

Dolphin Pod Post

Dr. Charles R Drew Elementary School

Media:

Learning: In January students in PreH/Head Start enjoyed books and songs about winter. Students in Grades K-5 participated in lessons about digital citizenship. Students in kindergarten, first, and second grade identified ways they can be good digital citizens, including pausing when it is time to put away a device and generating ideas for how they will be good digital citizens when they are using devices online. Students in third grade considered how their online activity can impact themselves, their community, and the world. Fourth grade students drew comics to show how they could be an upstander when cyberbullying happens. Fifth grade students examined the curiosity gap and how the curiosity gap is used to create clickbait headlines.

In February students in PreK/Head Start will read fiction books about animals and view videos to learn facts about the animals. Students in grades K-1 will be reading picture books that have been nominated for Maryland's Black-Eyed Susan Awards. Grade 2 students will read picture books and identify the point of view of the characters in the books. Students in Grade 3-5 will be engaging in activities related to Black History Month, including reading informational text, conducting research, and sharing their ideas with their classmates.

Reminders:

- For information for parents/guardians about the digital citizenship topics students have been learning about, check out these resources from [Common Sense](#).
 - Media Balance: [English](#) [Spanish](#)
 - Interacting Safely Online: [English](#) [Spanish](#)
- Please reach out to me if you have questions about Drew's media center. My email is Lori_Tecler@mcpsmd.org. Thank you for your support!

Art:

Learning:

- *Pre-K / HS:* Through the winter months students will make art inspired by Norway, China and Ukraine! We painted rhythmic and musical paintings inspired by Kandinski, created monotype arctic prints, celebrated Lunar New Year with the Chinese Zodiac and will create heart art in February inspired by African and American artists!
- *Kindergarten/First:* Through the winter months students will make art inspired by Norway, China and Ukraine! We painted rhythmic and musical paintings inspired by Kandinski, created monotype arctic prints, celebrated Lunar New Year with the Chinese Zodiac and will create heart art in February inspired by African and American artists!
- *Second/Third grade:* Students came back from break ready to learn about Norway and the legend of trolls! We have been creating clay trolls and learning about glazing clay. We will soon be learning how to sew stuffed hearts in February as we learn about Sankofa African hearts.

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- *Fourth grade/Fifth grade:* We explored Kandinsky's synesthesia, constellation and night sky inspired watercolors, Lunar New Year dragons and will be creating plaster masks around the theme of identity and inspired by Basquiat in February!

Reminders:

- Please wear old, dark-colored clothing on art days!
- Our emails are jennifer_l_potter@mcpsmd.org and jacquelyn_h_skandalis@mcpsmd.org (PreK). If you need to contact us, please feel free! Thanks so much for your support.

Music:

Learning: Music Measurement Topics for the third marking period are performing music and responding to music.

- *Pre-K / HS, Kindergarten, and First grade:* Students have learned about Rhythm and keeping a steady beat by singing and moving to all kinds of music! We also "Ice Skated" along to music using paper plates to slide across the floor. In February and March, our focus will turn to performing with a variety of instruments to show more high/low pitch and grade level rhythms.
- *Second grade and Third grade:* In February students will read whole notes, half notes, sixteenth notes and the dotted half note to perform some new songs. Reading pitches on the staff and performing them on instruments has also been great fun. We are reading music!
- *Fourth grade and Fifth Grade:* Students have been performing partner songs such as "The Canoe Song", and adding their own created rhythms on classroom instruments! We will continue to learn about pitch and the staff in the coming months, as well as writing and performing music.

Reminders:

- Our emails are Brian_W_Weyant@mcpsmd.org and Alexander_J_Edwards@mcpsmd.org (Arnold and Blackman). Thank you for your support!

Physical Education:

Learning:

PreK-2 will be learning the 5 jumping and landing patterns, balancing activities, and weight transfers in gymnastics. We will also start jump roping! Students will also learn about activities that promote fitness, and the role of the muscular and skeletal system.

Grades 3-5 will learn about creative movements, (sequence, rhythm, formation, contrast, and coordinating movements with others). Students will also create a tumbling sequence using static balance, weight transfer,

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and rolls. Students will also discuss the need for rules in a social movement setting and learn about ways to resolve conflict when working with a group or team.

Adapted PE:

Learning: Our students are comfortable with our warm-up and stretching routines. We are seeing so much growth and improvements in many students. We will work on balancing, jumping patterns, and dance and rhythm. Equipment is modified for success.

Reminders:

- Please make sure that your student wears sneakers on PE days. On cold and rainy days, please pack sneakers to change into when your student prefers to wear boots. Safety is our priority.

Please email either of us with any questions! Lauren_G_Rinker@mcpsmd.org and Sean_T_O'Connor@mcpsmd.org (Abdelmegid and Leichtling).

Instrumental Music

Learning: Moving forward the Advanced Strings will be learning about the notes of the G string, slurs and ties, and some new fingering combinations. The Advanced Band students will also be learning about slurs, identifying new accidental symbols, and learning about dotted quarter notes.

Beginning Strings will continue to develop technique of using the bow as well as learn the notes of the A string and will eventually combine the two skills together. Beginning Band will expand their range to include more notes of Concert Bb and continue to build breath support.

Many beginning students are working hard to earn their Karate belts. Make sure students are getting in 10-15 minutes a day of practice about 4 to 5 times a week.

Reminders:

- The exact schedule is posted to MyMCPS classroom. Reminders and schedule updates are sent out thru MyMCPS and Synergy
- Set aside a 10-15 minute practice time block, 4-5 days a week for students to practice and review for the next class.
- Weekly practice assignments are posted on MyMCPS classroom. Questions? Email Ms. Krohn at daniella_e_krohn@mcpsmd.org

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Counseling:

Learning: In January we told stories and played games! This was our lesson in COMMUNICATION, so we played Telephone, Charades, and a passing game so that we would experience the difference between ineffective and effective forms of communication. In February we will talk about productive non-verbal ways of expressing our emotions. Students will use their CREATIVITY in music, visual art, or dance to create representations of different feelings.

Reminders:

- Every student has counseling in their rotation once every 4 weeks.
- There is no grade for counseling lessons, students just need to be ready to participate.
- We will continue to work on social skills and working through problems with students as well as encouraging students to utilize their trusted adults in the building if a problem arises.

If you have any concerns please feel free to reach out, my email is sara_b_krauss@mcpsmd.org.