



SPECIAL Report



Fall 2017

Physical Education ~ Mrs. DiRisio

The start of the school year had students in grade three working on team building games. We were really working on cooperation and teamwork strategies. The students in grades one and two worked on activities that helped enforce our classroom rules and then we learned low organized games. We practiced moving in self-space and shared space. We also worked on locomotor movements such as **skipping**, sliding, galloping, hopping, jumping, walking, and running.

All grade levels completed a soccer unit. We worked on skill practice, following game rules and learned some basic offense and defense in third grade. The primary students learned **dribbling**, various kinds of kicks, and traps. We also played some indoor soccer on days that it rained.

All students also did a fall run. Third grade walked to the high school track for their mile run. Students in second grade did a 1/2 mile run around the soccer fields and first grade did a 1/4 mile run around the soccer fields. They all received an index card with their time on it, hopefully they shared it with you.

Currently with first and second grade are participating in a ball skills unit using various kinds of balls. We will practice **dribbling**, **overhand** and **underhand throwing** and catching. We have taken those skills and used them to play some fun games. The third graders are participating in a basketball unit. Ask your third grader what the word **BEEF** has to do with basketball. We will be practicing our basketball shooting skills by playing PIG, Knock out and Around the World. We also will be playing some sideline basketball games too.

It is really important that students remember to wear their sneakers for PE days. I would really appreciate your help in reminding your child to wear sneakers and dress appropriately for Physical Education.

Phys. Ed. Vocabulary

1st Grade: skip, hop, gallop, jump, run, jog, underhand, throw, overhand throw, dribble

2nd Grade: shoelace kick, dribbling, punting, inside of the foot pass, overhand throw, underhand throw

3rd Grade: BEEF, traveling, double dribble, crossover dribble



Music ~ Mr. Norris

Grade 3 - This trimester, we focused on developing our **pitch** matching and singing in **major** and **minor** keys as well as recognizing and singing intervals. We've learned several new **rhythms** and sang and performed them. In addition, we created **harmonies** with the bells and our voices. The classes learned that **canon** or **rounds** are ways to create harmony by using melody. We have been learning about the parts of music such as **melody**, **harmony**, **pitch**, **tempo**, and **dynamics**. Also, the students have created their own rhythm patterns as accompaniment to songs. After Thanksgiving break, the third grade students will gear up to be leaders for the school's Carol Sing in December.

Grade 2 - The second grade classes have been singing and dancing as well as playing games to learn and review the parts of music. We first reviewed the concepts of music we learned about in first grade such as high and low, fast and slow, and loud and quiet. We have sung and played melodies as well as harmonies. We play **harmony** on the bells while singing a **melody** at the same time. The students have also practiced reading, writing, and identifying various **rhythms**. Recently, the classes practiced singing in **minor**. We will begin to learn the music for the Carol Sing after Thanksgiving break.

Grade 1 - The first grade classes have been singing and using games and instruments to learn about music. We have worked on hearing the differences between **high** and **low**, **fast** and **slow**, and **loud** and **quiet**. We have sung several different melodies and are starting to learn about **harmony** and how it makes **melody** sound better. In addition, the first graders are learning how to perform, read, and write basic rhythms that we use in class. The students are continuing to practice the steady beat while singing and playing instruments. Soon, the first graders will start learning the music they will be singing in the Carol Sing.

Music Vocabulary

1st Grade: high and low, fast and slow, loud and quiet, harmony, melody

2nd Grade: harmony, melody, rhythms, minor

3rd Grade: pitch, major, minor, rhythms, harmony, canon, round, melody, harmony, tempo, dynamics



Technology ~ Mrs. Painter

We've had a great start to the year in the Rheems computer lab! Students come into the lab motivated and excited and always ready to work hard during their technology class time!

First grade students have been working on independently logging into their computers using their own usernames and passwords. This is a challenging task and it's so amazing to see how far they've come with this skill since the beginning of the year. First graders have also been working with the program Kid Pix and learning how to use the **drawing, painting,** and typing **tools** within the program. Students have been learning how to use the **shift key** to make capital letters and the **space bar** to make one space between words. Students have also spent time learning about the parts of the computer.

Second grade students are working with Kid Pix and are fine-tuning the use of the various tools, including the **text tool**, within the program. They have been working on changing the font and color of text. Second grade students have also been learning about **home row position** when typing and recently started the program *Read, Write, and Type*. This is a wonderful program that uses phonics and spelling to teach keyboarding and word processing skills.

Third grade students started the year reviewing the parts of the computer and their functions. They also began working within the keyboarding program *Typing Pal*. Third graders have recently been introduced to the program OpenOffice and have used it for **word processing** projects. They have been working with making various formatting changes to text and are always excited to learn shortcuts like command/Z to undo, command/S to save, command/C to copy, and command/V to paste text in a document.

All students, first through third grade, will be introduced to coding and computer programming in preparation for our participation in the Hour of Code event that will be held during the week of December 11th – 15th. This is part of a worldwide initiative to give students exposure to coding early on in their education. Depending on the grade level, we will be using activities from Code.org or Kodable.com in technology class during the Hour of Code week and throughout the rest of the year. Please stay tuned for ways you can support your child at home with learning how to code!

* Follow our technology class on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/MrsPainterTech) at <https://twitter.com/MrsPainterTech>

Technology Vocabulary

1st Grade: mouse, keyboard, printer, drawing tools (pencil tool), fill tool (paint bucket), shift key, space bar

2nd Grade: desktop, dock, icon, central processing unit (CPU), text tool, font, home row position, posture

3rd Grade: desktop, dock, monitor, central processing unit (CPU), flash drive, home row position, posture, word processing program



Art ~ Mrs. Brubaker

The time is flying by in art class with students that have been very busy creating wonderful works of art. Below you will find out what the students have been doing in art class so far this year and what they will be doing in the next couple of weeks.

3rd Grade - Third grade started out learning about the **warm** and **cool colors**. They created an **abstract** shape painting using the warm or the cool colors. They also learned how to mix colors to create new ones. Next they made **radial weavings** and added all kinds of decorations. They could choose their color scheme for this project. In November we are starting to think about Christmas and winter so the students will be making a **stained glass** picture with one of these themes.

2nd Grade - Second grade started out the year making **geometric** creatures. They then mixed the **primary** colors to make the **secondary** colors. They painted a **color wheel** and a rainbow picture that they then used to make rainbow fish. Next they made trees with black paint and **oil pastels**. They are now working on sewing a pillow using the **running stitch** and the **overcast stitch**. For their Christmas/winter project they will be creating a **landscape** out of candy.

1st Grade - First grade started out the year learning about the artist by the name of Mondrian. They made an abstract sculpture using the primary colors. They then painted a square using the **primary** colors to mix the **secondary** colors. Next we talked about the job of an **illustrator** and read "Where the Wild Things Are" and they created their own wild things. They then made a fall leaf painting using the fall colors. They also made a necklace with a hand drawn **pendent** and created a pattern with the beads. First grade is now making a picture out of dots, which is a type of art called **pointillism**.

I am looking forward to a warm and cozy art room in the cold winter months ahead. I am excited to see how creative the students can be.

Happy Holidays,
Mrs. Brubaker

Art Vocabulary

1st Grade: primary colors, secondary colors, illustrator, pendent, pointillism

2nd Grade: geometric, primary, secondary, color wheel, oil pastels, running stitch, overcast stitch, landscape

3rd Grade: warm colors, cool colors, abstract, radial weavings, stained glass

