

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

- 4th grade chorus meets every Wednesday at 7:50 am.
- 5th grade chorus meets every Thursday at 7:50 am.
- Drama Club rehearsals on Tuesdays 3:30-4:45.
- World Drumming Ensemble rehearses every Wednesday from 3:30-4:15.
- Chimes meets every Tuesday at 8:00.

Specials News!

Art, Music, and P.E.

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

OCTOBER, 2007

Physical Education News!!!

Speed stacks are here again! The past-paced cup stacking sport that is sweeping the nation will be a part of our Physical Education Curriculum during the month of October. Speed Stacks involve stacking a set of 12 specially designed cups in a series of patterns. The students will learn 3 different patterns, and will play a variety of games utilizing the stacking patterns. The upper grades will also par-

ticipate in some friendly competition using the Speed Stack mats and timers.

Speed Stacks benefit hand-eye coordination and reaction time, as well as promote ambidexterity.

If you would like to see Speed Stacks in action, you can visit their website: <http://www.speedstacks.com> There is a video and much

more information on this site.

In addition to Speed Stacking, students will finish up their fitness testing and begin a Soccer unit.

Kindergarten



ART
Kindergarten has looked at the nature of line and shape. They have used line to tell a story about "Traveling to School". The students are now looking at what it means to be a "Shape". As the month progresses the students will be problem solving. They will take a serious look at what to do if there is a "mistake" on their paper. Ask your

child about the *SCRIBBLE GAME* they learned in art class.

MUSIC
Kindergarten will spend October learning about loud (*forte*) sounds and soft (*piano*). Students will focus on how to use adjust their voice to the different volumes. They will also have several opportunities to play classroom instruments to demonstrate the loud and soft sounds.

1st Grade

Art

First grade students are making a portrait. This is with torn paper ... a process that is new to most first grade students. Students will look at problem solving skills they can use when “accidents” change what they would like to make. First grade students will look at the word “*symmetrical*” and what it means.

Music

First grade students are going to learn how to perform different rhythms containing quarter rests. They are also going to be learning about high and low pitches using Sol and Mi. See if they can sing a short sol and mi pattern using their hand signs!



“Physical fitness is not only one of the most important keys to a healthy body, it’s the basis of dynamic and creative intellectual activity”

-John F. Kennedy

2nd Grade

ART

Second grade art students are looking at “close and far” – “big and small” as well as overlapping. A new project was recently introduced titled “*Herd Drawing*”. Students were challenged to make a “herd” of animals

(flock, school, gander, etc.). This requires the use of big and small items, as well as the more difficult challenge of “overlapping”. These lessons are designed to help students understand why the world looks the way it does. Ask your child, “How big should

an elephant be if it is standing on the horizon line?”

MUSIC

Second grade musicians will begin learning about form in music. We will be singing, dancing, and listening to songs in both AB form and ABA form.

3rd Grade

ART

Our third grade artists have finished their study of Paleolithic art ... the oldest art made by man. They are now starting their unit on Aboriginal art ... the oldest continuing civilization on earth. Mr. Smith, art teacher, brings a lot of his experience into this les-

son as he has taught in Australia on several occasions. Which McCarty stairwell mural contains the Aboriginal emblem for “Meeting Place”?

MUSIC

Third grade students will be continuing their unit on the recorder.

We will be expanding our notes to include C and D. Please make sure your child has their recorder at every music class. Their grade is lowered if they come unprepared. This is due to their inability to participate in the lesson.

4th Grade

ART

Fourth grade artists are finishing their final art piece in their *Portrait* unit. In completing their pictures they must demonstrate an understanding of the proper proportion to be used in drawing the human face. Our fourth grade students have looked at frontal and profile views. Which word means “*information*”: *FRONTAL* or *PROFILE*?

MUSIC

Fourth grade musicians will continue their study of the recorder. We will begin playing melodies that contain whole and dotted half note rhythms. Students will also learn what the function of a tie is. The first testing date for recorder Karate is the week of October 1st, students will test again the week of October 20th.



5th Grade

ART

Fifth grade students have finished their first color unit on *Complementary Color*. They are now studying *Analogous* and *Monochrome* colors and how these visual art concepts can be used in a work of art. Ask a fifth grade student: “If you add white to a color are you making a *TINT* or a *SHADE*?”

MUSIC

Fifth grade will be continuing their study of the ukulele. So far, we learned basic strumming patterns on the C and G7 chorus. This month we will add the F chord. Students will be learning several songs in Hawaiian, and will learn how to accompany their singing voices using the ukulele,

xylophones, and other hula implements.

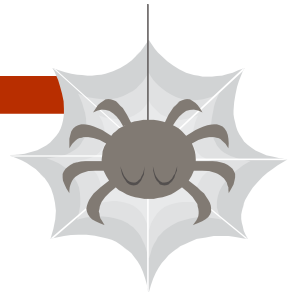




Remember that being physically active should be a part of everyone's daily lives! Encourage your students to get moving!

Mrs. Garcia

Sites to explore on the web!



The Specials teachers (Art, Music and Physical Education) recommend the following websites for your family and children to explore. The content of any of these sites may have been modified from the last viewing by the teacher. It is always appropriate for a parent to thoroughly check out a website prior to your entering the site with younger children.

An internet search does not always give you what you are looking for. Third grade students would do well to look at Aboriginal art work from Australia when they study this important culture in art class. Unfortunately a web search will mostly give you sites in which they are selling art work.

Kindergarten and First Grade:

www.moma.org/destination/

The Museum of Modern Art in New York City has a great site to introduce young children to art exploration.

www.metmuseum.org/home.asp for the MoMa home site.

<http://snowflakes.barkleyus.com/>
This "Make-A-Flake" web site allows a child to cut their own digital snowflake...

...the better one of several snowflake sites. A lot of

fun! ALSO...

www.coasttocoastam.com/timages/page/pumpkin_sim.html

A fun web site to digitally carve a pumpkin!

Second and Third:

www.culture.gouv.fr/culture/arcnat/lascaux/en/

Third grade students study Paleolithic art (cave art)

The Lascaux Cave in France is one of the most famous. The opening of this site is fun as your computer mouse becomes a flashlight and you can "explore" the dark cave.

www.culture.gouv.fr/culture/archeosm/en/fr-cosqu2.htm

The Cosquer Cave is a fairly new Paleolithic cave to be discovered. The entrance to the cave is underwater so this unique heritage site is well protected. A virtual tour makes the art work

http://classicalmusicgames.com/play_musicgames.htm

This is a site that has free music games to either download or play for free online. Several of the games help students learn the name of the musical instruments and what family they belong to.

<http://www.nyphilkids.org/main.phtml>

This site was developed for kids by the New York Philharmonic. There are games for students to play as well as an area where students

can compose their own music.

Fourth and Fifth:

www.artic.edu is the site for the Art Institute of Chicago. Every year we try to schedule the fourth grade into a trip to the Art Institute of Chicago.

www.greatbuildings.com/

A great site for budding architects, and for students who want to learn more about the world. The number one visited building on this site is the Roman Colosseum. Number 22 on the "hit parade" list is the Sydney Opera House. All third grade McCarty students have studied Aboriginal art of Australia. Check the time line on this site for the Sears Tower (Hint: 1974)

<https://www.sbgmusic.com/html/teacher/reference.html>

This is a great site with reference information on musical composers, styles, performers, and instruments.

http://www.musictheory.net/trainers/html/id82_en.html

This site will help students practice reading the notes on the staff.

<http://www.kids.gov> be sure to choose K-5

<http://www.americanheart.org>

<http://www.getupanddosomething.org>
<http://www.kidshealth.org>