

K4 ALLIED ARTS

December Newsletter

MUSIC

In December, we have been listening and responding to music performed by the orchestra! Students met their first composer - Vivaldi! They listened to and moved to "Autumn" from *The Four Seasons*. Throughout the year, the children will hear all Four Seasons! They also loved listening and moving to "Trepak" (Candy Canes) from Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*, each moving with their own "candy cane" scarf matching the melody of the music.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

60 minutes of play every day!

This month we explored some basketball dribbling and shooting skills. The highlight has definitely been riding the roller racers and floor scooters. Students explored how to move different ways on the floor scooters. We became alligators, connected to make long scooters to practice teamwork and played scooter tag. We worked on driving in control around volcanoes and craters trying not to wreck our buggy.

LIBRARY

This month, we are learning about snow and snow crystals.

Our school has also partnered with Space-X and NASA to conduct a real-life experiment at the International Space Station! We learned a little bit about the Space Station and read a silly story about outer space.



K5 ALLIED ARTS

December Newsletter

ART



SNOW GLOBES



During part of this month we will work on a mini winter project called "The Snow Globe." We get to use cotton balls to create the texture of the snow! We are also using our drawing and cutting skills to create either a penguin or a snowman in our snow globes. We also get color choices for our base: red, blue or green!

Wishing you a joyous season from the Parkway Art Room!

LIBRARY

We learned how specks in really cold clouds can turn into snow crystals, which clump together to form snowflakes. We also did some Centers related to snow.

Our school is partnering with Space-X and NASA to conduct real experiments at the International Space Station! We also learned about gravity.



MUSIC

Kindergarteners have been singing, moving, and playing instruments to the steady beat. They have been learning that, when they feel the beat/pulse of the music, they can sing, dance, and play instruments together! They have been doing this by singing songs about traditions - baking, cooking, sleigh rides, stories, games, and more!



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

60 minutes of play every day!

This month the highlight has definitely been riding the roller racers and working on driving in control to show respect. Students explored race car games, monster truck games, snowmobile games and even had to survive an earthquake and an avalanche while driving the roller racers!

SEL

Growth Mindset & Goal Setting:

Students learned how to develop a growth mindset & make an effective plan for how to get better at a skill.

The goals of this unit include students being able to:

- Name a repeated action they can do to practice a skill
- Identify who they can learn from or other ways they can try to learn a new skill
- Explain what happens in their brain when they practice a skill.

STRUCTURED PLAY

We will continue going outdoors whenever possible to continue our SEL practice on the playground. If it's an outdoor recess day, it will likely be an outdoor SEL day as well. Dress warmly!

When the snow falls, we'll have more consistent indoor SEL to ensure everyone can participate. That said, please dress for the weather! **Students will not enter snow unless fully dressed in snowpants and boots.** Thank you!

1ST GRADE ALLIED ARTS

December Newsletter

ART



PERSPECTIVE AERIAL SNOWMEN



During part of this month we will work on a mini winter project called "The Perspective Aerial Snowman." We get to use our background knowledge and skills in cutting and overlapping! We will also learn how to use recyclable materials to help make our snowman more 3-D!

Wishing you a joyous season from the Parkway Art Room!

LIBRARY



We learned about snow and how snow crystals can either be shaped like stars or like plates. We also learned that snow crystals are rarely perfectly symmetrical.

We are closely monitoring the plants we are growing on earth (in the library) and comparing how plants grow at the International Space Station! This experiment is being conducted with real astronauts at the Space Station.

MUSIC

1st graders just finished meeting the Woodwind family of instruments. They listened to, compared, and identified instruments that use air to produce their sound. They especially loved hearing the sound of the bassoon and moving to "The Sorcerer's Apprentice," by Paul Dukas. Ask them their favorite woodwind instrument.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

1st grade has been working hard on basketball skills. Basketball ball skills working on big hand (finger spread), hand on top of the ball with pushing down so the ball came back to waist height. They also were practicing shooting like a "pro" with our cue words of bent knees, pizza platter and cookie jar for a follow through. Big things are happening in December in PE where the students are enjoying the activity of roller skating. First graders will learn about safety equipment, falling safely and marching with pizza feet to start and keep them moving forward.



SEL

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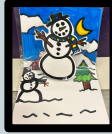
2ND GRADE ALLIED ARTS

December Newsletter

ART



POP-UP WINTER SCENES



During part of this month we will work on a mini winter project called "The Pop-up Winter Scene." We get to use our background knowledge and skills in cutting, folding and pop-up design! We will also learn how to take a 2-D idea and make it into an AMAZING 3-D idea!

Wishing you a joyous season from the Parkway Art Room!

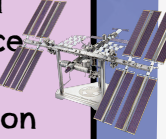
LIBRARY



We are learning about the science of snow and how it forms. We also used playdoh, keva blocks, iPads, legos, and coloring activities to build and play with "snow".

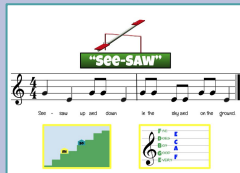


We are also learning about space, the International Space Station, and the real astronauts that are currently at the Space Station studying outer space! We are monitoring how plants grow both when on earth, and while in the real Space Station.



MUSIC

2nd grade students have been working hard continuing to read and perform music. We reviewed so and mi songs and will soon meet the new pitch, la! We remembered that, when we sing, we call our high and low sounds by solfege (do, re, mi...), but when we play instruments we call high and low sounds by musical alphabet them to sing "Seesaw" using so and mi!



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

60 minutes of play every day!

Roller Skating has been a blast this month! We have been working on showing respect by skating in control as well as really focusing on the T-stop! The introduction of backwards skating has been the biggest challenge and we have had lots of fun during our skating games such as the dice game, limbo, or red light green light! Thank you to everyone who took the time to volunteer!

SEL

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STRUCTURED PLAY

In the month of December we have been working on the concept of empathy. Ask your student what empathy means. Does their definition of empathy match "the understanding of how someone is feeling." We explored this through an Empathy board game. We have also been working on identifying empathy in different forms of media (books, short clips and movie). We learned that the most effective way to show empathy is to share a story or experience that had made you feel in the same way.

3RD GRADE ALLIED ARTS

December Newsletter

ART



THINKING "OUTSIDE THE BOX" SNOWMAN



During part of this month we will work on a mini winter project called "The Thinking Outside the Box" Snowman." We get to use our background knowledge and skills in cutting, patterns, placement and overlapping! How can you make an artwork more visually interesting? How does **BALANCE** and **EMPHASIS** create a visually interesting artwork?

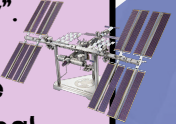
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LIBRARY



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MUSIC

Classical, Jazz, Rock, Latin....3rd graders have loved responding and connecting to all different kinds of music. We have been focusing on learning about music from West African countries. They loved listening to, exploring, and playing some instruments used in West African music including playing in a drum circle. Ask them which one was their favorite.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

60 minutes of play every day!

Roller Skating has been a blast this month! We have been working on showing respect by skating in control as well as really focusing on the T-stop, turn stop, changing directions, and cross pulls to help us turn better! Our backwards skating has really improved and we have had lots of fun during our skating games such as the dice game, limbo, or red light green light! Thank you to everyone who took the time to volunteer!

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