the GingerBread Kid that the first graders performed. Mr. McBrien has lots of dictionaries on a shelf in the technology room for students. A fun thing he says is "Here is Mr. Dictionary! They are easy to use, do not need batteries and have hundreds of words for us to use"! The technology room is in the condos, and lots of AES students really like going there. He grew up in the White Mountains and likes to take nature walks for fun. He likes to travel and adventure like once he



went on a biplane in North Conway and rode in a tiny rubber boat with whales! Most of all he likes it right here in Amesbury though and his favorite holiday is Amesbury Days. That is all about Mr. McBrien!

## **Cider Hill** *By Collin C*



Cider Hill is a farm that is on Fern Avenue off of Main Street. On Halloween Cider Hill, has a corn maze and lots of other fun things like hayrides planned for a fun day. Pumpkins, gourds and apples are there as well. I like Cider Hill because of the donuts. Cider Hill donuts cost less than \$1 per donut. Cider Hill also has rainbow M&M cookies. The first graders all went on a field trip to cider hill this fall and they had lots of fun! The farm is open for three seasons; spring, summer and fall, and in every season there are different vegetables, fruits and berries. At Cider Hill there are Tractors that carry supplies and people. There are lots of people that help out on the farm. All of those people that help they all have different jobs. Some people sell and some help people that would like to buy something. Every year they have lots of pumpkins before Thanksgiving, and

Christmas trees in December. They also have Animals to see, like chickens and goats. There are hay bales to sit on, wagons to pull and there are tricycles for little kids to ride. Cider Hill also has a greenhouse, and in the greenhouse they have a lot of plants and flowers. The greenhouse lets them grow plants when it is early in the season and the ground outside is too cold. They also have huge balls of flowers that hang, and they are really beautiful.

Inside is where you have to go to buy whatever you pick, and they also have shelves of things to buy, like candies, maple candies, sugar candies, cookies, cinnamon, buns, muffins and even pumpkin pies. They also have honey and you can even see the bees! At Cider Hill the people who handle the bees have special suits that protect them from the bees when they collect honey. They have a special case where you can see the bees at work. There is a sign that says "Find the queen bee! She is the one with the blue spot on her!" I really enjoy visiting Cider Hill and I hope you had fun learning about it!

## **Kindergarteners for the first time** *Marguerite P and Jessica S*

Kindergarten is a very important grade...some would say the most important. Why? Because so much is taught about how to be in school, how to work together and how to learn. I wanted to find out more, so I interviewed Mrs. Curry. First, I asked her if the kindergarteners in her class were



helpful, and she told me that they are very helpful, and that they are doing well learning the routine. "My kindergarteners are all learning how to be helpful to one another and are learning how to clean up after they have played with something. They are also learning about how to take care of their classroom."



"Are you excited to see them grow through the year?" I asked. I am very excited to see, and for them to see, how they grow through the year because they grow so much." Then she looked at me and said, "I don't know if you girls remember being in kindergarteners yourselves but you start the year off learning your letters and by the end of the year your sounding out words and sight words. These children will be doing addition and counting to a hundred before they know it, so I am very excited to see them grow."

After she said that, I thought about one of the most difficult things was for some kindergarteners, so I asked her if she thought that the kindergarteners were good listeners? "I think so," she said. "We are working on being good listeners on the rug when Mrs. Curry's giving instructions for a lesson. How to be whole body listening and looking at the teacher. Sitting with our hands in our lap. Sometimes we do activities

to learn how to be patient. We have a little pretend candle that changes color. They get to hold the candle and when it changes color they name it and pass it on. So it's learning to be quiet in a way and being able to move on."

Another question I asked was, will they have fun learning and doing activities in the classroom? Mrs. Curry said, "I think so because many of our activities, we try to make them meaningful to the children and try to build some art into them. So they would be hands on. For example we are starting to learn about apples. Yesterday we read a nonfiction story about the life cycle of apples. We talked about the apple tree in spring and the pink blossoms and how the apples grow. Along our art easel we give pink paint and red paint. They paint different phases of the apple tree. They get to go over and stand up and paint. So, we like to make the activities fun."

A nice question I asked was why do you like teaching kindergarteners? "I love working with children and I think all of those questions are why I like working with children," she said, "I love the curious children I have and the level of experience they have, and the joy they bring. I think that is why I like working with kindergarteners."

A very interesting question I asked Mrs. Curry was, what she did before teaching? Mrs. Curry said, "Well, I babysat your mom!" (laughing) She actually did babysit my mom! "I have been teaching a long long time, I have been teaching for over twenty years!"



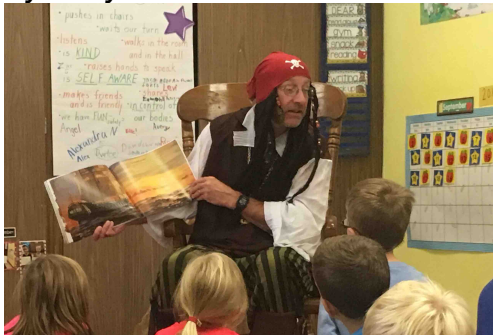


she said. "So before teaching I was at school to be a teacher and going to college and waitressing," she added. "That is what I did before teaching, and I did a whole lot of babysitting too. From when I was thirteen years old to eighteen years old I babysat."

The final question I asked her was, how long had she been teaching, and Mrs. Curry said, "I actually think this is my, twenty fifth year teaching!" Oh wow. I said. "I know, right?" Mrs. Curry said back. "Also to think I was babysitting your mom, she was just a little girl back then and now she is all grown up, so that is pretty cool." Then I said thank you for doing an interview with me.

## Mr. Helliesen is Retiring

By Mary R and Natalee P



Mr. Helliesen, the AES Principal is retiring on June 30th 2019 and is planning on substitute teaching, so we asked him some questions. "Have you always been here at AES?" we asked. "No." He said. "I was an Assistant Principal at one school and I was a teacher at two different schools." For our next question, we asked him, "How many years have you been our Principal?" "I have been the Principal for 13

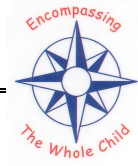
years," he answered! He is leaving because he wants to spend time with his family. "What do you look forward to doing the most?" we wondered, and he said "I look forward to being more spontaneous." He told us that his favorite part about teaching was when he saw kids "getting it", so we asked him if he could give us an example; "When we were working on something new, kids would struggle on the problem and then they say, *Oh I Get It.*" He told us. Next, we asked him if he had about a memorable moment in his career, and he said without hesitating, "getting slimed and getting pied during our fun runs!"

The next thing we wondered was what the most challenging thing that he could recall. He took a deep breath, and in a low voice said "9/11. I think it was a challenging time for most Americans." Ok", I said, "What was a funny moment that you can tell us about?" He smiled and said it was when a second grade boy compared his head to a kiwi! Next, I asked him if he knew who our next Principal would be, and he said he did not, but that the process had already started. Some people apparently have already applied, so we will see what happens next! When I asked Mr. Helliesen what he might miss the most, to which he said "I read Pirate stories to classrooms, beginning back in 2008. I started that because I had heard that it was *Talk like a Pirate Day*. We had lots of fun because I wore a pirate costume for the day!" We really like Mr. Helliesen and will miss him after he retires.

# The AES

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# Explorer

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