

# ENCORE NEWSLETTER

## Art with Ms. Minor

Students in PK are studying the art element of shape this month. They are drawing using shapes, creating collages using shapes, cutting out shapes and many more shape activities. You can support this unit by reading books at home with discuss shape and ask your child to identify the shape of objects in the world.

During February Kindergarteners studied the work of African American quilter in Gee's Bend Alabama. Each student created quilt square inspired by their work.

Next we are starting a unit on illustration. We will be reading Aaron Slater, Illustrator and Milo Makes a World Illustrated by Christian Robinson. Students will create their own story told in pictures.

Students in first grade will soon be creating sculptures made from single use plastics and studying the work of Deborah Butterfield. We will be collecting plastic caps to bottles and the screw tops to baby food/ apple sauce pouches. If you have some you would like to contribute please place them in bag and label them Ms. Minor, Art. Thank you in advance.

Second grade has let their imagination run wild the past couple weeks while they created their own superheroes. Next up they will create their own comic strips for their superheroes.

Students in 3rd Grade are studying the art of Keith Haring. They are creating posters for the school about friendship and peace. The finished posters will be displayed throughout the school.

Our parent-teacher conferences will be held this Thursday, March 10 from 5-7 PM with our Encore teachers. Please feel free to message us via email or Dojo regarding a time to confer. The meeting links will be available in your child's homeroom Parent-Teacher Conferences folder on Schoology.



## Music With Mr. Frisicaro

Our music students have had the opportunity to learn about important contributions of African-Americans to our American musical heritage over the last few months in recognition of both Dr. King's birthday and Black History Month. We have performed music hailing Civil Rights in America as well as studying idioms originating from African-Americans.

Our instrumental groups at NPC50 have been thriving. I would like to see the Piano Club grow even more this year with more students choosing to enroll in group keyboard instruction.



## Library With Mr. Geyer

Hello Panther Parents!

We've had a great time celebrating the winter holidays and Black History Month in the Library. March is Women's History Month, and April is National Poetry month so we've got lots of fun activities and people to learn about. We like to tie library topics in with our STEAM activities, so ask your child about Ada Lovelace (the world's first computer programmer)! We also will have some cool books and activities about conservation coming up when we celebrate Earth Day.

Books and materials are arriving in waves and we're in the process of rolling out additional software and robots for students to practice computer coding in the STEAM Gym. It's a great time to be a student at NPCS, and a great time to be the Librarian.

Students in enrichment have been practicing research methods and learning to present their work using video editing software. 3rd grade will be piloting a project where they guest teach 2nd grade how to make a video Book Talk (think of a commercial for a book), and then 2nd grade will teach guest teach 1st grade! These projects not only focus on creativity but also literacy- students need to write responses and turn them into scripts for their Book Talks.

I can't believe how fast our students are picking up this stuff! They're keeping me on my toes!  
Thanks for your support!

Ms. Minor will be welcoming a student teacher at the end of March. Meet Ms. Rebl...

Hi! My name is Ms. Rebl, and I am an Artist and soon-to-be Art Teacher from Buffalo, NY. I recently moved back home from Europe, where I lived in Germany for 5 years. My favorite places I visited in Europe were all over Italy, and cities like Paris, London, Prague, and Budapest! I love making art, talking about art, discovering new artists, and finding fun and exciting ways to create everyday!



Alebrijes sculptures created in 1st grade Art enrichment.  
Left to right: Emmet Quinn, Tess Duquette, Yoaquin Reyes

## Physical Education With Mr. Metzen

I hope everyone had a restful and enjoyable February break! In PE, we just finished up our version of the Winter Olympics. We participated in the torch relay, the team bobsled, and the egg race (not an Olympic sport, but still fun). The students had a great time learning about the Olympics and participating in those three events.

We have been participating in the Kids Heart Challenge for the past three weeks. We have been jumping rope or doing some sort of jumping activities for our warmup. Everyone is doing such a nice job and have a lot of fun along the way. As a school, we have raised over \$1,000 for the American Heart Association so far! Great job everyone. Keep up the good work, we have on week to go!

We have also been participating in the Fitness for Kids Challenge. Each month, we have talked about different things that involve our overall health. We have had great participation during class! In the upcoming months, we will be focusing on eating 5 servings of fruits and vegetables each day, getting 2 hours or less of screen time per day, one hour of physical activity each day and zero sugary drinks each day. Each challenge goes along with some fun activities for the kids to do during class.

Coming up in PE, we will be begin playing some cooperative games where the students will have to work together with another person or a team, to achieve a goal. We will also begin to play a variety of recreational games that will work on the different skills we have learned throughout the year. Hopefully the weather will start to get a little nicer and we can get outside!

