

Curriculum Corner

3rd Grade

We started our year with some fun team building activities and group projects! The third graders learned what it takes to have a successful third grade year by participating in a Breakout EDU Challenge. In Social Studies, they were able to work as a group to develop a plan in order to create a Native American community. They also created story element tri-fold presentations in Reading, and had the chance to present them to their class.



4th Grade

We are off to a great start this school year. In math, we wrapped up all things: place value, subtraction, and addition. We will be moving onto multiplication and division. Please make sure your child is practicing their multiplication and division facts. For ELA, we are digging deep into the various aspects of plot: character traits, character change, conflict, and plot. We will be moving into making inferences, theme, and point of view. In writing, students are building on their writing foundation to write paragraphs. We wrapped up our unit of social studies: IL government and maps. For science we will be learning all about the prairie, plant and animal structures and adaptations.

5th Grade

There are a variety of exciting and engaging experiences awaiting the 5th grade class of 2021-2022! Our math curriculum focuses on the real world application of concepts, including lots of fractions and decimals. In social studies, we begin the year learning about the first colonies of America through the writing of the US Constitution. Then we head all the way back to ancient Mesopotamia and Egypt to learn about the very beginnings of civilization. In science, we will be learning about matter, stars, Earth's systems, and the dynamics of ecosystems, through a number of hands-on observations and experiments. In ELA we will be fine-tuning the reading and writing strategies we learned in earlier grades to be ready to move forward to middle school.

Specials

Art (9/22/21) - Kindergarten started the year learning how to use shapes to draw self-portraits. First graders also started the year with self-portraits but they drew themselves as superheroes. Both kindergarten and first grade will be talking about imagination for the remainder of the quarter. Second and third grade started off the year

talking about communities. Then they created art about and as a community. Fourth graders have been learning about how artists use different mediums when making their art. That was followed up by a discussion of home and the creation of artwork around that theme. Fifth grade has been looking deeply at self-portraits and the idea of identity. They will be creating self-portraits that show the viewers something about themselves besides their appearance.

PE/Health- In PE students are finishing up their football unit. We played many fun modified games and did skill development. We are moving onto soccer next week.

In health, the students just learned about all school emergency drills. We are now talking about germs, prevention of illness, and the difference between viruses and bacteria. We will also cover handwashing and the correct steps within this process.

Music (9/10/21) - The students have done a great job transitioning back to the music room. We have been working hard learning how to play instruments and how to clean them or where to place the used instruments. Grades 3, 4, 5, have been working on drumming and bar instruments along with challenging body percussion. Grades K, 1, and 2 have been learning songs and movement and are beginning to play instruments and learn about rhythm and steady beat.

The 1st graders have done a great job learning about *Tempo* (different speeds) in music. Ask one of the 1st graders what speed or tempo they can identify when they hear a song on the radio. They are good at identifying *Presto, Andante, and Largo*.

Songs we are working on: K=Grizzly Bear; 1st=Willum Had 7 Sons; 2nd=Queen Queen Caroline (poem); 3rd=Sailor, Sailor; 4th=Old Brass Wagon; and 5th=Everybody Loves Saturday Night.

We hope to have Music programs this year. More information to come!