

School Notes



Mrs. Planer's art students were introduced to recycled art; specifically sculptures constructed out of recycled materials. The class looked at examples of recycled sculptures from all over the world and viewed a documentary on a group of people in Africa who were making their living selling their recycled sculptures. Students used plastic caps, plastic parts from the ceiling lights in the school, and other various materials to create 3-D works of art.



The seventh grade students were introduced to the art of zentangle; a relaxing drawing technique using various patterns and designs. The class looked at examples of zentangle art and the trendy adult coloring books filled with these funky images. Students practiced drawing patterns and inventing their own designs. Lastly, students created their own zentangle images with white paper and black permanent markers.



Second Grade is Dino-Mite! Did someone say T-Rex? **Mrs. Florio's class** just started a unit on Dinosaurs so stay tuned because on March 18th room 208 will be filled with some awesome dioramas as the children become junior paleontologists.



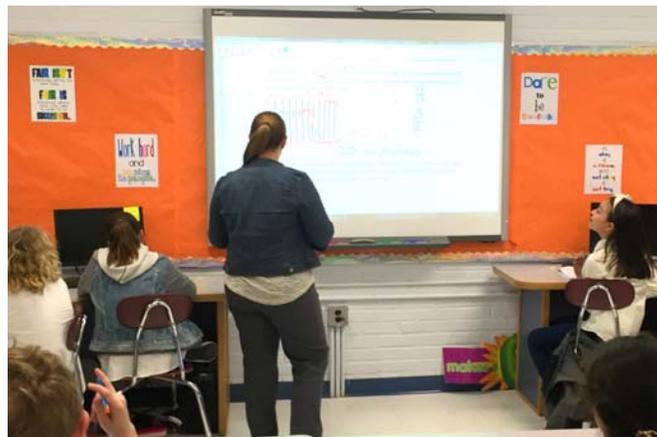
Can you name a favorite activity of **Mrs. O'Connor's** second graders? It would probably be using Chrome Books. From the moment the cart is wheeled into the room, you can feel the excitement. They might be improving reading skills with Reading Eggs, practicing keyboarding with Typing Club, or having fun in math with Math Playground. The one thing they all have in common is realizing that learning can be fun!

Mrs. Zatorsky's class has been busy learning about the U.S. government and the Constitution. The children have enjoyed learning how our government works and why we have a Constitution. The class has learned rap songs, developed fact flip books, used the think, pair, share strategy to reinforce concepts, as well as created interactive notebooks to study. The children truly enjoyed this social studies unit and are now looking forward to learning about the election process.

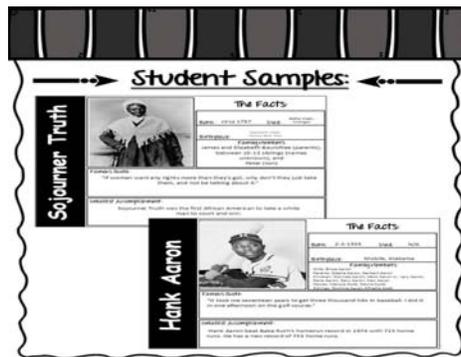


The **Third Graders** in Mrs. Cipoletto's and Mrs. Ristau's classes are enjoying using the chrome books for many activities. They have been using sites such as Fun Brain, Study Island and PARCC Games to reinforce math facts and reading skills. They have been practicing their keyboarding skills in preparation for the upcoming PARCC test. Recently they started using the Chrome Books to keep up on current events by reading the Scholastic News.

Students in Ms. Cafiero's **fifth grade** math class have been working on Adding and Subtracting Fractions using various methods. The students worked to create fraction strips that were used to find equivalent fractions and completed a Jog-A-Thon Math Task in which they used their skills to solve a real-life application problem. Students will use their previous knowledge moving forward as we dive into multiplication and division of fractions. Look out for our Multiplying and Dividing Fractions Choice Board Project in which students choose three mini-projects to practice their new skills!



Mrs. Dally's fifth graders have been working hard in Social Studies researching an Influential African American. The first step of the research was to create a trading card on the person they are researching and then they will write a biography on their influential African American.





Creating a successful board game is an extensive process in the field of leisure and entertainment today, and **Mrs. Benc's sixth grade language arts literacy** class learned a little about that process when they constructed their own board games. Students selected a topic introduced in the level six Wordly Wise book (like the water cycle, silkworms, the Statue of Liberty) and created a board, questions, and an overall design related to that theme. Seventh grade students are reading their fourth novel, *Crispin: The End of Time*, set in the Middle Ages. As an extension to the unit of study, they have also read a packet entitled "The History of Washing" and charted advancements in hygiene and cleanliness from prehistoric times through the present. Eighth graders in Mrs. Benc's class have read a wide variety of novels from different genres and will be comparing the plot of the Newbery Award-winning novel *The Giver* to the recent big screen version. After viewing the DVD, students will write a letter to the director of the movie, expressing their opinion of the differences between the text and movie versions.

Students in **Señora Parkhill's Spanish** classes have been working hard integrating their Chromebooks into everyday lessons. The students have worked on sharing documents to create descriptive paragraphs while demonstrating their knowledge of the Spanish vocabulary and grammar that they have learned. A favorite student website is Duolingo which helps students strengthen their basic vocabulary skills with repetitive and engaging. A class favorite is Quizlet where students practice the unit vocabulary while trying to beat each other's scores.

During **PE Class** the students have completed their Fitnessgram testing and are involved in indoor activities such as volleyball, basketball, & floor hockey. Coming in March the students will be starting archery. Over Winter Break, the boy's and girl's basketball teams attended a Monmouth University Women's Basketball game and got to play on the court during halftime. Lets goooooooooooooo Mustangs!



All roads lead to Rome in 7th grade **Social Studies**. Students have been learning about Rome through project based learning. Projects featured were Roman inspired shields, recyclable Roman forts, mosaic designs, and building catapults culminating with a marshmallow shooting contest. Mrs. Monaghan's students worked in groups creating google slideshows on a variety of topics of their choosing. Some of the topics presented included; Roman food and desserts, weaponry, clothing, music, holidays and volcanoes.



Mrs. Hak's **6th grade Study Skills** classes are taking advantage of technology in the classroom. In Study Skills, we studied Bloom's Taxonomy of Learning. After studying and analyzing the hierarchy, students created a group presentation using Google Slides. Each group read an informational text on puffins and answered related questions. For their project, the groups created a list of questions and/or activities about the text using Bloom's Taxonomy. The objective of the lesson was to see how more complex learning becomes as we move up in the hierarchy. Students enjoyed using their creativity, knowledge, and public speaking skills to share their presentations.



Mrs. Hak's 7th grade LAL class has been studying figurative language. When we read our novel or different types of text, we write down examples on sticky notes and put them on a bulletin board. Represented (and not limited to) are similes, metaphors, personification, idioms, and alliteration. By the end of the year, our goal is to fill up the whole board!

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