

# Mandala School Newsletter

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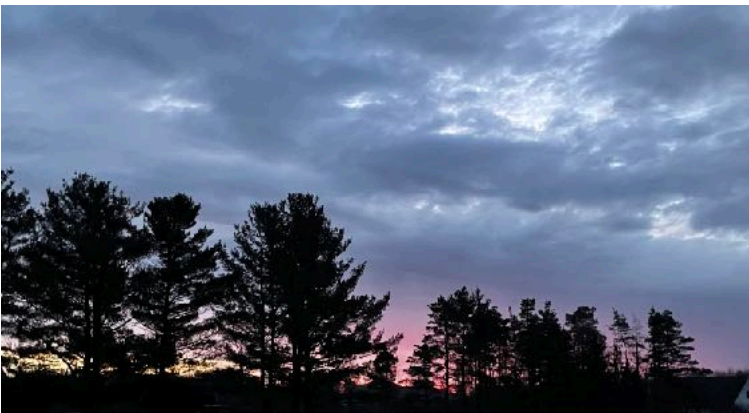


## Winter Solstice

In the summer the days are longer and in winter the days are shorter. The days are longer in the summer because the Earth is tilted toward the sun and in the winter it tilts the opposite way. It tips at an angle of 23.5 degrees! December 21st is the winter solstice which is the shortest day of the year. The longest day of the year is June 21st. In Autumn and Spring the days are more equal, twelve hours of daylight and twelve hours of night. After the winter solstice, the days will start to finally get longer!

If the Earth were too close to the sun, it would be too hot for life. If it was further away, it would be too cold. We are in the goldilocks zone!

By: Charlotte, Mira, Graham, Omi, Zachary, Elena, and Katie



Some of The students of Mandala School are entering a writing competition from the Women's Club of New York. Anyone can enter the competition and some Mandala students are choosing to participate. Juan, Katelyn, and many other students are writing and submitting amazing pieces of writing. First place entries can be sent to the regional judging and winning that will send you to the state competition where winning sends you all the way to the national competition where you can face off against many other writers from across the nation, and even win money and college credit, whereas winning the other competitions can win you certificates.

The stakes are especially high with people all over the state entering and as your writing reaches different competitions, you'll face better and better writers. The enthusiasm for this competition at Mandala promises to inspire many top-rate stories. The most important part of this competition isn't about winning it's about using everything you have to create a wonderful story or poem and stretch your creativity.

By Jackson

## 🛼 Mandala Open Skate! 🛼

So many of us enjoyed it when we went ice skating last week so we decided to go again!

**When:** Tuesday, December 28th at 1:00 P.M.  
(ends at 2:20 P.M.)

**Where:** we will meet at the EA Classic Rink  
41 Riley Street, East Aurora

**Who:** anyone who would like! Parents and siblings are welcome to join! If you can't make it and would like to drop off your child that's okay too!

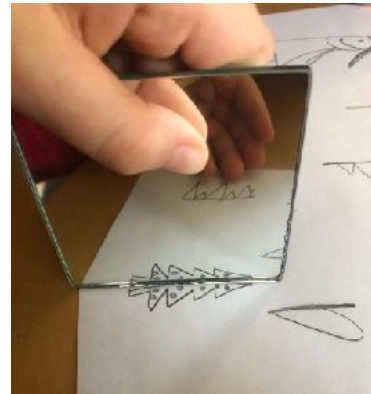
**Cost:** \$10 (\$6 admission, \$4 skate rentals)

If you can't make it there are open skates everyday during break!

more info: <https://www.classicrink.org/skate/>



**Ama and Millie coloring in math**



*The youngest students experimented with mirrors to learn about symmetry!*



*Thank you, Sonia! We love the books!*

Below: students exploring cotton plants from the southern states



*excerpts from students writing on friendship*

Friendship to me is when you and another person or people have more than trust for each other, you can tell them things without a second guess. True friendship is when you can tell when someone needs a friend and you can be that friend that is there for them. True friendship is when you miss them when you're far apart even if you know you can't be there. -Jackson

What is a good friendship? Everyone has a different idea about what a friendship is or what kind of friend they want but to me, a good friendship is when there is a lot of loyalty and trust. It would make it hard to have a strong friendship if nobody trusts each other. Friendship is important for a lot of reasons. It's important to have someone who will support you and be there for you when you need it. -Ria

A true friendship is thinking about the other person sometimes, more than just thinking about yourself. A true friendship is checking up on your friends and asking how they are doing. A true friendship is finding things that you love to do with each other. A true friendship is being yourself around your friends, if you can't be yourself around them they aren't your real friends. -Katelyn



*Happy holidays  
from all of us at  
Mandala!*

