



Some of the cast and crew at rehearsal for Willy Wonka being performed by the Andover Players on March 29-30. L to R: Brianna Fredette, Morgaine Harvey, Madison Colby, Ella Makechnie, Liberty Sapulding, Wesley Koziol, Tyler Champagne, Mike Miller, and Dana Buswell.

Photo: Brendaen Makechnie

Andover Players Present Musical "Willy Wonka"

Steve Foley

"I like to be in shows because I can act "goofy" or in ways that I can't in real life" said eighth grader River Turnbull," Turnbull was with fellow eighth graders at a rehearsal for the Andover Players' production of the musical "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory," which

their first experiences on stage. He enjoys the bonds which are created with other students during a production.

Fenn Davis said he likes to see the end result that comes after all the rehearsals and work involved in putting on a production. He said he finds the whole process very interesting.

"I just enjoy acting," said Lilly Carlson. Asked if she wanted to pursue a career in acting, she said she probably would not, but judging by her enthusiasm, she probably will be involved in high school and community theater.

When asked what they like about Willy Wonka, River said that he "loves the quirkiness of his character and the show in general. Garrett Niemyer said he, too, loves the quirkiness of the show and said that it is a lot of fun. These older students

also felt that this was a great show for their underclassmen to learn about acting, singing and being on stage.

"Grampa Joe" is played by Colby Jones. When asked what it was like to be playing an older person, he replied that he thought he had the acting part down, but was still working on trying to sound like an older person.

One of the great things about a theatrical production is that there is such a va-

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Members of the Andover Players rehearse for Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory. L to R: Oliver Andrews, Trinity Delaney, Arie Perry, and Bryce Bendixson
Photo: Brendaen Makechnie

will be presented at the AE/MS Gym on March 29 and 30 at 7 PM.

I had the opportunity to speak with several players who were all from the eighth grade. All said that they have been in previous productions and enjoy doing theater.

Turnbell, who is playing Wonka, said that another thing he likes about doing shows with the Andover Players is that it gives him a chance to get to know younger students who are having



Four AEMS students took the Pi Challenge and memorized digits of Pi. The AEMS 2018 Pi Champion is Oliver Andrews who memorized 180 digits. Wow! The students received pizza Pi's for their accomplishment. Left to right - Jeremy Johnson, Jon Grodin, Oliver Andrews, and Jed Duquette.

Proctor Announces Spring Musical: "In the Heights"

May 18 - 19 at the Wilkins Meeting House

Scott Allenby, Proctor Academy

Proctor's theater department has announced its spring musical: In The Heights! The show centers on a variety of characters living in the neighborhood of Washington Heights, on the

northern tip of Manhattan. The show will be jam-packed with energy, music, dancing, fun and will take the stage on Friday May 18 and Saturday May 19 at 7:00 PM in the Wilkins Meeting House. The show is open to the public free of charge. Be sure to save the date and check the May Beacon for information on how to reserve your seats.

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Kaitlyn Stetson: I drink a lot of milk, which is good for your bones. I eat a lot of fruits and vegetables. I need to eat more protein. My mom makes really good salads. I get 11ish hours of sleep. I drink a lot of water and I wash my hands 20-30 times a day.

PS I am allergic to hot sauce. With all of that initial understanding, we knew our restaurant would be a success!

Mrs. Frost spoke to the class about heart healthy choices for eating and daily living. We had fun checking our resting and running pulses! We learned a lot about red blood cells and how important they are to us, where they travel in our circulatory system, and how our heart works.

Parent Abby Webster also spoke to the second graders about their own MICROBIOMES and how important it is to have good bacteria in your belly to keep you healthy. Thanks to Abby, we ALL learned a lot!



Billyjack Braley gives Mrs. Jurta advice on what to order. Photo: Gretchen Hildebrand

Then came the restaurant, serving the staff of AEMS and third graders who had worked the restaurant last year. It was fun. It was hard work. It was rewarding. In the end, students voted to donate their \$325 earnings to the Franklin Animal Shelter to help the volunteers care for the animals.

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