

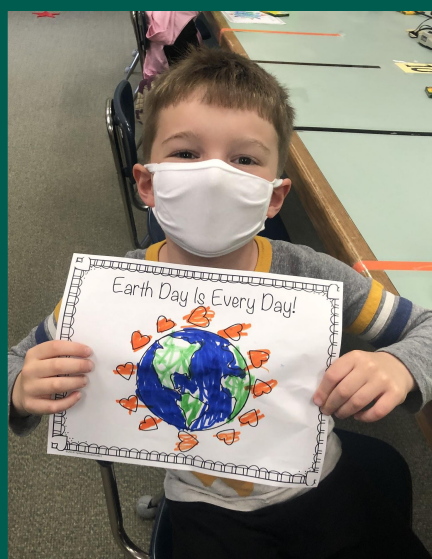
# AFTON ELEMENTARY

## K-5 H.O.P.E.

(Helping Others Protect Earth)

Advisors: Librarian Deb Koehler and SPARK (STEM) teacher Kristin Slota

The Afton Elementary HOPE Ambassadors planned a special school-wide event along with the help of their advisors and other staff members for over 500 Kindergarten through 5th Grade students. The goal of the event is to share their knowledge about how they and community members can protect the Earth by saving energy and using renewable sources.



# GOALS:

1. To increase student knowledge about renewable energy sources
2. To educate students and the community about the importance of protecting the Earth
3. To encourage students & community members to follow the 4 “R”s—reduce, reuse, recycle, repair
4. To develop an awareness of what others are doing to help the Earth
5. To recognize others for taking action to make the Earth a better place
6. To have students become ambassadors for the Earth
7. To allow students to take leadership roles
8. To learn about the Earth and Energy through interdisciplinary lessons: math, environmental science, music, physical education, art, literature, writing, research

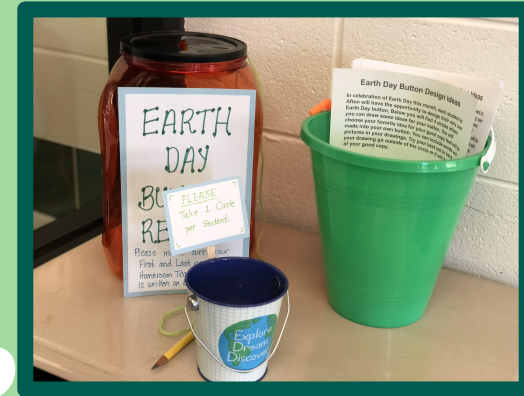
# Events

Pressing over 500 buttons with  
Environmental Messages

Chalk the Walk  
with Saving  
Energy and  
Protect the  
Earth Messages



Coming Soon: Afton Garden Restoration





# Special Lessons

Estimating  
the number  
of caps in a  
reused  
container

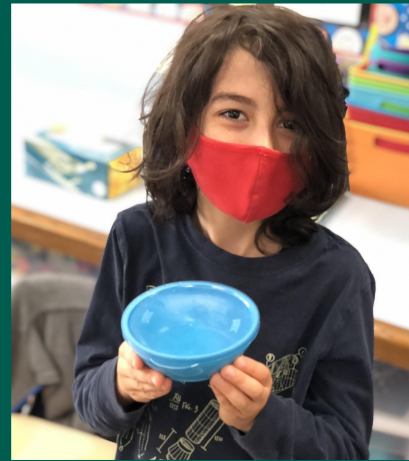
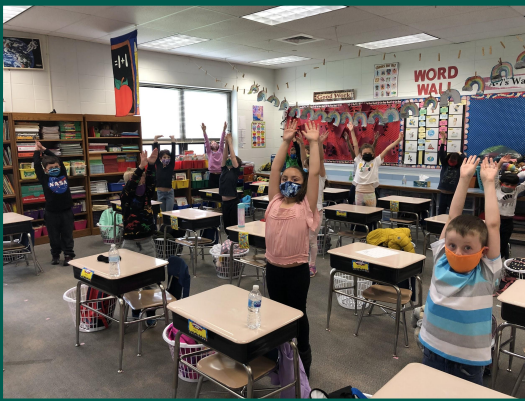


4 "R"s Video  
showing all  
students helping  
to Save Energy

Passing the  
Earth Video



## Animal Yoga



Environmental  
Literacy





# H.O.P.E. AMBASSADORS

Requesting Donations



Collecting Donations

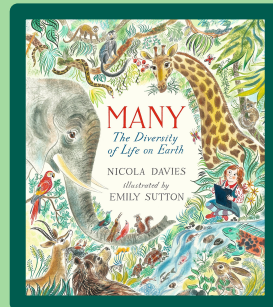


Making posters



Reading to younger grades

Donations from:  
*ShopRite, Red Berry, Chick  
Fil A, Giant, McCaffrey's,  
Home Depot, Lowe's, Chewy*



# GUEST SPEAKERS

Waste  
Management



State Representative  
Perry Warren



Skype with  
Vanderbilt University



Parent Environmentalist

**BRIGHT FARMS.**  
LOCALLY GROWN

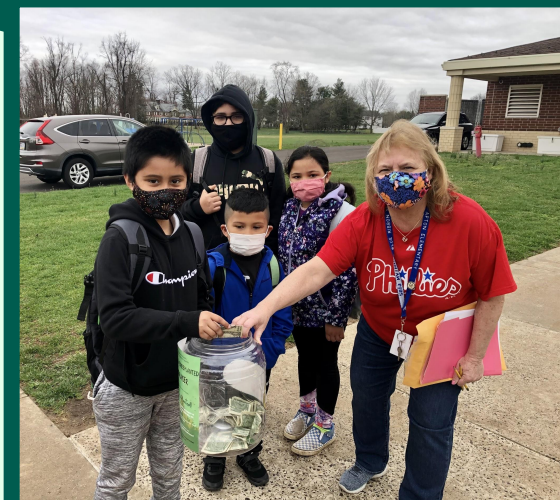
**Other guests:** *Environmental specialist/school board member; Independent Farmer/school board member, State Senator Santarsiero, One Tree Planted*



# Fundraiser – over \$600 raised

## One Tree Planted

- Donations collected at the bus dock and car line each morning by 4th/5th Grade HOPE Ambassadors
- Afton TREE of HOPE IN LOBBY
- Over 500 seedlings planted





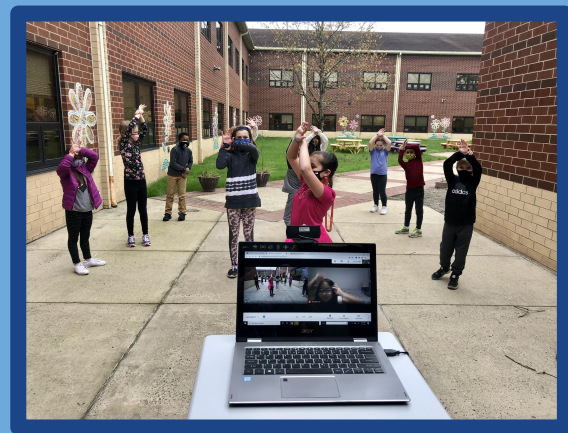
# Learning about Solar Energy



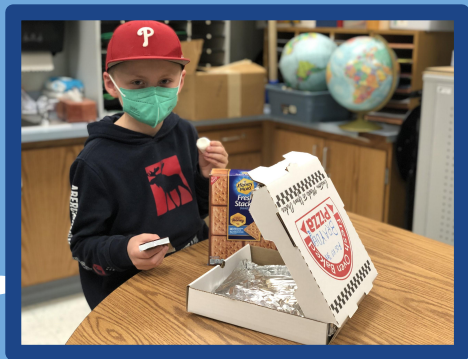
Solar Oven S'mores

2nd and 3rd grade  
classes investigated  
solar energy for 2 weeks  
in SPARK class

UV Bracelets



Experimenting with PV Cells



# ALGAE: Fuel of the Future



**This Month in PENNSBURY**  
DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS REPORT

• William Penn Problem 2 - 1st place  
• William Penn Problem 3 - 4th place  
• Charles Boehm Problem 1 - 2nd place  
• PPS Problem 3 - 1st place

**CONGRESSMAN HONORS LVT CHARACTER AWARD WINNERS**

U.S. Representative Brian Rosten (R, PA 1st District) is recognizing each of the Pennsbury students who earned the LVT Pennsbury Character Awards in special ways this year. We thank the Congressman and his staff for offering these distinctive honors for all of the 2023-2024 winners. February's Character Award winners, honored by their teachers for demonstrating the character trait of "cooperation," were selected to receive U.S. flags flown over the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C.

**IN THE SCHOOLS**  
**AFTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Alton teachers, Tish Barkley, Leslie Gough, Debbie Kuehn, Kristin Nels, and Craig Yon

**This Month in PENNSBURY**  
DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS REPORT

Ms. Stolt and Ms. Holmes added: "It was exciting to see how thrilled students were when they were able to observe the algae under the microscope in what they thought was just a drop of water. Some classes were also given an algae stack to taste!" Other classes had the time to plant and present their own Algae Company to the rest of the group. The goal of the program is to utilize algae as a tool to effectively teach students science skills like measuring liquids, measuring algae growth, analyzing data, and making connections to the real world. After reviewing product labels, students are now aware that algae is important in many of the foods that we eat like ice cream, yogurt, salad dressing, pudding, almond milk, and also in products we use every day like toothpaste.



When Marina Nalley, the Algae Foundation's Director of Programs and Operations, was informed that Pennsbury elementary schools would be entering four days a week at the end of March with more than 85% of students attending in person, she was quick to send out additional supplies at no cost to the district so that all students could participate without having to add materials.

"Thank you to Marina and the rest of the staff at the Algae Foundation for providing such an amazing and authentic learning opportunity for the 4th and 5th grade students at Afton and Edgemoor!" said Ms. Stolt.

Each 4th grade class studied algae for 2 weeks and learned how important it is in our world. Algae produces oxygen, uses CO<sub>2</sub> and can be used as a food source for many animals. Algae is an important energy source and may be a the fuel of the future. Algae is a useful biofuel!

# Activity

# Hours



Collecting One Tree Planted Donations	21 hours
Requesting and Picking Up Donations	8 hours
Promoting Fundraiser and Building Trees of HOPE	8 hours
4th and 5th Grade Ambassador Meetings	6 hours
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Algae (Fuel of the Future) Studies	580 hours
2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Solar Energy Studies	720 hours
4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Ambassador Readers in K-3 classes	5 hours

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## Activity

## Hours

K, 1st & 2nd “You Make Earth a Better Place” Thank You  
Notes to Community Members 80 hours

Chalk the Walk with Saving Energy and Protecting the Earth  
Messages- K-5 Family Weekend Event 16 hours

Designing and Pressing Over 500 Environmental Message  
Buttons 250 hours

COMING NEXT WEEK: AFTON EARTH DAY HOPE  
EVENT April 22nd- Full day of Activities for 509 students  
that promote Protecting Our Earth's Resources 2000 hours

IN THE MONTH TO COME: Afton Garden Restoration

Anticipated hours:  
300 hours

**TOTAL 3994 HOURS**