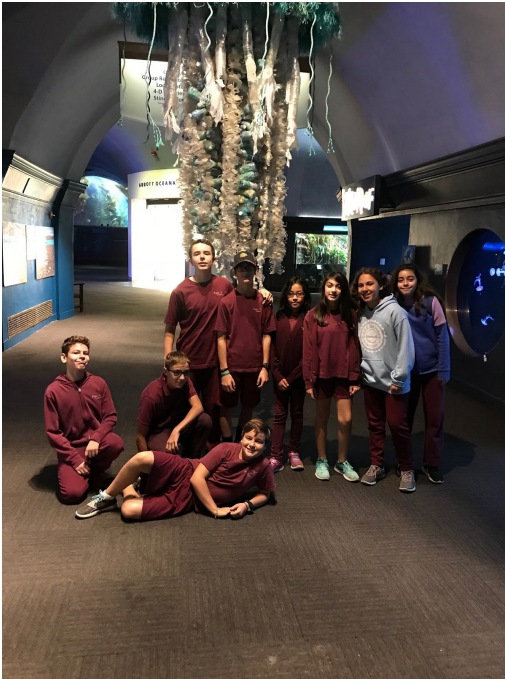


Newsletter #7

Happy Friday!



Science~

This week the students took apart our classroom magazine and choose their own articles to read & present to their peers. The students were to each choose different articles within the magazine, read, summarize, as well as present their newly found information.

Math~

How Many HURRICANES?, this is the article we focused on this week. The students read alongside the work of scientist who makes predictions each year for the big storm months before they strike. The article focused on using predictions from probability, the students used theoretical probability based on past hurricane seasons to make their own predictions. They learned that once hurricane season ends they are then able to compare the actual numbers of the hurricane with their predictions which give them a chance to improve for the following year.

Exploration~

-In a world where deadly and terrifying plague stalks the city, a group of 10 noble ladies and men flee for their lives. Their hope?- survival , their chances?- only fortune knows. This was the way the students were introduced to the novel, *The Decameron* by Boccaccio. The students dissected the title of the novel using their root words and figured out that the novel is based on story about Deca- 10 and meron- days. The students were then able to break down the language they had never heard or seen. They did so by using context clues throughout the text to help summarize each paragraph. We chose to look at this novel for the extremely detailed version of the black plague and to give the students a chance to read text from one of the most important figures in literature.

- The students worked on a PERISA chart, which is commonly used in the high school level history courses. PERSIA is an acronym that is broken down by Politics, Economics, Religion, Social, Intellectual, & Arts. This chart is used while studying different time periods in which each include all of these different categories that are the basic platform that make up a society and transform different time periods. The students used this chart and filled it out based on the information we have learned about so far while studying the renaissance. This was an interesting experience for the students and gave them a chance to take notes in a more organized format.

- We will be starting the second novel following the Crispin series next week!

Shedd Aquarium~

On Wednesday, we took a school field trip to the Shedd Aquarium. The students were able to explore and observe the different life styles each sea creature lives and how they adapt to survive in different environments. Something that the student found very interesting was the amount of waste that is found in our oceans each year. So much waste that throughout the museum they have created & displayed beautiful artwork that is made out of washed up trash from the ocean.



Bake Sale/ Brew Ha-Ha ~

Today marks our third week of Brew Ha-Ha! The students have been keeping track of the entire business process which includes, preparing for the shop each thursday afternoon, counting and keeping track of the income as well as understanding and breaking down our overall profits. We were also lucky enough to help out with the bake sale that supported breast cancer. All of the students took shifts selling and encouraging the younger students to count their own money during their purchase.

Hope you have a great weekend,
Ms. Alexandra



“You must read, you must persevere, you must sit up nights, you must inquire, and exert the utmost power of your mind. If one way does not lead to the desired meaning, take another; if obstacles arise, then still another; until, if your strength holds out, you will find that clear which at first looked dark.”

— **Giovanni Boccaccio**