

Newsletter 5 9/21/18

Math~

Supplementary angles, complementary angles, vertical angles, and adjacent angles are the relationships we focused on this week. *Delicious Designs* was the article that we tackled as a team, the students had to identify angle relationships made from intersecting lines drawn on a cake using a 3D printer. Pastry chef Dinara Kasko serves up desserts in sweet shapes that made the experience of identifying transversals to parallel lines a little more interesting.

~ we also did a short review on mean, median, & mode just a refresher for all of the students.



Architectural boat tour~

On Tuesday, the students in Ms. Bia & Dionysia's classes joined us on the Chicago river for the architectural boat tour. This was such a great experience for the students to see all the amazing buildings surrounding the riverwalk in our city. The students were inspired by the charm, Chicago's legendary architecture, and the exceptional architects who created this ever-changing, dynamic legacy for all to enjoy and admire. The tour navigated us through the heart of the city on all three branches of the Chicago River while the tour architectural guide told us stories about the innovation in design, style and technique of the city as well as why it is still important today.

Art ~ This year we'll be using an art magazine from scholastic. We started with the article *Face Forward*, in the article the students studied painters that use the canon of proportion and added a touch of artistic personality into each of their works. Some of the pieces of art that we looked at were from Vincent Van Gogh, Leonardo da Vinci, and Kehinde Wiley. While reading the article the students were able to look at each painting and identify how the artist each used the same technique in drawing the outline of the faces but put their own artistic touch on it to make it unique and their own. The students then chose to take this to the next level by either drawing one another or creating a self portrait! ~ come check out our portraits on our classroom door.



Experiment: Now You See It, Now You Don't! Sometimes people see what isn't there or don't see what is there. The students wrote a message with ink that doesn't seem to be there on a plain

white sheet of paper. The materials they used were, lemon juice, small dish, toothpicks, electric bulb, and a blank paper. Each student took lemon juice into a small dish and dipped their toothpick into the juice. That was the “ink” they used to write their messages on the blank paper, once the juice dried the students switched papers and were able to put it up against the light to see the invisible message.



Biographies~

The students are currently working on their second drafts of their ancient Greek philosophers biographies. The entire project will be finished and presented on Wednesday, September 26.

~ Quick note on Khan Academy

I just want to be sure that all parents are aware of how I incorporate Khan Academy in my classroom and why I use it. I have been using Khan Academy since I was in school and have found that it is a great resource that supports all students needs. Khan Academy guides students in understanding concepts they may struggle with. This is not how your children are learning math concepts, but it is how they review and are assessed on what they have previously learned or are about to learn. It is also a great tool for me to understand where a student stands with a concept. It helps me in preparing what we need to work on either one on one or as an entire class. I do understand that it could be difficult to watch your child struggle with concepts they have not mastered **YET**. Rest assured that frustration and making mistakes is expected and is OK as this is how brains grow! I assign Khan Academy for this purpose...to practice concepts leading to mastery and to identify concepts that kids did not fully understand. I emphasize to students this expectation and will continue to remind them of the purpose of this at-home practice.

****TED talk by the creator of Khan Academy, Sal Khan.**

https://www.ted.com/talks/sal_khan_let_s_teach_for_mastery_not_test_scores?utm_source=tedcomshare&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=tedspread

Have a great weekend,
Ms. Alexandra

“In my view, no subject is ever finished. No concept is sealed off from other concepts. Knowledge is continuous; ideas flow.” — **Sal Khan,**