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▶ Volume 1, Issue 1

Summer Fun 2012

Principal's Message

Mimi Maniscalco

Summer Academy 2012 has been full of incredible learning experiences for our entire community. Students have been creating delicious healthy foods in Healthy Snacks and Smoothies and in What's Cooking in Math. They have also learned how to make and package beautiful cupcakes and cookies in Cake Decorating. In addition to culinary creations, students have been engaged in creating masterful art pieces using common recycled items and various types of modeling materials. Our student scientists have made rockets, catapults and lego robots. I can't believe how much they've learned in two short weeks.

The last two weeks of Summer Academy have provided me with the opportunity to enjoy observing students and teachers challenge themselves in both academic courses and in the arts. Attending *Readers' Theater* presentations, playing math games and watching students create their own movies were highlights of my summer experience at our Summer Academy!

Thank you for sending your bright and enthusiastic learners to us each day. Encourage your children to share their experiences with you.

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Sew Up Accessories for your Room

Donna Huber

Sew Up Accessories for your Room has worked really hard to make creative and interesting things using the sewing machine. Students made pillows to match their rooms and then applied the same skills to make bean bags for another class and tote bags for themselves. We are currently working on French memo boards and locker caddies. Everyone walks away with fun and useful items!



Special points of interest:

- Safety Town Visits weekly
 - Tuesday: Ambulance
 - Wednesday: Officer Friendly
 - Thursday: Fire Dept.
 - Friday: Bus Ride

Healthy Snacks

Jen Serio

This session in Healthy Snacks & Smoothies we had a blast creating yummy treats such as banana pudding cups, coffee cup quiche, and strawberry peach smoothies. Although every snack was delicious, all the kids agreed that their number one favorite was micro-waveable mac & cheese with veggies! Everyone will be able to recreate these recipes at home for years to come using their hand-made cookbooks! In addition to becoming true chefs in the kitchen, we learned kitchen safety rules, cooking tips, and discussed how to stay healthy and fit all year long!

Recycling

Stephanie Peterson

We have been having so much fun with recycling....trying to figure out what we can make with a variety of raw materials!!! We have made mandalas out of found objects, woven t-shirt yarn into beautiful tapestries (so far one will be a styling fringed bag), papier mached flower and sun wall hangings. We will finish the week repurposing seedling pots and making mobiles with driftwood and peanut butter lids.

Yoga

Laura DeLan

We start each class with a deep breath in. Then exhale all of the air in our lungs with an "Ommmmmm". Now our lungs are warmed up. Three rounds of sun salutations, which is a sequence of 21 poses, get our bodies warmed up and ready to play yoga games. Did you know there are yoga games? We play "Yogi Says," "Yoga Freeze Dance," "Yoga Obstacle Courses" and many more. To end our class we lay down on our backs for a five minute guided meditation. Everyone is calm, every one is still. - Namaste

Math Resource

Signe Wennbrg-Merritt

Our focus has been on measurement. We have discovered how to measure things like dry and liquid measure, and proved we could do it by making delicious blueberry pancakes. We have estimated elapsed time and length, reinforcing this when we picked blueberries and had a measurement scavenger hunt. Logical reasoning is on our agenda as we focus on "figure it out", using information we know, collaborating with our partners, googling, formulating questions and "proving" a hypothesis or "first guess" right or wrong. Tomorrow we will be "mixing it up" with measuring, using fractions and making some cool berry frozen drinks. We are looking ahead to "what's it worth" in our focus on place value and money over the next two weeks. Every day there is time to work individually on the summer math packets and to get individual help.

Your Life in Photos

Rick Lowry

The students in Your Life in Photos have discovered that PhotoStory 3 is a versatile program to use when organizing a photo collection, but success begins with a good picture. We've been learning about photo composition and framing a shot and then importing the photos into PhotoStory 3 for editing and fancy transitions. There's even music available! There are also advanced editing features available on Picasa. Each student has had the chance to work with this program also. The final copies of photo presentations are burned onto a disk for students to keep and share with their families. Well done!

Take Five Film Making

Eric Erff

The Take Five filmmaking class is in the final stages of production. This year we concentrated on making our stories more concise. We also concentrated on our acting skills and tightened up our editing techniques

Rockets and Parachutes Blast Off!

Rick Lowry

We are nearing the end of our second week, building rockets, catapults, and egg drop designs. On Thursday, we successfully launched 8 rocket designs! When we build rockets, we take into consideration aerodynamics, thrust, and the stability of the design. If any one of these variables is off just a bit, the rocket might not work! On Friday, July 13, there will be an egg drop near the rear parking lot of the school. Our student engineers have designed egg drop devices that will (hopefully) withstand a fall from a 100 foot ladder truck. There are a variety of ideas, but parachutes seem to be popular with many as a way to soften the landing. Great job, engineers!

Fun with Fitness

Steve Porricelli

The weather has been great, and the kids have been enjoying the outdoors! Softball was a "hit" and everyone participated, having fun with new and old friends, getting some exercise, and building confidence. Basketball, soccer, kickball and some activities in the "nice cool" gym are also on the agenda!

Clay

Stephanie Peterson

Everyone is loving getting their hands in clay! We began the session making small dishes using the impression of leaves for texture and shape. From there, we made sandcastles, using soda bottles as forms. Our next project was a "bust" using a light bulb to form the head and we just finished making our "Tree of Life" plaques a la Gustav Klimt. We will also glaze terra cotta pots making them into decorative planters.

SSC

Abigail McCorry

The SSC students have had a wonderful summer so far working hard in classes such as What's Cooking, Cake Decorating and Let's Laugh Together. The students are making excellent progress and enjoying being at Burr Elementary School. The teachers and support staff are all proud of the hard work that all of our students doing! Looking forward to another excellent two weeks.

Summer Reading

Ann Heath & Barbara Nailen

Ms. Heath and Ms. Nailen's 2012 Summer Reading is focusing on reading for pleasure while simultaneously concentrating on comprehension skills. Students are utilizing Smartboard technology to enhance their ability to sequence, summarize, and identifying character traits in literature. Our young readers are using comprehension skills to write about and discuss books of personal interest. In addition, students are using magnetic letter board tiles to enhance phonics and spelling skills. Each Friday, students will be presenting a *Reader's Theater* production. Please come join us for this Friday's production. Audiences are welcome fifteen minutes before the end of the period in Room 238. We hope to see you then. Ms. Heath and Ms. Nailen

What's Cooking in Math

Lynne Levesque

Lots of healthy international dishes. Trying new foods like chick-peas and fresh blueberries for the first time. Lots of healthy international dishes. Whole Wheat Belgian Waffles with sautéed cinnamon apples and homemade whipped cream is a favorite.

Teamwork and precise measurements are essential.

Making yogurt and our own granola for parfaits.

Students enjoyed a Moroccan dish with couscous.

Highlights (In their own words):

*We cooked food from Mexico, India, Belgium, Switzerland, Morocco, Israel, India, and Italy. Tomorrow is Chinese food.

*We learned how to sauté apples- sauté means to fry lightly until golden brown.

*It is good to try new foods like granola, raspberries, blueberries, and couscous.

*Hummus is made from chick peas, garlic, lemon and cumin.

*Pita is a flat bread.

*We learned to make pasta from scratch. All you need is flour, eggs, a little salt and a drop of olive oil. You can make it flat with a rolling pin and cut it with a knife if you don't have a pasta machine.

*You can change the recipe if you want to .

What's Cooking in Math

Dana Bosio

Our future chefs have been hard at work over the last two weeks; we are chopping, mincing and sautéing up a storm! We were surprised to know that there are many ways to measure ingredients. Did you know that we use different tools to measure wet and dry ingredients? What a surprise! It's also really important to check and double check our recipes closely; chocolate chips aren't meant to go in a stir fry, that's for sure! Our eating adventure has taken us all over the globe. We've had healthy and "groovy" smoothies from California, a special flat bread called Naan from India, and made our own hummus with chickpeas, tahini, lemon juice, garlic and parsley. Our travels in week two led us to France (parfait), Asia (egg drop soup and teriyaki stir fry) and Italy. We loved getting messy making our homemade pasta and sauce! What a delicious end to two weeks!

Let's Laugh Together

Kate Harder

We've been having a great time in "Let's Laugh Together!" Students have learned about telling/writing jokes, improv, clowns/jesters, cartooning, puppet theater, comics, physical/stand-up comedy, and juggling!! We bundled enough fun into these two weeks to keep us laughing for the rest of the summer!

Cake Decorating

Maura McDonald

Laughter, smiles, sugar are all part of the productive two weeks we had here in Cake Decorating! The students practiced piping with various piping tips, how to use cookies and candy to make creative cupcakes, and learned that you don't always need an oven to make sweet treats! Some of our favorites have been the beach themed cupcake, grill cupcakes, and magical no cook candy! They have also learned how to make yummy buttercream and meringue frosting. We packaged every treat to make sure they all go home in style. It has been fun getting to know the students.



Math Mania

Kathy Garasimowicz

We have been having a blast in Math Mania! In two short weeks, we have learned a total of 15 fun math games that help build our fluency and logical thinking skills. Various games include Salute the General, The Game of Pig, Target 300, and Cross Out Singles...just to name a few. We've also had fun designing our own math board games which include the many math ideas and strategies we've practiced with each game. Most of the 15 games require only some dice or a deck of cards and are ideal to play on long car or plane rides. Each student was given a packet with a description of each game so they can have fun teaching their favorite game to a friend or sibling over the summer!