

Mandala School Newsletter
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Have a great break! Happy Easter

Student of the Week

Jasper is an 11 year old Mandalian. Jasper speaks his mind and follows his heart. He believes in equality and fairness and helps solve problems at school.

Jasper has been a hockey player for his whole life. He learned to skate when he was one! He just went to the championship game two weeks ago, that was his latest accomplishment. His team plays in East Aurora and sometimes in Hamburg. "I have three siblings: my little sister, Evelyn; my older sister, Lanna; and my little brother, Beau."


If Jasper could visit anywhere it would be France. He would like to have baguettes.

Countdown: 23 days!
Don't forget: Science Fair is April 25th
Break would be a great time to work on projects!

Be Kinder Than You Want to Be. It isn't just our first rule for students, it's an expectation we have for the community. At Mandala, when people step through the door we want them to feel kindness. We want them to feel safe and comfortable. When we model kindness and respect for our children it is learned and followed.

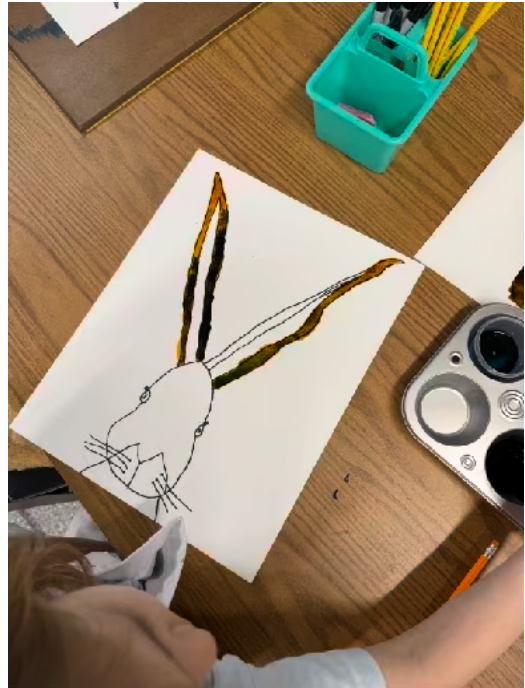
It's obvious: nothing is perfect. Problems arise, life happens, and so does conflict. When those difficult moments can be met gently, with respect, the outcome is always more successful, leaving both sides empowered rather than defeated.

When adults react, kids are watching. When they hear judgement, they understand. When adults model positive conflict resolution and problem solving it teaches our kids how to navigate problems positively.

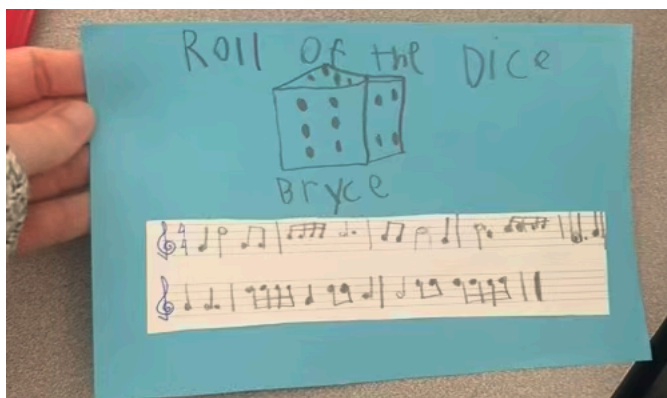
At Mandala we want to foster kindness. We have a special place and we need everyone to help keep it that way! Give grace, be kind, move forward!  Ms. Kelsey



You should always control yourself when going shopping while hungry. It's possible you could grab too much without thinking, grab things you don't truly need or in the end want. And it's the same with people. That's why you reach for that person when you feel empty, like reaching for a snack when a little hungry. Not because it's right or because you thought it through, just because something in you is starving and they look like they could fill it. So you take too much, or you take too fast, and in the moment it feels like enough and the emptiness has disappeared but the feeling of being full never lasts forever. It all goes right back in the amount of time it came. Suddenly it wasn't about love anymore, just the fact you craved something you felt you needed, about fearing what could happen if you stopped, if you stopped loving, if you stopped taking and taking, and now you question if you ever loved them at all or if you just didn't wanna feel empty. By Vienna



Kindergarten and 1st graders painted rabbits in the style of author and illustrator, Catherine Rayner.



In science we learned three words: *transparent*, *translucent*, and *opaque*. Then we looked at ten different objects with a flashlight to see if the light came through. The rose quartz (above) is translucent.

Ms. Dianna is our most wonderful volunteer.

Dianna was born in Duluth, Minnesota but moved to Alabama when she was six. She moved to Alabama because her dad got a job at NASA working on the moon launch! He was a mathematician. Sometimes her dad brought her and her brothers and sister to work with him! She remembers running around.

Dianna remembers playing outside when she was young. You didn't need your parents to drive you anywhere. She had to walk to school, crossing a bridge. When the bridge flooded school would close.

Weston asked what historical moments she remembers. Here is what she said: Her mother and brother were leaving Memphis when Martin Luther King Jr. was shot. She also remembers being in second grade and the Vietnam War was beginning. She lived in Huntsville which had a military base so there were a lot of families there. Lastly, she also recalls when President Kennedy was assassinated. Dianna was in first grade. She said it was on television for days and days. She saw him before moving to Alabama, he came to Duluth and was in a parade.

Ms. Dianna's brother is an engineer. One of her brothers is a doctor and the other is a cinematographer.

Ms. Dianna went to college in Huntsville. After that, she went on to law school, briefly in West Virginia then stopped and moved back home to work and save money. She worked in oil and gas which brought her out west. Eventually she moved to Colorado and went back to law school at the University of Denver. She was mostly interested in Environmental Law.

She met her husband when she was in Colorado. They met at a Halloween party! He was going to school to become an engineer.

Ms. Dianna was a full-time mom when she had her daughter, and she says that was the best job she ever had! Dr. John was her daughter's teacher in fifth grade which is how she started volunteering here.

We love Ms. Dianna and we're so glad she comes to Mandala to help us! She is helpful, kind, generous, and smart. THANK YOU, MS. DIANNA!



Above: playing in the creek at Warren Park

Below: working together in math class to measure the height of the chimney