



Mandala School Newsletter

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May 23, 2024

Announcements & Reminders:

*Please check your email for a description of our Honors Ceremony and for the Mandala student your child is assigned to honor.

*We are off for Memorial day Friday, May 24th - Monday, May 27th.

*Next week is the FINAL girls club.

*Summer camp has a few spaces still available. Registration is on the website!



This week in math the oldest group is learning about problem solving on their own. We were given a big piece of paper with a hard algebra problem to solve together. Everyone went around and started saying their ideas and solving all of the steps.

Elena was very experienced on this problem and was helping with all of the confusing questions people were having. After a few minutes we all started passing back and forth good ideas and observations we had about the problem until we came up with an answer.

By the end we had all mastered these types of questions and had not memorized but actually learned why this works and how it works so the next day we had no problem taking our comprehension check. By Farrah

Advice for future Mandala students:

Before my first shadow day, I was terrified and I thought people were going to judge me because I didn't know anyone. When I got there, everyone was very welcoming and friendly. People usually stick to their own groups: Younger group, middle group and the oldest group, but we all talk to each other. I get along well with everyone at the school but when it comes to who I sit next to and walk to the park with, it's usually the older group.

One of the biggest tips I have is to try your best because the teachers want to help you. At any normal school you would get a test and if you failed, you just get a bad grade and move on. At Mandala, they explain and help you until you understand. At our school, it's really important to be responsible. You are expected to clean up after yourself when cooking, crafting, etc. We have chores at the end of the day, they are easy but you should never just skip them.

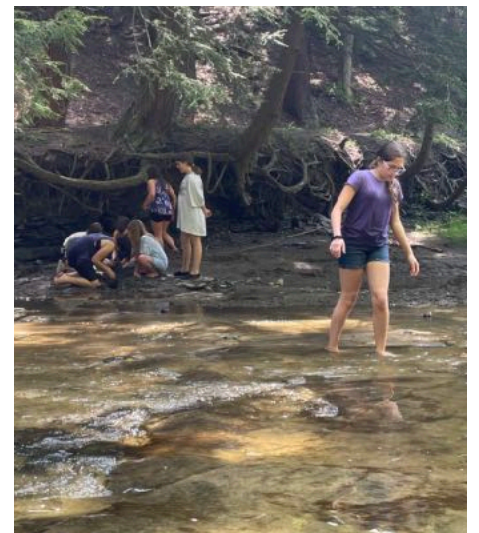
Bullying is never tolerated at Mandala school, of course, sometimes people get into arguments and that's just human, but you need to learn how to apologize and get over things. You see the same people almost all day, so hating someone and holding a grudge is not a good idea.

We don't have the same stressful assignments and homework as public schools, but you should never take advantage of that. It's important to always turn in your projects on time, which isn't hard since we don't get many, and don't ignore your work just because it isn't graded.

By Sarah, 8th grader

Problem Solving

Problem Solving will
make you cry
It will make you scream
And it will also make
you die.
Math class will make
you miserable
But success follows,
shortly after the feeling
of triumph
And solving problems
makes you happy
Whether it's gaining a
once, now-lost friend,
Or gaining back the
kindness in burned,
harmed hands
Or even the simplest of
things;
Maybe it's finding the
right spot for a poster
Or the wrong spot for
yourself
Or maybe the feeling of
spreading your wings,
The hinges once long-
harmed and rusted.
Or maybe it's the little
things?
Solving the right
ingredient for a cup of
tea
Or the perfect thing to
do on a Friday night
But of course,
something happens
And once again
Problem Solving will
make you cry
It will make you scream
And want to die
Math class will make
you miserable
But success follows,
shortly after the feeling
of triumph
By Zachary



The Mandala School is a small school that only has two rules

1. Be kinder than you want to be (Please don't use loopholes: I know that you want to be mean throwing an apple at someone when you really want to run them over with a plane)
2. Don't interfere with learning

A lot of rules fall under these two categories so that's the only reason there's not more. For instance gum is banned because people put it under the tables and doing that is not being kind to the teachers. Or yelling out, "I HATE SOCIETY" (Trust me, I do too) during class counts as interfering with learning. There was once a time when all the students were just trying to find a rule that didn't fall under that category about a year ago but nobody could find one.

Whenever you come to the school you are put into an age group. There's the Younger Group, The Middle Group, and The Older Group. At least it used to be that until the middle group was divided into older middle and younger middle. It starts off depending on age but a lot of the time you can be put into higher groups for classes based on skill or something like that. Also I think that the groups are slowly getting harder to move up from until finally everyone will be trapped in the younger group forever to be sealed away learning how to tie their shoes forever but that's just a theory.

At 8:30 school actually starts and there is a morning meeting. There the entire school just discusses everything that happened recently. Once that is over we all go to math, which is the equivalent of pain and suffering internally until 9:50 where we have a break to go to the next class which sort of depends but usually it's writing. Sometimes it can be art or music though. Once writing is over at 11:00, we have languages however if you have art or music you go all the way to 11:30

At 11:30 we have lunch and rec. Rec just means recess and after eating lunch you can just do what you want (Besides swapping the Chromebooks). People hated me for that. But other than that pretty much just do what you want like play games or something. After that at 12:45 we have reading which could be the teacher reading, you reading by yourself, or the entire group reading out loud for every page or paragraph. And then we have research which is just researching different science or history topics. After that at 2:00 pm you have chores so you just sweep a room or wash the table or something like that; it really depends on the chore though. After that it's just free time like rec until your parents pick you up

Made by Finn (Just another student in the Older-middle group)

Hello, my name is Johnny and I am a teenager in the older group. At Mandala, it's pretty easy to express yourself with pretty much anything, for me I like to express myself in my math and writing work. I do this by making stories about my life and by trying harder problems and learning the best I can. Other people at Mandala express themselves through art, and science among other things. Sometimes it's hard to express myself in what I do because I'm nervous I will be made fun of but that doesn't happen here so I never need to be worried about that. As you can see expressing yourself is pretty easy.

Written by: Johnny



Empathy

By Kody H.

To feel others pain
Is to understand the feelings around you
You have to know yourself
So you can know this world
When you understand the truth
You can begin to help and learn
Learn the ropes and start the gears turning
Send them whistling, bumping, and whirling
Help the ones unlucky
And love the ones unkind
And remember to always, always keep peace of mind.

