

FINE ARTS / STEM / LIBRARY / SPANISH ROTATIONS NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER



Specials Rotations Reminders

- Be sure to charge your laptops and iPads when you get home from school.
- Make sure you have headphones at school for ALL classes, even rotations use them from time to time!
- K-5: Know when you have Art, make sure we aren't wearing our nicest and whitest clothes to art class.
- STEM needs your paper towel/toilet paper rolls and empty tissue boxes! Send them in to Mr. H

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

- November 2nd is the LHS Junior High Choral Festival (all day field trip and evening concert at 7:30 pm)
- Newsies Cast List was posted the first week of October and the buzz has begun!
- Quarter 2 for grades 6-8 starts Oct. 30

K-5 ART

Miss Spector & Mrs. Vance

- Kindergarten is working on their stamina and changing colors. They are making colorful alphabet grids.
- 1st Grade is learning about Jackson Pollack and splatter painting and will be using it for a background on their next project.
- 2nd Grade is learning about symmetry and will connect this with Mexican Folk Art.
- 3rd Grade is working on understanding how oil pastels can be blended using each other and applying them to an abstract portrait inspired by Picasso.
- 4th Grade is in the middle of a flipped classroom, choice-based lesson where they are choosing an animal to draw, learning how to create modern texture and then applying it to a seasonal background.
- 5th Grade is starting to add color to their creative perspective hallways. Ask your student about what they chose to draw in their class hallway and how they enhanced the 3D effect.

Junior High ART

Mrs. Vance

QUARTER 1

- 6th Grade Art Survey is wrapping up in the next couple weeks. This quarter's students are finishing their self-portrait, their clay monsters and will have time to explore Digital Photography before they rotate to a new rotation class.
- 7th Grade Drawing and Painting just finished beautiful watercolor flowers and are working on color theory and paint mixing skills now with disco ball paintings.
- 8th Grade Drawing and Painting classes started working on their large celebrity charcoal drawings (a school-wide favorite). They will work with this new medium to better understand value and contrast to create lifelike images.

DRAMA

Ms. Ludington

- Kindergarten recently completed activities focused on the classic folktale The City Mouse and Country Mouse. We pretended to drive like the City mouse using street signs. We pretended to be a scary dog, cat and vacuum cleaner from the story.
- 2nd Graders rehearsed all the characters from the story The Adventure of Three Rabbits. After pretending to be all the characters each class acted out the whole story on the Drama Room Stage with stage lights!
- 4th Grade Students acted out the first three scenes from Baba Yaga with basic props and stage lighting. We will meet Baba Yaga, the Witch, soon!
- 6th Graders planned and performed two person Commedia Dell'Arte Scenes. Students were encouraged to use character voices / bodies with original dialogue.
- 7th Grade (The Playwright) Students devised a play which focuses on a 1st grade protagonist named MJ. MJ's bad day in the play is based on true stories shared by members of the class. Students will perform their original play for 1st Grade students later this month.
- 8th Grade (Shakespeare) Students rehearsed and shared the "Play within the Play" from Midsummer Night's Dream and are currently acting and directing the famous fight scene between Hermia and Helena.

SPANISH

Señora Loch

- Kindergarteners are making self portraits and hand puppets to learn introductions and greetings. They are learning a song called "Colores y Números."
- 1st graders are making a poster for the seasons and learning a song called "Las Cuatro Estaciones."
- 2nd Graders are making a comic strip to practice answering different questions. They are learning a song called "¿Cómo te llamas?"
- 3rd Graders are learning about Spanish speaking countries and their flags. They are making a banner for one of the Spanish speaking countries.
- 4th Graders are learning about hispanic heritage month and making an aztec sun project.
- 5th Graders are learning about hispanic heritage month. They are completing a research project on a famous or influential hispanic person.

K-5 MUSIC

Mr. Farris, Mr. Frankowski & Mr. Jones

- Kindergarten loves starting each class with a new Pigeon book and the students burst into song about how our 'Pigeon there is no way' song should go. We also had a very exciting development... we get to play Boomwhackers! We learned about high and low sounds playing our High C and Low C boomwhackers to the song 'I can play High C'.
- 1st Grade has been welcoming fall in music class! We sang a song called Otoño which means autumn in Spanish. We also sang a song called 'I'm a little scarecrow' which had a glockenspiel accompaniment we performed while we sang the song!
- 2nd Grade has been loving the good fall vibes in the music room! We sang a positive affirmation song called 'Superhuman!' which was all about the power of self determination. We also played a percussion piece on rhythm sticks, hand drums, and tambourines called 'Freedom March'. We are beginning to work on Vivaldi's Autumn movement from the Four Seasons for Boomwhackers as well as a singing a song called 'It's the great outdoors to me' about being in nature!
- 3rd Grade - Recorder time is here! Students are learning sound production, air control and their first notes.
- 4th Grade Students are wrapping up their composer projects. About halfway through the month, we will begin our clarinet unit.
- 5th Grade Students are checking out the different members of the ukulele while getting some playing time in on the bass uke. We are reviewing chords and adding more songs to our setlist.

JH MUSIC

Mr. Farris

QUARTER 1

- 6th Grade - We have become quite confident with our handful of chords we have learned and we try to put them to work by playing lots of different songs. We are now working off a list of songs the students have requested. It's great when you can transpose the song you can play it with chords you know!
- 7th Grade - We are really become confident reading guitar tablature and we love to play whole class duets or trios! We discuss the goal as a class and then the students get individual time to work on the part before we put it together as a class. It's really amazing what they are able to do! We recently been working on duets of the Japanese folk song Sakura as well as Beethoven's Bouree, and Mozarts Eine Kleine Nachtmusik. We're fancy!!
- 8th Grade - We are working on the music for the Libertyville High School Junior High Choral Festival next month and everyone is getting more familiar with the four songs. All three sections of the choir are singing stronger and holding on to their parts with more confidence. We also recently started working on this clapping/body percussion section in one of our songs.

S.T.E.M.

MR. HENNEBERRY

- 1st Grade Engineers are building, with pattern blocks, their own designs.
- 3rd Grade Engineers are building, with pattern blocks, their own designs.
- 5th Grade Ancient Engineers are continuing their design and build of catapults.
- 6th Grade Doctors are hard at work solving the food borne outbreak in Montgomery Hills...
- 7th Grade is shifting our focus to space, these engineers are working on their balloon rockets.
- 8th Grade Engineers are working on combining automations to create a product, can't wait to see what they come up with!!!

MEDIA ARTS

DR. MELTZER

QUARTER 1

- 6th Grade finished up our Photoshop Experience by creating "Travel Postcards to Ancient Civilizations." Students used the green screen to add them to their postcard. We then switched to computer programming where we created and played each other mazes. Great job everyone!
- 7th Grade completed our first team project where students created silent movies to show their understanding of camera angles. We also discussed why movie directors pick specific camera angles, distance, and movement. We moved our focus to sounds related to movies. We are finishing up our diegetic vs. non-diegetic assignment. Here, students picked a short silent movie and then added and recorded sounds.
- 8th Grade is now learning professional video editing software, Final Cut Pro. This software allows us to create special effect videos were students can make your friend appear to freeze or students can have a conversation with themselves!

LIBRARY

Mrs. Rappaport & Mrs. Osterman

- Kindergarten had two firsts at the end of September: checking out books from the shelves and our first STEM lesson. We will have another STEM class and be working on parts of a book, internet safety, and prediction this month.
- 1st Grade will be working on internet safety, fiction book organization, and the elements of a story.
- 2nd Grade had our first STEM class at the end of September. We will have another STEM class and be studying abc order, internet safety, and character traits.
- 3rd Grade will be learning about genres, locating non fiction books in the library, and inferences.
- 4th and 5th graders started a Free Verse read aloud and played games related to these books.
- 6th, 7th & 8th Graders participated in a Digital Citizenship lesson about misinformation and fact checking on You Tube and Social Media.

HAVE ANY QUESTIONS? REACH OUT TO YOUR STUDENT'S TEACHERS FOR MORE INFORMATION

