



AES Students Staying Busy with Many Activities

We are having a great year at Ansonville Elementary School. Our students are excelling both in and out of the classroom. Over the past several weeks, students have been involved in a variety of learning experiences.

Along with the quality rigorous instruction that takes place daily in classrooms, students have also been on field trips. The sixth graders enjoyed a trip to the Renaissance Festival, and the fifth graders travel monthly to the Rotary Planetarium in Wadesboro for activities to enrich the science curriculum. Our fifth and sixth grade students recently toured the Pee Dee Electric solar farm. The fifth and sixth graders also attended our local Veteran's Day Ceremony. And, many of our students attended a production at the Ansonia entitled *Songs Around the World*, which was sponsored by the Anson County Arts Council.

The AES PTO is very active in supporting our school and students. They recently sponsored a Fall Festival where students and families enjoyed an evening filled with food, fun and games! Our most recent PTO meeting was on Monday, December 12, and featured our annual performance of *Nutcracker*. We would like to thank students and staff for making this performance a success. AES sends a special thank you to Mrs. Roberta Bumgardner for volunteering her time and directing the production.

AES also interacts with and supports our community. In support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October students dressed in pink shirts for "Think Pink, Be Pink" day. In early November AES students and staff participated in Ansonville's Homecoming Parade by riding on a school float. Also, members of the Ansonville Volunteer Fire Department were invited on campus to present a fire safety program for students. After returning from Thanksgiving break students have been bringing in new toys to help the local Toys for Tots campaign.



SPCC Connecting Careers at Anson Middle School

Anson Middle School, in conjunction with South Piedmont Community College, has developed an SPCC Week to support career development. This event engaged eighth grade students with hands-on activities and skills relative to jobs in the workforce. These activities provided a first hand experience for students to connect their academic learning to the various careers.

On Tuesday, November 29 representatives from SPCC's Career and Continuing Education, including Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Industrial Skills (welding), Nursing Assistant, and Business and Entrepreneurship visited. Students rotated between stations, participating in activities that provided a real life situation.

On Friday, December 2 Employed Arts and Sciences at SPCC visited. Students learned of college transfer programs as well as Career and College Promise courses that can be taken for dual credit in high school. Students experienced art using water color paints, film/tv production using a video camera and green screen, poetry, microbiology and cultures, lighting effects using convex and concave lenses, acting and body language and other activities.

Students were able to grasp insight into programs offered at SPCC along with careers gained from the programs. Career Development Coordinator Dr. Kim Ingold stated, "When students are able to touch, see, and feel through activities, it will either spark an interest or not in each student. The more students build relative connections between academia and careers; they start to make more informative decisions for their future."

There will be two more days in January that students will have the opportunity to continue their career development. The departments participating in January



include Applied Science and Technology and Allied Health and Nursing. Anson Middle School is fortunate and proud to have the willingness and support from faculty and staff of SPCC to secure this partnership.



Local Produce from Anson High School Agri-Science Class

Anson High School's Agri-Science class spent time this fall getting to know where their food comes from. Students researched, prepared the soil, planted the seeds, and then spent time nurturing their crop. After several months of looking after their crop, the harvest was ready. Students harvested the crops and made them available to the public at a reasonable price.

In the picture shown the Agri-Science class shared collards and kale with the board of education members at the November board meeting. The board members were very excited to receive the crop and even more excited to know that students grew the collards themselves.

The Agri-Science class is exploring ways to grow food such as traditional row crops, raised beds, and even aquaculture. Stay tuned for more local produce coming from the Ag classes at AHS this spring.

