

Creative Connections

Spanish

Spanish classes are off to a great start this year! Kindergarten students are now learning about plants and animals that live in the desert. They are also having fun playing games with counting words and singing songs with names for different body parts. First graders have learned songs with Spanish names for colors and farm animals. They also made their own color books. They are now learning names for fruits and vegetables that grow on a farm.

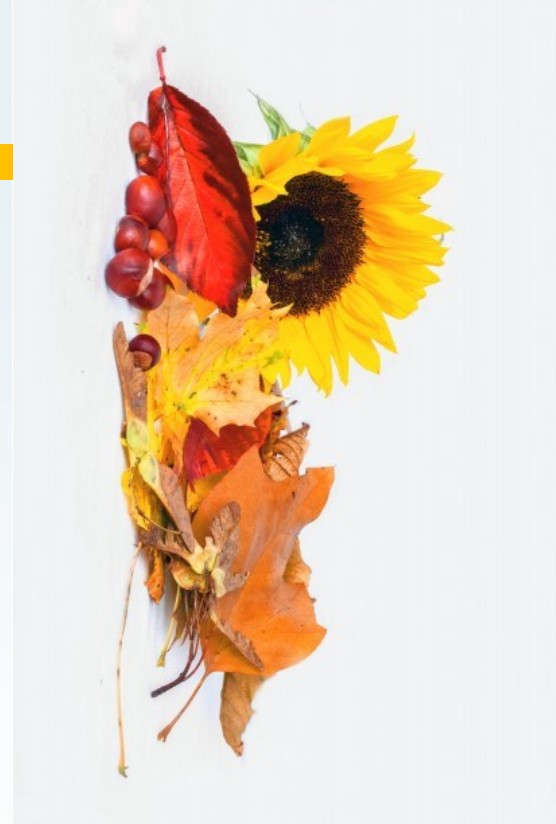
Second grade students are learning about communities in Mexico and the differences between “pueblos” and “ciudades”. They are also talking about the culture and traditions of Latin American countries. Third graders are comparing the different Central and South American countries their classes have studied, while they continue to create stories about different seasons, weather, and activities.

Fourth grade students are using different word banks with nouns, verbs and adjectives to create original sentences and class stories. They are acting out other stories and completing fill-in-the-blank versions of those stories.

The fifth graders have completed their country research projects and have done a great job sharing their learning with a younger class. They are now focused on learning new nouns, verbs and conversational phrases. They will be using them to create original skits to perform for their classmates. If any parents or friends of parents would still like to visit a class and talk about personal experiences in a Spanish-speaking country, please let Señora Galik know.

¡Gracias!

Lynda Galik
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Art

The fall season has become very colorful as we have been learning about nature, warm and cool colors, observing the natural look of trees and leaves and the way our visual perspective determines scale and depth within a painted landscape. Fourth and fifth grade students are beginning art history and learning about abstraction and how works of art and photography can be comprised of nothing but line, shape, and color as the subject matter. I am planning a unit on cursive writing for 2nd through 5th grades which will begin with simplicity and line for the younger grades and will flow into calligraphy for the 4th and 5th grades. Beginning with the next report card, 4th and 5th grade students will each receive a score which will reflect creative effort and art room behavior.

Battle Academy 5th grade students will perform their presentations for the Fall Docent Program at The Hunter Museum of American Art on Friday November 17th. Sign-ups for the Spring Docent Program will be coming home soon.

COMING SOON!

Creative Connections Night is Thursday, November 16 from 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Join us for a fun evening “touring” our CC rooms!



Music

Excitement is building in the music room! We finally have our keyboard lab set up so that 3rd, 4th and 5th graders will be learning the basics of playing piano on the keyboard. They have been hard at work learning how to read rhythms and notes on the staff and it has all been leading up to this unit. This unit will last on through the winter holidays into the New Year. 4th and 5th graders will need to start considering if they will want to join the chorus in the spring semester. While it is still yet a ways off, parents should start looking for information coming about this opportunity next semester.

Meanwhile, K-2 have been building a solid musical foundation with their singing voices. Kindergarten is staying strong with the steady beat while 1st and 2nd grade are adding loud/soft and high/low songs to their repertoire.

We always have fun in this class and making music is our number one goal!
Ms. Kinnaman

Technology

We have been busy in the tech labs this quarter! Third grade students have been learning how to explore topics of interest on Brainpop, as well as continuously working on their typing skills.

Fourth and fifth grade students have begun new projects using Google's "My Maps". Fourth graders created maps of the original thirteen colonies and fifth graders mapped important battles of the Civil War. Great connections with classroom learning!

All students have access to Reading Eggs at home. This is a fun, interactive way for them to have educational screen time .

Websites:

www.brainpop.com

www.readingeggs.com

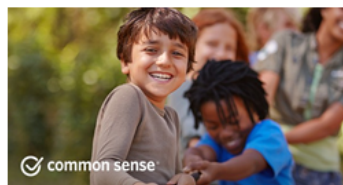
Ms. Hetrick



Library

Thank you to everyone who came to the book fair to buy books! A special THANK YOU to all of the volunteers who gave their time throughout the week. The book fair raised over \$1,800 to spend on books and other supplies for our library. In other library news, I am working hard to link library lessons with teachers' units of inquiry across all grade levels through research using books as well as technology. It is important students understand that the library is a great place to go to enjoy stories, but also the opportunity they have to learn from all the materials the library has to offer. If you are wondering how you can find appropriate age books for your child visit www.commonsemmedia.org. Common Sense Media shows ratings and reviews for books, movies, and games.

Mrs. Fooshee



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