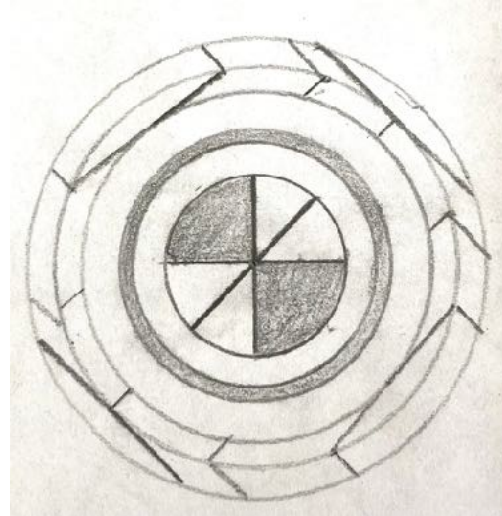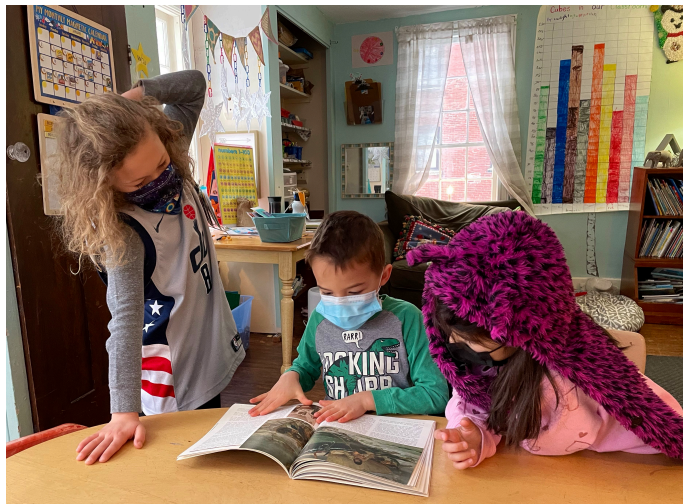# Mandala School Newsletter

January 28, 2022

Volume XIV Issue XVII

It's really fun using compasses. We've made really cool shapes and designs with them. *By Katie*

Pickles

I'm not very good at writing poems,
I try, I try, I can't lie,
But pickles, oh pickles,
They shall do,
Pickles, pickles, I love you.
They're green and lumpy
And salty and bumpy,
Pickles are crunchy and slick,
I can eat them until I'm sick,
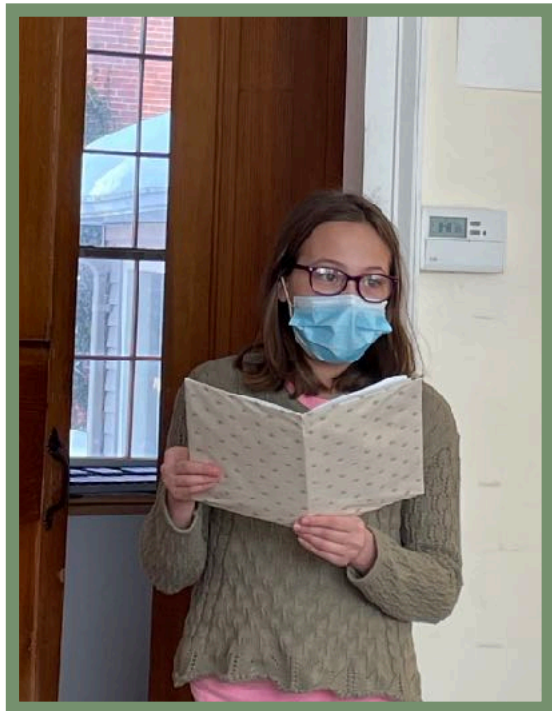I feel like eating a pickle,
Just about now.
By Katelyn

We read "The Second Coming"; it was pretty interesting. The line "Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold" seems to be about the survival of society or civil unrest. Then it says "Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world" which is the way it feels with the pandemic, climate change, and the Republican party.
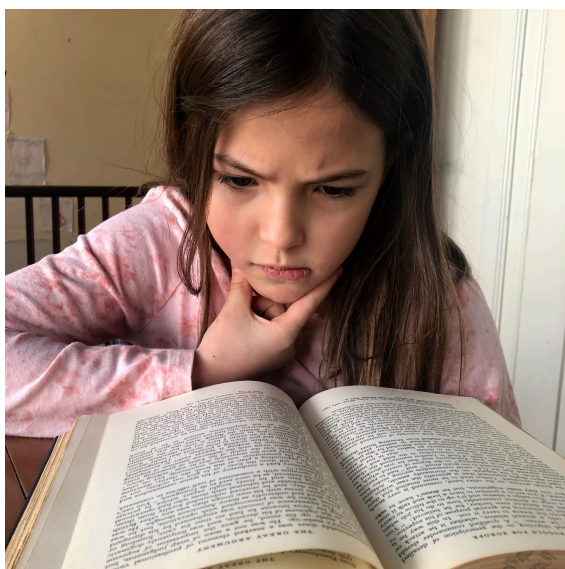
It was interesting because the writer, William Butler Yeats, was a Christian but had some un-Christian ideas like not believing in a second coming or being optimistic. *By Nolan*

reading, writing, vocabulary are just some of the things we work on during "productivity"

Elena presenting her fairy tale, "A Fairy Tale Mix Up"

The older students have been researching the history of slavery and civil rights in the United States starting with the first people sold in 1619 in Virginia. The students are researching laws of Congress, Supreme Court decisions, protests, hate groups, voting rights, and related topics. They are also using a website, Understandingprejudice.org to gain a better understanding of attitudes leading to prejudice and discrimination.

They are being challenged to think about how our history affects the present and future of the United States.

Student of the Week: Katie

The student of the week this week is Katie, a sweet, kind eight-year-old girl who enjoys doing her homework, playing outside, swimming, and watching TV. Katie wants to go to Hawaii and Florida. If she had a million dollars she would buy a guinea pig and save the rest for fidgets and other toys. She lives with her parents, siblings, cat, and dog. Katie is a great reader and has done some excellent presentations at school. She can also be very silly, sometimes getting the whole room erupting with laughter. She is learning French. She is never cold. Katie does animated imitations.

The Chinese New Year

So first we cut cardboard and then we cut the back legs and front legs. And then we painted it orange. The head was on the body and then we painted that orange. and then we added black stripes around the tail. and then we add white over the orange. and then we added a face with googly eyes. We are not done with the tigers. *By Starlight*

a proud Georgie learned to tie shoes this week! *Go, Georgie!*

Exponential decay: Throughout the week we have been studying exponential decay and learning how to graph it. When graphed, exponential decay displays as a reversed exponential curve. We have been messing with equations in order to find what equation would show exponential decay. Eventually we discovered that we need to input: *Original number $\div$ X^y* in order to get the correct graph. What does this mean? You have to take the original value, let's say 1800, and take it times the value of decay, let's say half, and then multiply it times itself to the number of half lives that have passed, hence the exponent.   *By Juan*

delicious pizzas today!
homemade dough
homemade sauce
& homemade mozzarella!