The Comet's Tale

SANDY CREEK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Sandy Creek Second Graders Visit Local Salmon Hatchery



Second-grade students from Sandy Creek Central School District recently visited the Salmon River Fish Hatchery, operated by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, for a hands-on learning experience focused on fish life cycles and conservation.

The field trip provided students with an introduction to concepts they will explore in greater depth during a science unit on life cycles later this school year. During their visit, students learned about the salmon egg collection process and the hatchery's role in supporting local conservation efforts to maintain healthy salmon populations.

Students enjoyed watching the egg collection process and had the opportunity to touch salmon, bringing their learning to life through a firsthand experience with local wildlife.

The visit connected classroom learning to real-world science, helping students build an understanding of animal life cycles and the importance of protecting natural resources. Through experiences like this, students can see how conservation efforts help sustain fish populations and preserve the environment for future generations.

Building Confidence Through Woodworking



Students in Advanced Woods, a woodworking class at Sandy Creek High School, are developing valuable life skills through hands-on projects that encourage creativity, independence and problem-solving.

The most recent lesson allows students the freedom to choose their own projects. Students are taking responsibility for sourcing materials, measuring, cutting and assembling their creations, gaining practical experience with each step of the building process.

"These projects teach students more than woodworking. They learn how to plan, solve problems, work through mistakes and figure things out on their own," said teacher Chris Conway. These are skills they can use for the rest of their lives, no matter what career they choose."

The class is producing a variety of projects, including nightstands, small tables and shelves. One student plans to create a metal sign featuring a deer using a CNC machine.

This class gives students the opportunity to turn their ideas into finished products while gaining vocational experience and learning to work with the tools, materials and techniques used in skilled trades.

Elementary Students Learn Important Lessons in Fire Safety



As part of Fire Safety Week, Sandy Creek elementary students participated in fun and educational experiences to learn about fire prevention, emergency preparedness and the important role firefighters play in keeping communities safe.

Some students had the opportunity to visit local fire stations, while others welcomed firefighters into their school. During these visits, students learned essential fire safety tips, met local firefighters and got a closer look at the equipment and important work involved in responding to emergencies. These experiences helped reinforce the importance of fire safety while giving students a greater appreciation for the dedicated first responders who serve our communities.

"We would like to thank the Lacona, Redfield, Orwell and Sandy Creek Fire Departments for sharing their time and knowledge with our students," said Superintendent Kevin Seymour. "We appreciate their commitment to educating our young learners and helping make Fire Safety Week a fun, engaging and memorable experience."

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ANNUAL NOTIFICATION REGARDING PESTICIDES

Dear Parent, Guardian, and School Staff:

New York State Education Law Section 409-H, effective July 1, 2001, requires all public and nonpublic elementary and secondary schools to provide written notification to all persons in parental relation, faculty, and staff regarding the potential use of pesticides periodically throughout the school year.

The Sandy Creek Central School District is required to maintain a list of persons in parental relation, faculty, and staff who wish to receive 48-hour prior written notification of certain pesticide applications. The following pesticide applications are not subject to prior notification requirements:

- A school remains unoccupied for a continuous 72-hour following an application,
- Anti-microbial products;
- Nonvolatile rodenticides in tamper resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children;
- Nonvolatile insecticidal baits in tamper resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children;
- Silica gels and other nonvolatile ready-to-use pastes, foams, or gels in areas inaccessible to children;
- Boric acid and disodium octaborate tetrahydrate:
- The application of EPA designated biopesticides;
- The application of EPA designated exempt materials under 40CFR152.25;
- The use of aerosol products with a directed spray in containers of 18 fluid ounces or less when used to protect individuals from an imminent threat from stinging and biting insects including venomous spiders, bees, wasps, and hornets.

In the event of an emergency application necessary to protect against an imminent threat to human health, a good faith effort will be made to supply written notification to those on the 48-hour prior notification list.

If you would like to receive 48-hour prior notification of pesticide applications that are scheduled to occur in your school, please complete the form on the Sandy Creek Central School District website. You can access the form at: sandycreekcsd.org/department/facilities/notifications

If you have any questions, please contact our Pesticide Representative Andy Ridgeway at 315-387-3445 or aridgew@sccs.cnyric.org.

Sincerely,

Andy Ridgeway

Director of Facilities III

Stuff-A-Bus Supports Students Across All Grade Levels



The Sandy Creek Central School District's Stuff-A-Bus initiative provided 150 backpacks filled with school supplies to students across pre-K through 12 grade levels during this year's Back to School Night.

The initiative was made possible through the collaborative efforts of the Elementary Student Council, Elementary Climate Committee, Sandy Creek Teachers Association, New York Schools Insurance Reciprocal and United Way.

The program helps ensure students have the essential supplies they need to begin the school year prepared for learning. Through the generosity and teamwork of these organizations, students and families throughout the district received support to help start the school year on a positive note.

Sandy Creek Celebrates Homecoming with Comet Pride

Middle and high school students came together for the fall pep rally, featuring competitions like tug-of-war, cup grab and best jump, along with cheerleading performances and recognition of student-athletes.











ANNUAL NOTIFICATION REGARDING DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Sandy Creek Central School District
Annual Notification
Notice to Parents and Eligible
Students of Rights Under the
Family Education Rights and
Privacy Act (FERPA)

To: Parents and Eligible Students Of Sandy Creek Central School District

You are notified that you have the following rights in relation to student records:

1. The right to inspect and review a student's education records.
2. The right of a student's parents or an eligible student to seek to correct parts of the student's education records which he or she believes to be inaccurate, misleading or in violation of the student's rights. These rights include the right to a hearing to present evidence that the records should be changed if the district decides not to alter it according to the parents' or an eligible student's request.
3. The right to report or file a complaint with the Department of Education if the school district violates FERPA.
4. The right to exercise a limited control over other people's access to the student's education records.
5. The right to seek and correct the student's education records, in a hearing if necessary.
6. The right to be informed about FERPA rights.

You are further advised:

a. The school district shall limit the disclosure of information contained in the student's education records except: (a) by prior written consent of the student's parents or an eligible student, (b) directory information or (c) under certain limited circumstances, as permitted by FERPA.

b. If either a student's parents or an eligible student desires to obtain copies of a policy pertaining to student records, notification should be presented to: Kevin Seymour, Superintendent, Sandy Creek Central School District, PO Box 248, Sandy Creek, NY 13145.

All rights and protections given to parents under the FERPA and this policy transfer to the student when the student reaches age 18 or enrolls in a post-secondary school. The student then becomes an "eligible student."

Directory Information
The school district proposes to designate the following personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records as directory information, and it will disclose that information without prior written consent:

1. The student's name;
2. The student's address;
3. The student's telephone listing;
4. The student's date and place of birth;
5. The student's class designation (e.g., first grade, tenth grade, and the like):
6. The student's participation in officially recognized activities and sports;
7. The student's achievement awards or honors;
8. The student's weight and height if a member of an athletic team;
9. Dates of attendance;
10. The student's photograph; and
11. The most recent educational institution attended before the student enrolled in the school district.

You have two weeks to advise the school district in writing, directed to the office of the school superintendent, of any and all items which you refuse to permit the district to designate as directory information about the student. The district may disclose directory information about former students without following the procedure specified for directory information.

Jared Campbell Helps Students Discover Their Inner Hero



Sandy Creek Elementary students welcomed musician and author Jared Campbell for an engaging, interactive assembly focused on compassion for one another and character. Through music and an uplifting message, Campbell reinforced the school's commitment to help students become successful, lifelong learners with respect and empathy for others.

"Jared Campbell's uplifting music and powerful message brought our social-emotional learning curriculum to life, giving our students unforgettable lessons in kindness, resilience and personal responsibility," said Elementary Principal Lauren Platt. "His interactive assembly gave our school community a shared language for empathy that our teachers and students will continue to build on all year long."

Campbell's message, which also inspired his book "Searching for a Superpower," encourages students to recognize that everyday heroism comes from choosing kindness, showing courage and doing the right thing.







SANDY CREEK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Business Office: Ext. 1510
Elementary: Ext. 1110
Middle School/High School: Ext. 1910
Nurses' Office: Ext. 1501
Transportation: Ext. 3330



Kevin Seymour
Superintendent of Schools

Cora Harvey
Business Administrator



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Principal
Elementary School



Tonya Trudell
Principal
Middle/High School

Jessica Blair
Director of Curriculum,
Instruction & Data

James Hunt
Assistant Principal and Athletic Director

The Sandy Creek Central School District in accordance with the Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 and section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and does not discriminate on the basis of sex or handicap in the educational programs or activities it operates. This includes recruitment and employment of employees; pay and benefits; counseling services for students; access by students to educational programs, courses and activities. The District's Title IX Compliance Coordinator is Cora Harvey (124 Salisbury Street, Sandy Creek, NY 13145 | 315-387-3445).

Fall 2026

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Putting on Our Thinking Caps: Students Create Brain Hats in Math Lab

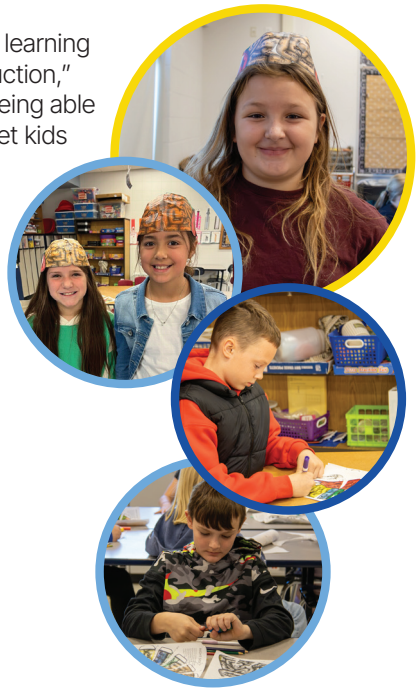
Fifth-grade students at Sandy Creek are combining creativity, science and math by creating Brain Hats in Math Lab.

Using paper doodle notes, students created hats resembling their brains, coloring different regions to identify each area and learn its name. Through classroom discussions, they explored how different parts of the brain support emotions, creativity, visual processing, mathematical computation and more.

"Math Lab gives me the flexibility to create unique learning experiences that go beyond traditional math instruction," said Sarah Orr, K-5 math specialist. "I appreciate being able to provide opportunities that spark curiosity and get kids excited about learning."

The Brain Hats project connects learning across subject areas, using visual activities and creativity to deepen students' understanding and make learning meaningful and fun.





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