



**AK-TRAILS  
BOARD REPORT  
Oct. 2023**



**New Enrollment:** This past month, a new preschooler enrolled with AK-TRAILS.

**Activities:** Fall is in the air, and families have been busy harvesting and preserving local foods. Apples were a major theme this year! On October 5th, five AK-TRAILS students and their parents participated in a "Harvest Day" at the Howard Valentine orchard and school. Students across the district had the



chance to socialize as they picked and preserved apples. Many families also took part in independent apple oriented activities this year, such as learning about the apple life cycle and baking apple fritters.

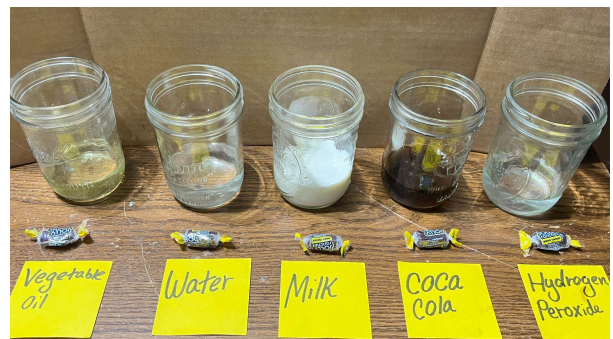


Other preservation and culinary arts activities included mushroom hunting, canning, and drying, the collection of rose hips for rosehip tea and jelly, and the baking of bread.



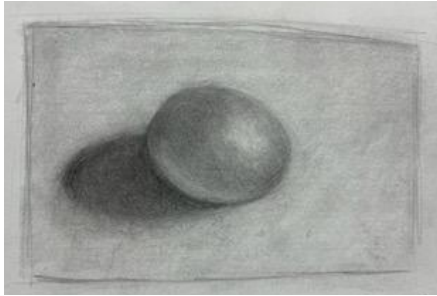


Also, at the beginning of the month, two AK-TRAILS students joined Thorne Bay and Coffman Cove for a collaborative physical science lab in Thorne Bay. Students learned about different scientific variables, constructed water bottle rockets, and launched them across the field. Preceding this, students had all learned about the scientific method, constructed their own experiments, and written their first lab reports of the year.



**Classwork:**





AK-TRAILS students are busy learning about everything from aviation and art to internal combustion engine repair and marine biology. As we close the 1st quarter, parents are submitting work samples and progress reports for their students. As you can see, many students are involved in a variety of art explorations.



**Sports:** An archery coach training was offered on October 20th. Parents were encouraged to attend.

There was also an informal community led meeting in Thorne Bay, where many points were discussed, including increasing involvement of local homeschooling families in sports. Basketball and volleyball were of particular interest. One of the results of this meeting is that two district volleyball teams will be forming and participating in on-island competitions. Several AK-TRAILS students look forward to participating.

**Professional Development:** Cassandra Christopherson continues to take courses in the area of reading and language development as she works towards advanced degrees in these fields.

Report Submitted by Cassandra Christopherson

**SISD Vision:**

*"Students are equipped to realize their dreams and aspirations"*

**SISD Mission:**

*"Together we will foster students' skills to achieve their goals and adapt to an ever changing world."*