



Alix Nelson, '26, as Professor Ray in *Finding Nemo, Jr.*



Cast of *Finding Nemo, Jr.*

## On Stage

Middle School Performing Arts includes two musical theater productions per school year, as well as a dance showcase. The annual musicals allow students to showcase their singing, acting, dancing, and stagecraft skills. Students are chosen by an audition process in the fall for the first musical of the year. At the beginning of the second trimester, students then begin the audition process for the next musical. The backstage crew for all productions is run by the 8th grade class, where their works in set design, audio, and lighting is showcased. Our musical theater program helps students improve their communication skills, self-confidence, and stronger self-expression.

The 2023-2024 musical theater shows were *Aladdin, Jr.*, and *Finding Nemo, Jr.* Both shows allowed for a daytime and evening performance.

The Spring Dance Showcase highlights St. Mark's students enrolled in beginning and advanced dance electives. Students study ballet, modern, contemporary, and tap throughout the year. The dance class allows students to express their emotions through movement, as well as form stronger self-identities.



Dance Showcase, *Fan Dance*

## Arts and Crafty

### Ceramics:

Mrs. Alvarez has brought Ceramics back in a big way this year, adding it as an elective. Each student had a chance to create new ceramic pieces that they designed using sketches and plans produced in class. In the latest project 8th graders created wind chimes. We can't wait to offer it again next year!

### Art Journaling:

Art Journaling is an exploration of art materials in an art journal. Mrs. Alvarez demonstrates how to use new art materials and processes in the journal and each student is then prompted to create a page using these materials in their journal. It's a fun way to document life as a student at St. Mark's.



Sam Friedberg, '24, displays a wind chime