

Mandala School Newsletter

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In Music we are doing recorders and reading notes. If we master two songs we get a little ribbon to put on our recorders.

We are also doing composer of the month, each month we learn about a new composer and we fill in the blanks. I am not sure yet who will be the next composer of the month but we have learned about John Williams and a lot of other people. By Katie



Ms. Leah's cooking workshop took on sushi this week. Delicious!



In my literature group I am reading *Percy Jackson: The Lightning Thief*. It is about a boy named Percy who gets expelled from every school because they think he has dyslexia and ADHD but his mind is just weird for Ancient Greek and his battle skills start acting up. He goes on vacation and his friend Grover shows up and they start to drive, a minotaur is chasing the car and kills Percy's Mom. Percy summons up all the courage he has and jumps on to the minotaur and rips off its horn and stabs it into its lungs. Grover and Percy start running to Camp Half-Blood By Clara

Tales from the Odyssey is a book about Odysseus. His wife was captured and now with his boatmen he goes to bring her back. They eventually do bring her back. They go back on the boat to go on another journey and it takes a very long time. They haven't seen anyone in years. They go to the land of the dead and something crazy happens... but I won't ruin it for you.

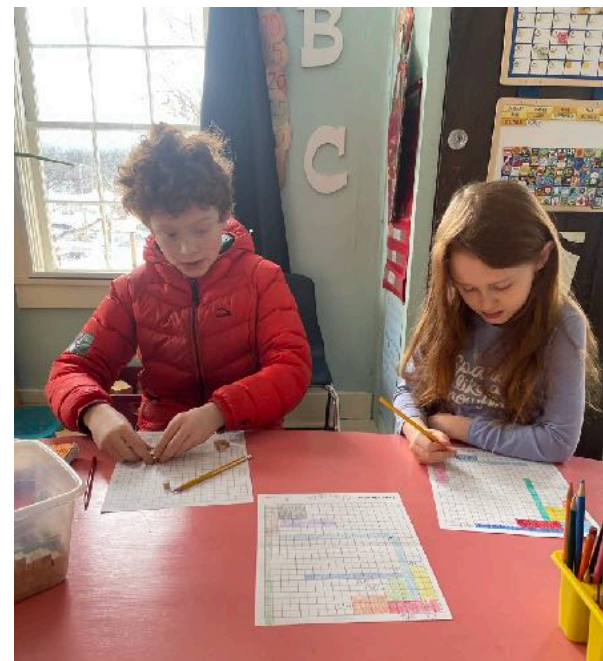
I like that there are three different stories in the book. It is not just about one specific story. The book doesn't have that many villains in it which I don't like and I feel like villains make a good book. By Graham



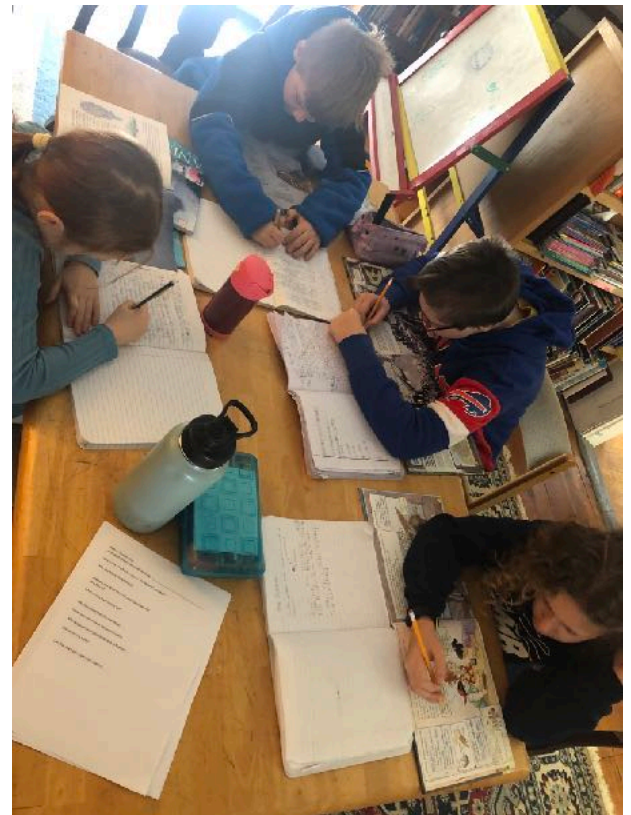
What's the scoop Bryce?

On Fridays at the end of the day we do workshops. You have a choice. They are weaving, ceramics, cooking, sketching, wood burning, and dancing. I am doing dancing with Nolan, Ama, Amelia, and Miss Erin. Amelia is teaching us some ballet and Miss Erin is teaching us modern dances like the Cha Cha Slide and more. It is really fun. By Elena

In Dr. John's math class we are learning fractions. For example we added fractions and subtracted them. We talked about fractions and learned how to multiply and divide fractions. First when we did adding fractions we did $\frac{5}{3} + \frac{7}{4}$ and then we subtract fractions like $\frac{3}{5} - \frac{4}{2}$. Eventually we did multiplying like $\frac{5}{8} \times \frac{9}{3}$ lastly on Thursday we started dividing fractions. By Johnny



Graham and Aurora work on construction factors of 12 and 16. Aurora discovered that Ms. Kelsey was secretly having us do multiplication.



Aurora, Kyle, Charlotte, and Bryce work on rapid research: *how much can you find out about a topic in 40 minutes?*

Community lunch Thursday: mac n cheese & broccoli. YUM!

Some students have voiced the worry that people are treated differently when they miss deadlines or don't finish an assignment. They may have carried this sense of unfairness home to families.

All students are expected to complete assignments to the best of their ability and on time. Sometimes students ask for extensions because of absences or their project is going deeper than imagined.

In the end all students are responsible for their own assignments and deadlines. When they don't finish in an acceptable way, families are informed. Other students do not always know this and think that someone got away without doing their work. Please know that does not happen.



Ria, Katelyn, Clara, Ms. Erin, Jackson, Amelia, and Sachin smiling in front of the stage at Kleinhans Music Hall. Ms. Kelsey took this small group of deserving students to watch *Virtuoso Paul Huang Plays Bruch* Friday morning. Our wonderful music teacher, Erin, played the flute along with the BPO. We are so proud of her!

Student of the Week: Ella

Ella is 12 years old, and has been at Mandala for two-and-a-half years. She loves to study nature, because there are so many different topics involved. Though her favorite project that she has done was on Hurricane Katrina, "I really like researching natural disasters." Fun fact, her dad sometimes calls HER a natural disaster.

Ella is also really into horses. She would like to be a horse vet in the future, and would consider starting a horse tack company. Her favorite place to be is Amherst, Massachusetts. "All the people are really nice. They are also very green and organic. I don't even live there, but everyone still remembers us, which is nice because everything is small local businesses."

Ella is a natural-born leader. When things or people need organizing or order, she is the first to jump on it. She cares for all of the students especially ones who need a shoulder to cry on. Thanks for all you do for our school, Ella.

Interview by Amelia & Sachin



Ella presents her final project in wood-burning workshop.