

Amy MacDonald By Zeke Golembesky and Alex Ruest

Wellness Day By Sarah Gendreau and Jenna Burress

Spring Concert By Katelyn Beaulieu and Deserae Cyr

A guest visited Madawaska Elementary School on May 13. The guest was Mrs. Amy MacDonald, a Maine author of children's books.

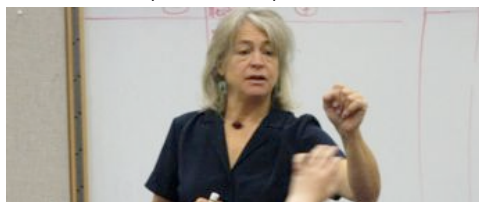
Mrs. MacDonald spoke to students about the process of writing. She spoke to kindergarten students about rhyming words in a story. She spoke to first, second and third graders about having a good beginning, middle and end, and she spoke to the fourth and the fifth grade students about persuasive writing.

All students got a chance to talk to Mrs. MacDonald. She taught everyone to do something new in his or her writing. She handed out paper to every grade except Pre-k to continue their lessons in their classrooms.

Mrs. MacDonald also spoke at the Young Author's ceremony that night. She offered some great suggestions about how students could improve their writing pieces. Her focus was on explaining to students the process involved in publishing. She also handed out the Raccoon Tales book, which is an anthology of students' writing, to the winning poetry writers and storytellers for this year.

Books by Mrs. MacDonald were on sale during her time at the school. Students were able to have the books they purchased autographed.

Mrs. Missy Morneault, the reading specialist, states, "We have been very fortunate these last two years to have been able to bring popular children's authors to Madawaska Elementary School. Hopefully, we will be able to continue this experience in years to come."



On May 21, Madawaska Elementary School had their annual Wellness Day. Wellness Day usually happens the day before Memorial Day weekend. Wellness Day is a day for kids to be educated in wellness activities and to have fun.

All students from Pre-K to grade 5 participated in Wellness Day. All grades went for walks and the fourth graders went for a hike on the Four Seasons trails. Some grades went bowling, swimming, went to therapy ball and did some other fun activities with Mr. Dan Cyr such as tug-of-war. There was one presenter who all grades went to see, Mr. Richard Cyr, a firefighter. He taught students about fire safety and what to do to prevent fires by using a model firehouse. There were also some healthy snacks that parents brought in, which the students were able to enjoy.

The school got the money to do Wellness Day because Mrs. Wetmore, the school nurse, got grant money. PTA also helped with financial support and the healthy snacks for our Wellness Day.

Mrs. Wetmore and Mrs. Shirleen Gendreau, the guidance counselor, organized Wellness Day. Along with the approval of the principal, Mrs. Ginette Albert, and help from the teachers, they made Wellness Day happen.

Mrs. Shirleen Gendreau stated, "We were so lucky to have such beautiful weather on our Wellness Day."



On Thursday, May 28, at 8:30 in the morning, Madawaska Elementary School held a Spring Concert in the gymnasium for all the students, staff, parents and community members.

Mrs. Gloria Stoliker, the music teacher, organized the concert, and Mrs. Martha Michaud, the band teacher, organized the 5th grade band performance.

All the boys and girls in every grade sang their own songs. Mrs. Stoliker chose the songs because of themes that went with each grade. The students learned the words and practiced a lot. Each grade sang a song by themselves, then the whole group sang a song dedicated to the teachers.

The 4th graders played 3 songs on their recorders called; *Merrily We Roll Along*, *It's Raining* and *Old McDonald Had a Farm*.

The 5th graders played several songs as a band. Some of the students played in little groups and performed solos.

The kids learned the songs, made a banner to hang in the gym and the custodians set up the chairs.

Mrs. Stoliker stated, "The kids worked very hard and I think they had a lot of fun."



Children's Stage Adventure By Lindsey Gendreau and Jasmine Demoranville

On Monday, June 1, two Children's Stage Adventure actor/educators, Courtney de la Rigaudere and Julie-Anne Whitney auditioned and cast approximately 90 students, from the third and fourth grade for the production *The Sword Called Excalibur*. Mrs. Missy Morneault, the title 1 teacher, organized the group to come to Madawaska.

The theater educators took the children through the entire process of putting on a theater production. Students auditioned, learned lines, learned dances and put on a production in just 16 hours of practice. The practices were in the cafeteria and in room 210.

The performance took place in the Madawaska Elementary School cafeteria on June 5. The performance for the students and staff was at 1:00 and at 6:00 for parents and the community.

Mrs. Morneault wrote a grant to get this group here because we live far away from a performing arts center, and it's a good opportunity for the students to be exposed to theater education. It allows students' talent to be seen and enjoyed by others.

Mrs. Morneault states, "Hopefully the third and fourth graders will enjoy this opportunity they were given. A special thanks to the Perloff Family Foundation and MES PTA for helping to fund this program."

