



## Friday Letter

November 3, 2006

Dear Parents and Members of the ACCS Community,

It is my pleasure to introduce to you Ms. Destini Deere. Ms Destini is the teacher assistant in Ms. Kerry's first grade. She joined the faculty this year and comes to us with experience working with children at the Rensselaer Samaritan Day Care, St. Jude's School in Wynantskill, Helping Hands and Unity Sunshine Program. Ms. Destini earned an Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Education from Hudson Valley Community College.



Ms. Destini is a strong role model in the classroom and a valuable member of the first grade team. Ms. Destini, we are so happy to have you with us. Next week I will introduce you to Ms. Shelley Emmons, second grade teacher.

This week I would like to tell you about a new program that we are beginning throughout the school. I am challenging all of our staff and students (and myself) to read the 500 books we have in our **1000 Book Project**. The school is working on purchasing the other 500 books within the year. We have raised over \$10,000 in grants for this project already. When a student or staff reaches the first 50 books, that person will be awarded a reading cap (baseball cap) at an assembly. For every 50 books read after that, the person will receive a pin for the cap.

Special thanks goes to Kim Baker, Sage Professor, and Frank Hodge, owner of Hodge Podge Books in Albany. Kim and Frank put together one of the finest collections of children's books for us. **HAPPY READING!**

*Mary Theresa*

Mary Theresa Streck, Principal

LUNCH MENU for week of Nov 5-9				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Ham & Cheese Sandwiches Veggies & Dip Fresh Fruit Milk	Baked Ziti Tossed Salad Broccoli Fresh Fruit Milk	Pancakes & Syrup Oranges Bacon & Sausage Cheese Stix Milk	Lunchables (Meat, Cheese, & Crackers) Macaroni Salad Fresh Fruit Milk & Cookies	NO SCHOOL



## ACCS WELCOMES NURSE MONICA SCATTAREGGIA

After months of waiting for a new school nurse, Ms. Monica finally arrived at ACCS. We are so happy to welcome such a kind and skilled person.

Ms. Monica was born in Brooklyn, NY and moved upstate when she was in eighth grade. She has been living in the Troy area from more than 20 years. Ms. Monica graduated from Catholic Central High School and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing from Russell Sage College.

Ms. Monica comes with a great deal of nursing experience. She worked in pediatrics at Albany Medical Center and at New York Cornell Medical Center. Most recently she worked as a charge nurse and supervisor in area nursing homes and rehabilitation centers.

Welcome Ms. Monica. We are so happy to have you with us.

## A Trip to Proctor's Theater

On Wednesday, October 25, students from the fourth, fifth, and sixth grades went to a special children's concert at Proctor's Theater in Schenectady. The students are all a part of ACCS's first band program and were taking the trip to hear what older children sound like on their instruments.

Accompanying the children were Ms. Jacqui and Ms. Diane, their music teachers, and Mr. Bernd and Mr. Seymour, the 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher and teaching assistant.

The group performing was the Empire State Youth Orchestra; they are a local orchestra made up of high school students from all over the capital region and nearby states. These students audition every year to be a part of the group and have played many places locally and nationally. The concert was narrated by CBS6's Liz Bishop and parts of it aired on the news later that night.



## Emma Willard Students Bring Theater to 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Graders

Each week at ACCS, a group of girls from Emma Willard School, a local private girls high school, come to work with our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders on various acting ideas. The program began this year for the first time in both grades' music classes. Under the supervision of Mr. Kevin Bradley, the drama instructor at Emma Willard, the high school girls lead the classes through various theater activities to help them open up, express, and ultimately write their own plays. The program will be happening each week for the rest of the year.

## Parent and Teachers Together (PATT) Meeting Takes Place

At the first official meeting of PATT this year, parents and teachers discussed results from the survey taken at the Back to School Night and made plans for future events. Look for upcoming information about a family Reading Night and for times for upcoming meetings as well. It is the group's hope to have many parents involved so that the school can continue to grow and change and make a difference in our children's lives. To speak directly to this year's parent coordinators, call the office to contact **Latasha Gardner** and **Monica Bridges**.

## 4th Grade Family Math Night a Huge Success!

Wednesday October 25<sup>th</sup> was a special night for the fourth grade students and their parents. They participated in the first Family Math Night of the year together. More than half of the students showed up with their families to eat pizza and play math games with their teachers and other faculty at the school. The math games worked on logic, counting, and measuring among many math skills. The best part of the whole night was seeing parents work together with their children to solve the problems at the different math stations.

At the end of the night, the fourth graders performed a few special dances they had been working on just for the event. Emceed by Demetrius DeWitt and Chance Bruce, the Fourth Grade Girls performed their own rendition of Young B's "Chicken Noodle Soup." Rodney VanNess and Rahmein Brooks performed a duet together to "Lean With It Rock With It." After all the dancing fun, the fourth graders pulled out their band instruments to show off what they've learned so far in band class. Thank you to all of the parents and family members who came out and supported the Fourth Grade Family Math Night.



## CAMP CHINGACHGOOK: AN EXPERIENCE NO ONE WILL EVER FORGET.

There were so many incredible pictures, stories, experiences that the 5th & 6th graders had going to Camp Chingachgook that it's impossible to put it



all in a short article. Maybe, we can talk the classes into putting together a book about it!

Here's one account from Jose Morales:

When I was at Camp Chingachgook I was excited because I was going high roping. We were going high roping the second day. Before that I started unpacking my stuff. Right after we did activities, we ate dinner.

After that, we went to our cabin for free time. At night we did the Critter Hunt.

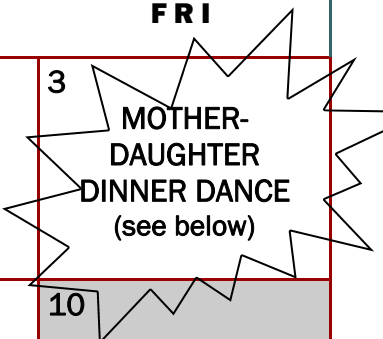
The next day I was happy because we were going high roping. First we had a delicious breakfast. Then we played archery. That was one of my favorite things to do because I was hitting bull's eyes a lot. Then after that we had free time.

When I heard we were going high roping. I got excited. I got ready and we walked up the hill and we got there. The instructor gave us the instructions on how to put on the harness and helmet. I was the first one in my group to climb the two ropes that were crossed together. I got scared because I thought I was going to lean over and fall. I made it! The next rope climb was harder. It has a rope ladder on top and one rope to walk across. It also had two rope railings to hold onto so I didn't fall. That one was more challenging. I also felt more afraid than on the other one. My team was cheering me on!



# NOVEMBER 2006

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
<p>★ All Ark, Inc. after school programs are by invitation only; you must apply. Please call Ms. Kirsten or email her at <a href="mailto:kwojtowicz@arkcharter.org">kwojtowicz@arkcharter.org</a></p>		1	<p>★ Art 3:15-4:30 ★ Basketball 3:15-4:15 ★ Tutoring, 3:15-4:15</p>	3
6	<p>★ St Rose Reading, 3:10-4:10 ★ Book Club &amp; Flag Football 3:15-4:30 ★ Sage Reading Clinic, 4-6pm</p>	8	<p>★ Art 3:15-4:30 ★ Basketball 3:15-4:15 ★ Tutoring, 3:15-4:15</p>	10
<p>★ Theater, Floor Hockey 3:15-4:30 ★ Tutoring, 3:15-4:15</p>	<p>★ St Rose Reading, 3:10-4:10 ★ Book Club &amp; Flag Football 3:15-4:30</p>	15	<p>★ Art 3:15-4:30 ★ Basketball 3:15-4:15 ★ Tutoring, 3:15-4:15</p>	17
13	<p>★ Theater, Floor Hockey 3:15-4:30 ★ Tutoring, 3:15-4:15</p>	22	NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break	
<p>★ Theater, Floor Hockey 3:15-4:30 ★ Tutoring, 3:15-4:15</p>	21	NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break		24
	<p><b>IMPORTANT:</b> 👉 <b>HALF DAY</b> for <b>PARENT CONFERENCES</b> Dismissal at 11am</p>			
27	<p>★ St Rose Reading, 3:10-4:10 ★ Book Club &amp; Flag Football 3:15-4:30</p>	29	<p>★ Art 3:15-4:30 ★ Basketball 3:15-4:15 ★ Tutoring, 3:15-4:15</p>	DECEMBER 1



## TONIGHT!!! Don't Miss it!

First Annual Girls Night Out  
on Friday November 3<sup>rd</sup>

ACCS is hosting a  
**Mother/Daughter  
Dinner/Dance**  
**6-8PM**

Dinner by Testo's Restaurant &  
Music by our very own DJ, Mr.  
Walon!

Admission - \$5.00 or \$2.50 with a  
canned good for a food drive.



### PARENT CONFERENCES & REPORT CARDS

**It's not too early to schedule your parent conference with your child's teacher.**

**Report cards will be given to parents by the teacher at your conference starting on Tuesday, November 21.**

**Please call your child's teacher TODAY to arrange for a conference to review his/her progress in school so far.**