

## Taking a Mandala Day

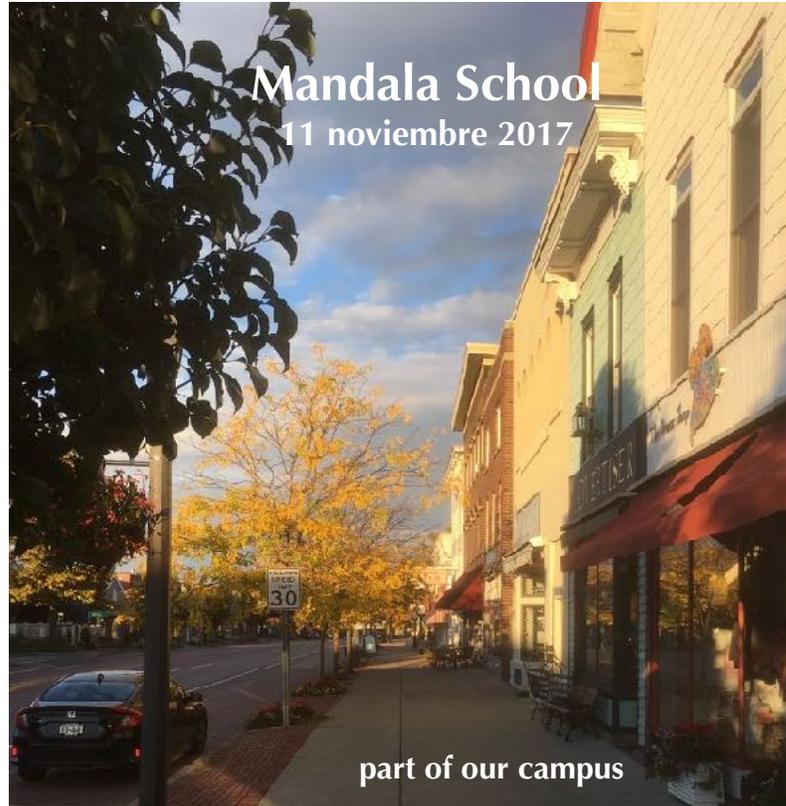
Don't tell but former students occasionally take a "Mandala Day". Several parents allow their children a day back at Mandala to refresh themselves, to take a break from less-creative and less-enriching places.

We even have college professors and career workers ask to spend a day with us to see what is possible in education. Secretly, they really want to experience the happiness that abounds here.

Please feel welcome to join us when you need recharging!



Student of the Week



Pancakes  
The burning wonder of,  
What it would be like,  
To be flour again.

*Alex*



Alex of Lancaster

He enjoys playing guitar and occasionally ukulele. Alex loves to draw. One goal is to make a piece of art that's respected.

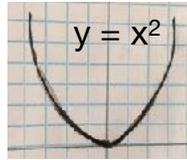
While he loves the movie *Back to the Future* he hopes his own future includes a trip to Italy.

## American Harvest Dinner

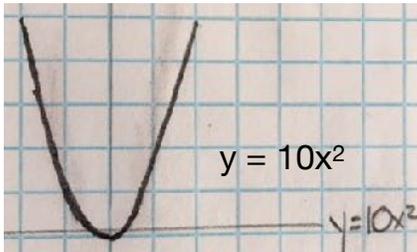
On Tuesday, November 21, the students will gather for a meal of foods from the Americas: squash, corn, beans, potatoes, chocolate. This annual event honors an attitude of gratitude. Our Mandala culture strives to encourage gratitude for both the small and the large. We try to counter the relentless criticism, bitterness, and divisiveness all too common in the larger society. Please consider contributing butternut or acorn squash, kidney or black beans, homemade pumpkin or apple pie, homemade cornbread, or potatoes. *Merci beaucoup!*

# Parabola Research

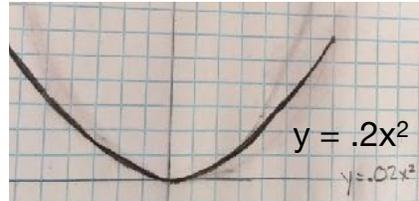
By Kai



An equation whose graph curves on both sides of a line and gets wider and wider is a parabola.



If the number in front of the  $x^2$  is larger, the parabola is narrower.



If the number in front of  $x^2$  is smaller, the parabola is wider.

## On Learning to Read & Write

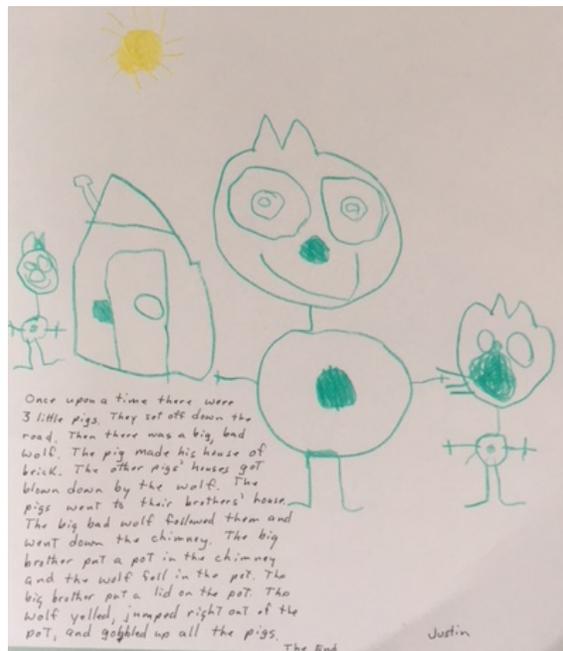
The most important factor in learning to read is being excited about stories. When families and teachers read or tell stories, children want to know more. They discover that reading is the portal.

At Mandala we have an integrated approach to literacy. We read a lot to them, we scribe for them, we make picture books, we play with phonics. As the children develop writing skills, their stories are shared with the whole school. The younger ones hear more sophisticated stories from older ones then try harder to emulate them.



## Outdoor Play & Reading

As children develop gross motor coordination that helps develop fine motor skills which are those needed for reading and writing. Below are some students working on reading and writing.



*Scholarship need: If you know anyone who would be interested in sponsoring a child at Mandala, please have them contact us. We have families who make tremendous sacrifices to pay tuition and they could use some help. As you know, we are a 501 (c)(3) so the donations are tax deductible.*