

Joyner Elementary School's ARTS INTEGRATION NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER
2026

KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarteners have been busy learning, growing, and getting to know their new classroom community! We kicked off the school year with the fun and familiar story Chicka Chicka Boom Boom. Students explored letters and letter recognition while creating their own Chicka Chicka Boom Boom trees, filling the hallways with colorful letters and excitement for learning.

Students also completed a special mosaic name activity to celebrate their names and learn more about the letters that make them unique. They practiced identifying and naming the letters in their names, counting the number of letters, exploring colors, and developing fine-motor skills as they tore and glued pieces of construction paper to create their colorful name mosaics.

To help make the first days of kindergarten exciting and memorable, students enjoyed making and drinking Jitter Juice! This fun activity gave students an opportunity to practice following directions, working together, and building classroom friendships while celebrating the beginning of their kindergarten journey.

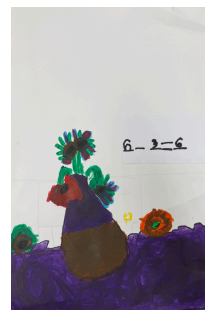
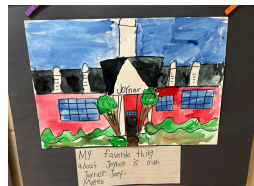
We are off to a wonderful start and are so excited for all the learning and adventures ahead!



FIRST GRADE

First grade has been busy learning about our community and how to be good citizens in Social Studies. We learned about different types of communities and citizen groups. One community we spent a lot of time discussing is our school community at Joyner. First graders also looked at a map of our neighborhood and how Joyner Elementary School contributes to the local community. Students created their own Joyner Schools and wrote about their favorite thing about our school. In math, we have been learning about addition and subtraction strategies.

First graders studied Vincent Van Gogh's Sunflower paintings and painted their own versions with a twist- they included doubles facts and subtraction facts in their artwork.



SECOND GRADE

Our second graders explored identity, self-expression, and what makes each of us unique through different art integration experiences. Students were inspired by illustrator and artist Nate Williams. He is known for his playful expressive style and curiosity. Students began by sharing their hobbies, feelings, interests, and special qualities with classmates. They then studied Nate Williams' distinctive artistic style and discussed how artists can use color, shapes, lines, and symbols to communicate ideas about themselves. Students created their own self-portraits using oil pastels and watercolors. Each artwork became a colorful reflection of the student's personality and the special qualities that make them who they are. Through this project, students learned that art is a powerful way to express our stories, celebrate our differences, and show the world what makes each of us unique!



SECOND GRADE CHALLENGE

Students learned about the artist Pablo Picasso. They created Picasso friendly faces after learning about his life and his art. The students worked on building community in the classroom as they had to draw the shape of their face and then rotate to each other's papers and draw the rest of the facial features. The students had to choose warm or cool colors for their Picasso face based on whether they wanted their work to be in the Rose Period or Blue Period that they learned about in Picasso's life. Oil pastels, Sharpies and watercolors were used in this project.



SPECIALS

Art: In kindergarten, we learned about Paul Klee and warm and cool colors. Students applied their learning by painting a warm and cool colored cat, inspired by our artist. In first grade, we have discussed warm and cool colors and AB patterns, and applied our learning to create an ocean seascape. In second grade, we have discussed warm and cool colors and symmetry, and applied our learning to create a warm or a cool butterfly.

Science Lab: First and second grade students have been learning about refraction and how sunlight passes through raindrops to create a rainbow.

Media: Kindergarten, 1st grade, & 2nd grade students enjoyed attending the Book Fair hosted by Mrs. Womack.

Computer Science: Kindergarten is beginning to code with Ms. Cobb.

Music: 2nd Grade has begun learning their songs for Celebration Village. 1st grade and Kindergarten have been learning Steady Vs. Rhythm and dancing to a variety of folk dances with Ms. Rakestraw.

PBIS: All grade levels participated in our PBIS Pep Rally along with special guests; THS Cheerleaders!

