

Newsletter 10

Happy Friday!

Math~

The Cadaver Factory was the creepy article we read at the start of the week. At the SynDaver Labs also known as the Frankenstein's workshop in Florida, human models that look and feel like the real thing are being created. The concept this was was ratios, ratios are comparisons between two quantities. They can represent part to part, part to whole, or whole to part relationships. The students wrote part-to-part, part-to-whole, and whole to-part ratios of different ingredients used to make synthetic body parts in simplest form.

The second article the students looked at this week was *Art From Algae*, we chose this article since it related to our focus of art that we have been studying with the renaissance. While reading the article the students learned and defined the word diatom, which is a kind of single cell algae, they also reviewed past vocabulary words such as symmetry. The students task was to find the angles of rotation in artwork made from diatoms that display rotational symmetry. This article also gave the students a chance to use tools such as protractors.

Renaissance~

~Presentations: On Monday we started our biographical speeches. The students came in prepared to share their speeches that covered the lives of famous figures throughout the renaissance. Each child came in prepared with a speech, costume, and visual presentation. This was a great way for all the students to be exposed to public speaking, presenting, biographies, researching and finding educational sites to support their research and overall a fun way to learn about historical figures.



Crispin #2~

We have started *Crispin: At The Edge Of The World*, before starting the novel the students worked in groups to cover and answer discussion questions that reflected the first novel. As a class we looked at the cover and took observational notes discussing what we see and made predictions based on that information. The story of Crispin has taken the students on a journey of the renaissance through the eyes of a young boy who is coming of age through sacrifice, friendship, and the will to fight for his freedom with his pal Bear. Throughout the first book the students were able to identify the feudalism that was occurring as well as the great plague that killed so many during this time period. We will be reading the second novel with our eyes open for any direct relations with our study of the renaissance and looking for the connections we see through the novel and our studyperiod.

Field Trip~

On Thursday, we joined Mrs. Dionysia's class and went to see the Scorpion Sting. This play was held at Addison Trail High School and was hosted by the Lyric Opera. The opera was fun and kept us engaged from beginning to end. The students were able to sing along and participate with the cast as they asked for the audience to get involved and help yell out some lines following specific sounds. This was a fun experience for the students and gave them an opportunity to engage in a setting outside of their daily routine and see an opera rather than a play.

Hope you have a great weekend,
Ms. Alexandra

The greatest danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it, but that it is too low and we reach it. ~ Michelangelo