

October 2018



P. E. with Mrs. Brooks and Mr. Mumma

-Over 150 SNIS students signed up for the Maureen Haas Elementary Cross Country Race.

In Physical Education Class the students are participating in a basketball unit:

- They are learning the proper technique for dribbling, passing, and shooting.
- They are identifying errors and making adjustments to their technique.
- They are incorporating the fundamentals into modified game play.
- They are participating in games that require cooperation and knowledge of rules.
- They are working in cooperative groups that share the jobs of "coach" and "player".



Health with Ms. Schirizzo

Grade 3 is exploring how to be responsible and safe in cyberspace. They will earn their "learners permit" at the end of this unit. **Grade 4** is exploring the wonderful world of germs. They will learn the difference between communicable and non-communicable diseases, and how to protect themselves from the two most common pathogens – bacteria and viruses. **Grade 5** is exploring non-communicable diseases and their potential causes. Once we come up with some causes we will brainstorm ways to reduce our risk of developing 5 of the most common non-communicable diseases.



Rockin' it in Music

Mrs. Capone's Classes—

*Third graders received their long awaited recorders at the beginning of the month and have been learning the techniques of recorder playing. So far, they have learned to play B-A and G, and have done simple songs with a combination of all three. Our composer is Edvard Greig, as we use a listening map to listen to "In the Hall of the Mountain King" from his Peer Gynt Suite. We have also added a number of canons to our song repertoire, and continue to work on notation.

*Fourth graders have spent the month honing their recorder skills on a piece we call "Monsters in the Moonlight". It is based on Chopin's "Funeral March" with lots of spooky sounds in it. In the process, students have learned about the great Romantic composer, Frederic Chopin. In addition to singing we have concentrated on learning new music vocabulary this month (staccato/legato; crescendo/decrescendo;/forte/piano; fermata) and how these Italian terms indicate how the music should be played.

*Fifth Grade has been doing a unit on the great Baroque composer, Johann Sebastian Bach this month. We have read his biography, and played his music on the recorder. This unit will culminate with a group project that will be displayed in the hallway. In addition, 5th graders are beginning to learn how to put measures together in various time signatures.

Chorus:

All grades continue to work toward the Veteran's Day program coming up on November 9th, as well as their Holiday programs.



Ms. Wahler's Classes

Music Continued...Ms. Wahler's/Mrs. Parke Classes-

*5th Grade Musicians learned about...Major and minor- students used their creative writing skills and our ukuleles. Ukulele- C, Am, and F chords are under their fingers and they are playing along to pop tunes they have heard on the radio. Musical Form- students are showing off their dance moves as they explore musical form.

*4th Grade Musicians learned about...Making music more interesting including: dynamics, harmonies, and accompaniments. Major and minor- students made their own identification tools to help them understand and identify major and minor music they hear. Recorders are off to a great start this school year!

*3rd Grade Musicians learned about... Making music more interesting including: dynamics, harmonies, and accompaniments. Music Literacy- students have explored the treble clef staff by doing music centers. Recorder- proper playing techniques and our first 3 notes!

In the LMC with Ms. Lavoie

October displays in the library featured books about Halloween and mysteries. We began the month reviewing library expectations and procedures with all grades. Students were reminded about checking the Date Due slip in their book before renewing a book and that all books are checked out for a two-week period. Students are expected to return their library book on or before the due date four times in order to earn the privilege of checking out two books going forward. We already have more than 50% of SNIS students checking out two books! **Grade 3** students practiced logging on to the chrome books and accessing the SNIS webpage, and we reviewed proper book care. **Grade 4** students were taught how to log in to their own library accounts to track their checkout status. This allows students to see which books they have checked out and if they have any overdue materials. **Grade 5** students practiced Type to Learn and we also reviewed best practices for proper book care.



Art News

Mrs. Amodeo's classes:

- *3rd grade are starting their 2-D unit on Claude Monet. Students will be studying Monet's "Waterlilies" via Power Point. They are creating their own Waterlily paintings, using an oil/water resist.
- *4th graders have studied the art of stained glass, and will be creating a drawing of their own design in the stained glass style.
- *5th graders have been studying Silhouettes and are making their own stunning fall silhouettes.

ART STUDENT OF THE MONTH : Makayla Reed

Mrs. Sullivan's Artists:

- *3rd Graders are creating Pumpkin Patches by mixing yellow and red together and inventing different shades of orange. I have introduced foreground, middle ground, and background.
- *4th Graders are being inspired by the colors of Autumn. Wax resists is a process that will be used to create a collage of leaves. Students will then paint their leaves with water colors.
- * 5th Graders are creating their own color wheel and learning about mixing Secondary and Tertiary Colors. This project is one of my goals for 2018-19 school year.



Makayla's Silhouette



Band/Orchestra News with Mr. Fitz

We are off to a great start with the instrumental music program. Total number of students participating is 280 with a nice balanced mix of instruments.

Beginner students are working on their first "belts" in the band/orchestra karate program. Once they earn white, yellow and orange belts, they will be invited to come to Beginner Band and Strings rehearsals which start this coming Friday, Nov. 2nd.

Intermediate and Advanced Band and Orchestra students are preparing for their December Holiday Concerts. Santa at the Symphony and Jolly Jingle Dreydl are among the tunes they will be performing.

Our Advanced Band and Orchestra students will be performing the Star Spangled Banner along with the Choruses on November 9th for the Veteran's Day assemblies.

