

DMCS Specialist Newsletter

September 2020

Music Musings



It is good to be back in session!

Although plenty has changed in the world of music due to Covid-19 !



Xylophone 10

Drum Time

There is a long list of NO: no singing, no recorders, no all band, no sharing instruments, no dance games that involve students touching, no using the music room. So what can we do? We can chant rhythmic speech and we can play virtual instruments! Students in 2nd-5th Grade are using their computers to make music. We are using a xylophone app to play melodies and the app Drumtime to create rhythmic patterns. In Kindergarten, students are working on *feeling the beat in the feet* & playing an instrument to the beat. First Graders are learning to read quarter notes, paired eighth notes & quarter rests.

Mrs. Kuklok



ART NEWS

Greetings everyone! I am so happy to be back in the art room! The children are so excited to be back, and they are already creating some Awesome Art.



Kindergarten Readiness students created beautiful watercolor dot paintings. They detailed them and created a frame with gold paint.

Kindergarteners painted primary color shape paintings adding black and white details to add some spice.

In first grade students created self-portrait sketchbook covers. They also learned about the artist Piet Mondrian and created paintings inspired by his work.

Second grade created self-portrait sketchbook covers and tempera paint dot paintings.

Our third graders are busy creating their magazine self-portraits. This is always a fun project and I can't wait to see how they turn out.

Fourth grade studied Picasso and created collage self-portraits with cardboard and oil pastels.

Finally, our fifth graders have been working on their beginning drawing skills. They are learning about shading/shadow, and how to make flat objects appear 3-dimensional. They completed a grid drawing of marbles in a bowl and are beginning to decorate their sketchbook covers with colored tape.

Mrs. DeShane

Physical Education ~ Mrs. Opsal

It is so nice to see all of your children and to be back into a routine again! The first month of school brings the routine of learning the rules and expectations of Physical Education class, our open environment, and getting to know each other and classmates again. We have engaged in many team building activities to build relationships, demonstrate sportsmanship, and work on inclusivity.



Students participated in the “Fastest Class at DMCS” challenge where they ran as many laps as they could in five minutes. We look forward to doing this challenge every month, with the winning class getting to display the trophy in their classroom for the month! We will finish September working on locomotor skills, such as running, galloping, hopping, jumping, and skipping with Kindergarten-Gr.2 students. Students in grades K-5 are also working on their footwork skills, such as kicking, foot dribbling, and passing. We are learning some fun and creative kicking games!



Media Buzz

by Mr. Robinson

This has been a year for the record books, with our Media skills used like never before. This month so far has been mostly getting everyone settled in as our building completes our goal of going 1:1 with student devices. This project has been 5 years in the making, and has given all of us much to adapt to. Media time has also been spent

working to assess where students are at after our unique spring Distance Learning. Tools like IXL and NWEA results help our teachers meet each student's needs. We will soon be pivoting in the younger grades to work on keyboarding skills, while the older students hone their research and problem solving skills. This is looking to be a very busy but very productive year in the media classroom.

Library News

I'm so happy to have all the students back in the library! This month we have been brushing up on our library skills and manners. We are also working on returning any books that are still out from last spring. Your child may bring home a late notice from the library. If they do please help them take care of their outstanding book. If you have any questions about your options please email me at khealy@dmcs.cc.

This year we will continue with a word of the week that relates to the story we are reading. Ask your child if they remember the word of the week and what it means! I introduced poems the first week of school, we will continue reading poems throughout the year.

Blessings to you,

Mrs. Healy

