

East Andover Village Preschool, February 2017

Annual Spaghetti Dinner February 11

Amy Rheume, EAVP

February is here and with it, Valentine's Day. Preschools everywhere will be building on the theme of friendship and love. At EAVP, it is just another month; we build on these themes all year long!



Teamwork! Freya Grunewald, Chloe Miller, and Azalea Morgan work together on a snowman.

At the beginning of each school year we ask the parents of our students what they would like their children to learn in preschool. There are some academic responses like, letters and numbers, or how to write their name, but more often we hear, how to be a friend, how to get along with others, or kindness.

It makes me smile – our parents get it! They know what we, the staff at

EAVP, know. Yes, it is important for children to learn letters and numbers and to write their names, but really what our world needs is kindness.

Someone who is able to recognize when others need help, be it a hand up when they've fallen, a pat on the back when they are sad, a friend to sit next to them when they are lonely, or a kind word of praise or encouragement and then act on it. These are the people who will change our world.

By preschool age most children understand different emotions fairly well and know that everyone has feelings. They are beginning to be empathetic. At EAVP we teach a golden rule: we treat others as we want to be treated. We practice shining our light on others and the world by showing kindness and love.

Does this mean there is never any arguing? Never an unkind word? Of course not. But these events are learning experiences, and there is always a chance to start over. To try again and do better the next time.

We grownups could take some lessons from these preschoolers as they work each day to find ways to be kind and help others. Shine your light!

On Saturday, February 11, we invite you to join us at the Andover Elementary/Middle School from 5 to 7 PM for our Annual Spaghetti Dinner and Raffle fundraiser. This year our theme is Share the Love. We'd love to see you there!



Each third grade student received their own dictionary, courtesy of the Blackwater Grange. The dictionaries are personally delivered every year by Bernice Nowell. Third graders are very appreciative! The Dictionary Project happens not only in Andover. Dictionaries are given to third grade students in all fifty states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, several Canadian provinces, and at least 15 other countries around the world. Over 19 million children have received dictionaries since the inception of the program in 1995. The Dictionary Project has its roots in Andover. Arlyne French's son and daughter-in-law founded the program which continues to donate millions of dictionaries to third graders around the world. Arlyne French was a long-time Andover community member.

Back/left to right - Cooper Hedderig, Ollie Grotnes, Asa Gilman and Indira McIntyre. Center - Bernice Nowell. Front - Myles Keyser and Ella Labrie
Photo Stephanie Peters

The Andover Beacon

Our Hometown Newspaper

AndoverBeacon.com February 2017 735-6099



The geography bee finalists respond to questions on their white boards as they work their way through the grueling rounds. Students Left to right: Cedar Kiedaisch, Lily Menard, Jesse Niemyer, Jarrett Benson, Miles Hurlbutt, Oliver Andrews, Lagan Salathe, Gus Kiedaisch (leaning on table), Morgan Quinn (waving under table), Ashley Wolf, James Clough, and Jaimes Southworth.
Caption: Jane Slayton, Photo: James Tucker

AE/MS Students Participate in Geography Bee

Next step is to qualify for the state level

James Tucker, AE/MS

The Geography Bee is held in more than 11,000 schools across the country, inspiring students to be curious about the world. The question content is designed to increase the students' knowledge of the world through competition and fun.

The competition began in the classrooms with every student in grades five through eight competing for a spot in the school round of the Geography Bee. With questions ranging from world geography to United States geography, the challenge for the students was at a very high level. Some clues for questions were based on interesting science facts or just the seven continents of the world. In the end it came down to a student's base knowledge of world geography.

In the school competition there were eight geography experts competing for the title of AE/MS Geography Bee Champion. The eight experts gave their all.

From the fifth grade, Oliver Andrews, Miles Hurlbutt; from the sixth grade, Lagan Salathe, and Gus Kiedaisch; from the seventh grade, Jesse Niemyer and Lily Menard; and from the eighth grade, Ce-

dar Kiedaisch and Jarrett Benson. These were the finalists that faced each other head to head with a supportive audience of their fellow classmates. This was in the same open format like the first round.

The students put forth a fabulous effort and the competition was full of



Mr. Tucker, the fifth through eighth grade Social Studies teacher, congratulates Gus Kiedaisch on his victory.

Caption: Jane Slayton, Photo: James Tucker

entertainment. In the end, Gus took the title of Andover's 2016-2017 Geography Bee Champ. Way to Go Gus!

The next step for Gus is to take an online test and hope he makes the grade to be selected to compete at the state level. The staff, students, and the Andover community want to wish Gus the best of luck as he moves through the process.