

Lovely Lighthouses

By Margaret Gearin

In the Art Studio, the 4th grade artists of Highland View E.S. are in the process of creating beautiful drawings of lighthouses by softly sketching with graphite pencils and adding charcoal to enhance the mood of the environment, in order to capture the ever changing weather patterns by the sea. First, students lightly drew the largest shapes beginning with the positioning of the lighthouse in an asymmetrical place on the page. Then they added the details of the unique catwalks towards the top. Next, they plan to add various types of the habitat surroundings, including bulbous boulders, sand and water near the shoreline, sea grasses along with shrubbery and trees. Though the drawings are 2 dimensional, the students are producing the illusion of the 3rd dimension by smearing, smudging and smoothing with a "chamois" cloth. The term chamois is French for soft tissue. This process of creating a range of gray values from light to medium to dark also adds to the volume or weight of the images. The final step will encompass subtracting graphite and charcoal with erasers used as a tool, in order to define the rays of light and wind patterns throughout the air space. Just as in mathematics, the process of adding and subtracting is connected to the end result which equals beauty.

Notice the combination of geometric cylindrical and rectangular shapes of the architecture juxtaposed with the organic oval and curved shapes of the earth.

Enjoy Art!

Music Notes

By Sherri Pfaff

Happy November! Just as the trees have been ablaze with the lovely colors of autumn, the Music Room has been brimming over with beautiful sounds this month.

The Kindergarten students have been demonstrating a **steady beat** while moving (using loco-motor movements) and while staying in place (using non-loco-motor movements).

The first graders have been performing, listening to, and creating arrangements using **contrasting musical sounds** like fast and slow, loud and soft (**forte and piano**), high and low, long and short, lazy and energetic, and many more.

The second grade students have shown expert skills at demonstrating **awesome audience manners and concert etiquette** while preparing for their trip to the Strathmore Performing Arts Center.

The third grade students have been working on the vocal skills of breath support and phrasing. The students have also been working on identifying parts of the **treble staff (treble clef, measures, barlines, lines, spaces)**.

Fourth grade students have been notating, performing and composing rhythmic compositions, using specific phrase forms, that include **sixteenth note rhythms**.

Fifth grade students have been learning about the musical form, **theme and variations**. They have been having lively discussions about the musical processes that a composer may use to create a **variation**.

Please mark your calendars for our **Chorus and Instrumental Music Winter Concert on Friday, January 11, 2019 at 7:00 PM.**

I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to be your child's music teacher.

-Mrs. Pfaff

Showtime at Highland View

By Javier Godinez

Hello and happy fall to the instrumental music community,

The advanced ensembles have now started to refine their tone production, which means that pieces are starting to breathe a whole new life. The percussion is adding a lot to the dynamic of the band's pieces, and in mid-December both bands will be getting together to rehearse as preparation for our winter concert. The advanced strings are starting to get a fuller sound due to more bow pressure on the strings which has been the focus and will continue to be until after the winter break. All advanced ensembles have performed review pieces that are good selections for the winter concert, but more importantly, these pieces have given the students a chance to listen to one another for performance in any future ensemble.

The beginning brass classes are making a lot more progress by continually performing with a steady air stream. This helps to provide a full tone and clarity with notes. The trombones constantly work with the flutes, and each section of students supports each other continuously with each class because the focus is on a clear performance which encourages all students to perform their best. Although the flutes are not brass instruments, they work with the trombones because all of the notes have the same letter names and both instruments require a lot of air.

Speaking of flutes, the woodwinds are also making a lot of progress with their fundamental skills. All flute and clarinet students barely need help in assembling their instruments by now, which can be confusing especially with the 5 parts that the clarinet requires for proper assembly. The clarinets are beginning to read music with a lot of facility, and this means that reading sheet music notation on five staff lines will soon be more of a fluid skill.

The beginning string classes are making a lot of progress in their bowing. A lot of time is spent on all string classes, beginning and advanced, with the bow because this is where clarity of sound is determined. The beginning string students have performed by plucking strings (pizzicato) and are now adding all the skills simultaneously: bowing, fingering, reading, listening to each other, and listening to their own performance. All instrumental music students end up performing between 4-5 tasks simultaneously, but string students have more external components to be aware of due to the bow. At this time, the beginning students are able to perform 3 simple pieces using a rote sheet titled, "Playing by the Numbers."

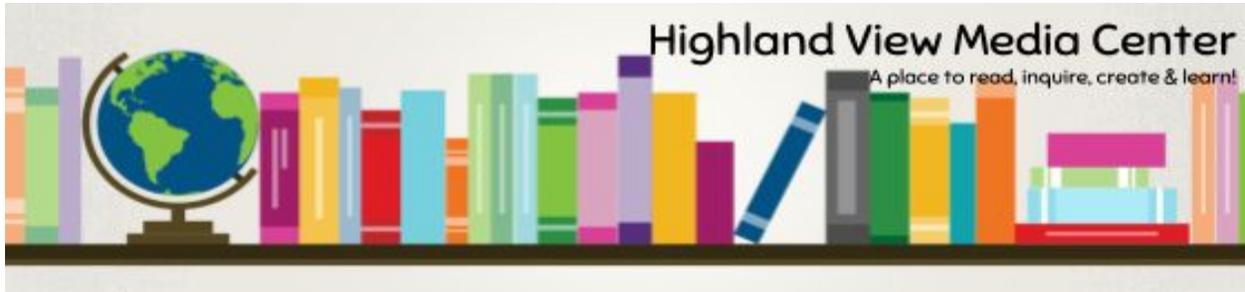
I'm grateful to you and all of your support for this program, and it is great to work with these students as they progress a lot with each class. This makes Fridays all the more special!

Hello again from the Gymnasium! Here are some of the things the Eagles will be working on in the coming weeks...

- Kindergarten students will continue performing the locomotor skills of walking, running, hopping, jumping, sliding, and galloping, in response to a signal. They will also be able to identify or demonstrate the cues for throwing underhand and catching while remaining in self-space.
- First grade students will continue performing the locomotor skills of hopping, jumping, galloping, sliding, and skipping. In addition, students will be able to describe the function of the heart, lungs and skin.
- Second grade students continue performing the locomotor skills of galloping, sliding, and skipping while moving along straight, curved, and zigzag pathways. They will also be able to locate pulse points and describe changes to heart rate based on activities.
- Third grade students will be defining aerobic activity and apply methods for measuring heart rate. They will also be able to identify and apply cues for the overhand throw to refine throwing an object to target at various heights.
- Fourth grade students will be identifying and defining the fitness components of cardiorespiratory endurance, muscular strength and endurance, and flexibility. They will also be able to demonstrate throwing and catching with a partner from various distances.
- Fifth grade students will be listing activities that enhance cardiorespiratory endurance, muscular strength, muscular endurance, and flexibility. Also, students will be able to demonstrate overhand throwing to moving targets and catching at a variety of distances.

We are having a wonderful year so far!!

-Mr. Grasso



This year in the media center, in addition to checking out books, students will participate in different stations on a rotating basis. All grade levels have been participating in the following stations:

- **Illustrator Station:** Students refine their drawing skills and practice being an illustrator at an easel. Students have the choice of crayons or markers to create their pictures.
- **Author Station:** Students write their own books or greeting cards. If students finish writing a story or graphic novel that they are interested in adding to the library collection, we meet to revise and edit. Completed books are laminated and are put into circulation.
- **Tablet Station:** Students practice being an ethical digital citizen and utilize educational apps to listen to stories, practice letter sounds, or learn how to code.
- **Makerspace Station:** Students will be given different materials to build or create something. Some makerspace activities include: origami, magnet tiles, snap circuits, and a coding mouse game.
- **Reading Station:** With the addition of eight cushioned chairs, we have made the reading station a comfortable space to read!
 - Reading is always an option for all students in place of participation in any other station
 - If you have any children's magazines that you'd like to donate to the Reading Station, please let me know!

Happy Reading!

Mrs. Breslaw

Counselor's Corner

By Laurie Burney



Kindergarten, first, third and fourth graders were taught the meaning of the word gratitude. Gratitude means that you show appreciation for someone or something. We focused on the school setting.

Some of the examples included:

- Gratitude during recess: Students were taught to listen to the adults and follow their directions. When playing with students, they were taught to use kind words and include someone different that they typically would not play with.
- Gratitude for education: Students were taught to do their best work even when it is difficult or seems to be too easy. They were told that some students do not have the opportunity to attend school.
- Gratitude in the cafeteria: Students were told to try to eat some of the fruits and vegetables that were offered to them. If they don't like them, that is fine but at least taste them. This is a way of showing appreciation for the variety of foods that we have in school
- Gratitude in the bathroom: Students were told to show appreciation for a clean bathroom by keeping it clean and not make additional work for our building services staff.

Second grade students had an additional lesson on personal body safety. This lesson entailed students identifying when they felt uncomfortable, saying No, Go and then telling a reliable adult. Different scenarios were acted out and students practiced saying, "No, Go" and then telling and adult. Please review this information with your child.

Fifth grade students had one final lesson on computer safety. Students were taught not to share their password or personal information online. There was discussion about cyber safety and bullying people online.

