

DMCS Specialist Newsletter

November 2020

Music Musings



Plans are under way for a video Christmas Concert! Each class is preparing a song that will be videotaped. The videos will be put together and a link will be sent out to parents the 3rd week of December.

Students are also working on Thanksgiving and other holiday songs. In Grades 3-5, we are working on independent singing with partner songs and rounds. We wrote our own Christmas lyrics for a song!

All Band in 5th grade has started rehearsing. Students are enjoying the challenge of playing together in a group. This has been made more difficult due to Covid precautions and our 10 feet spacing between players!

Mrs. Kuklok



ART NEWS



Wow, I can't believe how time is flying by! The art room has been full of activity and exploration this month. Students are trying some new projects, taking risks and using their imaginations.

Our Kindergarten Readiness students have been practicing their tracing, cutting and gluing skills. They created a 2D bird collage and a collage with painted papers and paper mosaic tiles.

Kindergarteners drew animals with India ink and colored them in with oil pastels. This mixed media project was a lot of fun!

In first grade we have been creating wood sculptures. They have painted the base and are adding all the fun details. First graders love this project! If you know of anyone who has scrapes of wood, we can always use them in art class!

Second graders made some organic shape pictures using a variety of colored construction paper. They are slightly 3D and detailed with glitter glue. I love this project!

Our third-grade students are working on plate weaving. They used neon colors to paint their plates and strung the yarn to create a loom. They have begun to weave but are not finished yet. This is a class favorite and a very relaxing art activity.

Fourth graders experimented with chalk and tempera paint. They created a mixed media collage and are finishing up a black and white 3D paper tube sculpture.

Fifth graders have been working with yarn. We attempted to make a Huichol yarn painting and some students had better luck than others. We tried several different solutions to the problems we ran into with this new project and found some helpful solutions we can use in the future. Fifth graders are just starting to work with wire. I can't wait to see what they come up with!

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

-Mrs. DeShane



Physical Education ~ Mrs. Opsal

This month in PE, we have continued to work on throwing/catching and chasing/fleeing skills. It has been fun to watch students become stronger and more accurate in their throwing skills. Chasing and fleeing involves games where students move within a playing area while attempting to reach others and avoid being tagged. In chasing and fleeing activities, students learn the importance of concentration and focus, creating a strategy, and learning how to build cooperation among their classmates. We will end the month playing some fun Thanksgiving games using their chasing and fleeing skills.



Library News

Thank you to all the students and families for making the Fall Book Fair a success! I have purchased many books from the Book Fair for our library and they are already in circulation. I will be using the remaining proceeds to purchase more books in the coming months. I love seeing the students pick out books and get excited about reading!

As I am ordering new books for the library, I love suggestions from students. If your child is looking for a specific book or series please have them ask me about it! I will try to add it to our library if possible.

Don't forget that we have a Little Library in front of our school. Please feel free to use it, especially as we have days off of school for the holidays. If you have books to add to it, great! If you don't have books to add that's alright, too. Please still stop by and get books for your family. I just want kids to have books to read! There are also some books for grown-ups in there too!

Mrs. Healy

Media Buzz by Mr. Robinson

It's been a short November in media. Our younger grades are finalizing skills like login, getting oriented on the keyboard and sharpening their independence on their devices. Grades 2 and 3 have put in many more hours on keyboarding and are starting to pivot into some programming topics. Fourth grade has been learning to take notes and how to verify sources when researching. Fifth grade is finalizing their 3d printing unit that we started earlier this year, and will soon be submitting their final designs for printing. This year's project blends into science as they are making buildings for a model mars colony!

Robotics has gotten off to a late but great start with our kids assembling basic robot wheel bases. Our first drivable robots went for a spin on an early "beta" version of an obstacle course last week. Already the kids are refining their ideas and their designs as I ramp up the challenge one step at a time.