

MANDALA SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Announcements:

Yoga classes Mondays after school with Ms. Kelsey. Pick up at 3:30 P.M.

Winter break starts on Monday, December 19th. We will return to school Tuesday, January 3rd.

Our next book report will be due January 17th. Genre: historical fiction or biography. (books make great holiday gifts!)

Student of the Week: Jackson

Jackson said that he likes the school for the style of teaching and that it is more focused on the individual. He likes the teachers because they make you understand and still have a good learning style with no homework! He doesn't like math too much. Jackson enjoys science and writing.

Jackson said that the best thing that ever happened was going to France. We took a trip there in spring 2018. He's never been outside the U.S. or Canada before that. He liked that he got to go to a new country, try new foods, and visit new places. Escargot was his favorite. He loved seeing the Eiffel tower at night with all the lights going. That was the best memory of his trip, although it was very hard to pick just one!

He said if he could go anywhere he would go to Tokyo in Japan. If he could get any house he would get a small mansion he also if it wasn't a small mansion he wants a decent size house with enough space for whatever he wants to do.

If he had one wish it would be that anything he wants comes true which would include having world peace and world hunger solved.

He said that if he could be any animal he would want to be a fox. If he could have any pet he would choose a hedgehog.

Overall, Jackson is a very kind and creative Mandalian.



By Mira, Finn, & Ms. Kelsey

I mean, I like shoes,
 But I'd rather not wear them in the woods.
 On my leathery feet I love the soft moss,
 To make my feet feel light.
 I trudge through the forest,
 Stepping on the cooped-up puddles,
 Caught by Birch tree leaves.
 Little plant heads peak their way
 Out of partly decayed leaves,
 To see the sunshine on newly-budded leaves,
 Peeking back at them.
 My feet feel the cool water and the nice sunshine
 after the cold, long winter.
 They feel good after sticking in my shoes all winter
 waiting for it to be January.
 When I go on the sidewalk it's hard on my feet, it's not as bad as the pine needle forest.
 My feet don't hurt on the rocks but the tiny rocks sting.
 I mean, I like shoes, but I'd rather not wear them on my feet.



by Mira



In art we are making puppets and we're making a play about a dog that was rescued. The dog grew up and became a professional rescuer. He helps save other animals. I am making a cat. First I am using cardboard to cut out the shapes of the body parts so it can move. I am cutting cloth to make the body parts a different color. My cat is gray. Next I will glue it together and use fasteners so the body parts move. I like this project because of the story. - Sachin

How to Find the Epicenter of an Earthquake by Sarah

We started by learned about P-waves and S-waves. P-waves are faster and they can go through solids and liquids. S-waves are slower but they can only go through solids.

We looked at seismograms for different cities. The P-waves always come first. We figured out when the P-wave would hit and find the time difference between when the P-waves and S-waves hit. The longer it takes the P-wave to hit the more time is in between the P-waves and S-waves.

We used graph paper to figure out the exact time difference between the P and S-waves and then we would follow the line down to find the distance to the epicenter in kilometers. Then, on a map, we used a compass to draw the circles from three cities to see where the three points would meet. The radius of the circle was the distance the wave traveled. Where they meet is the epicenter of the earthquake.

Here is a problem the advanced math class worked on. Try it before looking at our solutions.

Counterfeit Coin Problem

An international coin dealer has to catch a plane very soon. He has ten coins with him but is told that one is counterfeit. He can figure out which one because it does not weigh the same as the others.

He has a balance scale with him but he is in a hurry. What is the least number of weighings needed to find the counterfeit coin?

Ella's solution: Tell the buyer he is getting nine good coins and will only be charged for nine.

Sachin's solution: Drop them in water and pick the one out that sinks at a different rate.

[Bob Colligan showed up as we were discuss the problem and confirmed that different buoyancies would separate the coins.

Others: Some figured out how to find the counterfeit in four weighings and others in three weighings.



Above: Elena and Clara show their holiday song lyrics and drawings
Below: Finn practices on the recorder

