

The Pointe Perspective

May, 2014
Web Version 1

Our First Web Newsletter



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Long stormy spring-time, wet contentious April, winter chilling the lap of very May; but at length the season of summer does come.

Thomas Carlyle

And now, it's time to say farewell, auf wiedersehen, until we meet again! The students are excited, as are the teachers and staff, to see the light at the end of the tunnel as the end is near of the 2013-2014 school year.

This year at The Pointe Day Treatment, there have been so many wonderful transitions and changes. From new staff joining our family, to students coming and going, The Pointe Day Treatment stands strong and committed to service excellence!

As the curtains draw closed and the actors take their bow, tears of joy will validate the hard work put into this school year. To the new graduates of 2014, walk tall and be proud. This summer represents a time to grow and reflect as we all move forward into the next year...

English News

Ms. Susan Reid

The second semester has been a busy one! The middle school students have been learning about subordinate clauses, independent clauses, the different types of sentences such as simple, compound and complex sentences, and the different functions of sentences like declarative, imperative, interrogative and exclamatory sentences, as well as the appropriate punctuation to use with each of them. They have also been practicing combining sentences in order for their writing to flow much better. The knowledge and ability to use various sentences will be very helpful in any type of writing the students will need to do in the future, either in school or their chosen profession.

The secondary students have just completed a chapter in our English book about using Standard English, otherwise known as confusing and troublesome words. This section included many different homophones (words that sound the same, but have different spellings and meanings), appropriate verb usage (they are vs. they is) and double negatives (can't have none). We have had many discussions on how important it is to make sure that the proper, or standard, form of English is used when communicating with teachers, professionals, and authority figures as opposed to using the more informal slang talk that is used by so many young people today. One of the most popular activities in our English class is playing "Parts of Speech" Bingo, where the students have to determine what part of speech each word is and get five words in a row to win a prize, just like regular Bingo. We play this game about twice a month, typically on Fridays and they all seem to enjoy the competition. For the rest of the school year, all of the classes will spend more time on improving writing skills to prepare them for the future.

Susan Reid,
English teacher



Science and Dance News

Ms. Lisa Marie Anderson

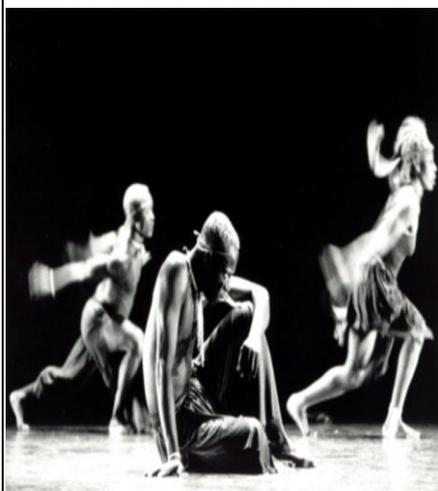
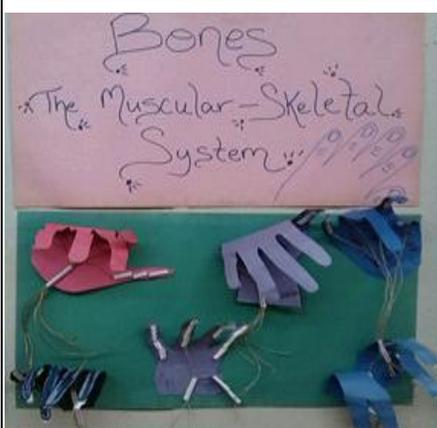
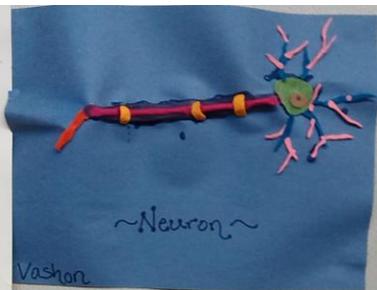
“The scientist is not a person who gives the right answers; he's one who asks the right questions.” – Claude Lévi-Strauss

Third quarter is finally coming to an end, and although it feels longer than usual, (perhaps the leap in time: spring forward), the ALC have had our share of fun snow days, yet to be made up in the coming future! The absent times have allowed Ms. Anderson some time to prepare rich lessons and the students have been learning with hands-on fun all quarter long! There were two exciting units to cover in the 9 weeks allotted. First, we explored the various body systems through interactive projects and out of the ordinary assessments. The students were able to make models of the bones and joints in the human hand, which in turn aided their awareness of the skeletal system. Also, the students campaigned against cigarettes and created wonderful flyers and pamphlets to inform people of the dangers of smoking. Students demonstrated their knowledge on major organs of the digestive system and finished the unit with a collaborative assessment. Groups of 2-3 students organized themselves and chose one of the 9 body systems to present a creative and insightful poster to the rest of the class. The end of the year we will embark on force and motion, light and sound, and the amazing solar system. The new discoveries should make for exciting discussions and opportunities to create models in order to better comprehend the energies around us that cannot be seen with the human eye

“When people keep telling you that you can't do a thing, you kind of like to try it.”

– Margaret Chase Smith

That's kind of how I felt about trying this elective out this year! Dance is an art, an exercise, a movement. It's not easy to try something new, especially with the adversities that school-age children face these days. But, beyond all of this, my students have put past their fears and worries and put their dancing shoes on! I can't believe how successful this class has started out, and the next 9 weeks as we grow into dancers, the true test of triumph will be displayed when my students perform a themed production called, “Around the World”. The students have learned about cultures from Africa and Latin America. Next, we will embark on our own American culture and journey through the decades of dance in the United States. We will start with 50's and 60's swing and bop, Roaring 20's jazz, 70's groove, 80's break dancing, and end with today's modern social dancing. This has been an eye-opening experience and it truly does pay to try something new!



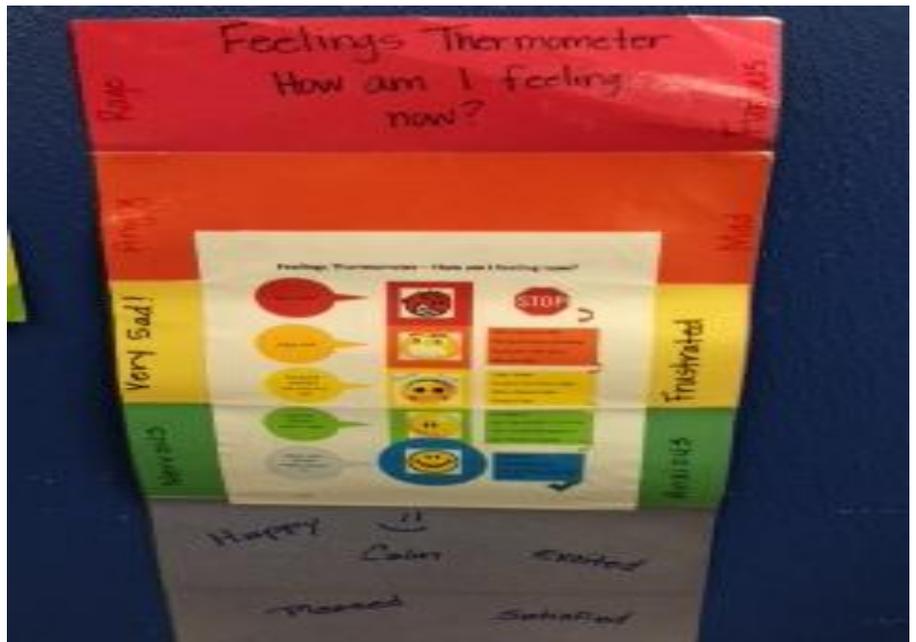
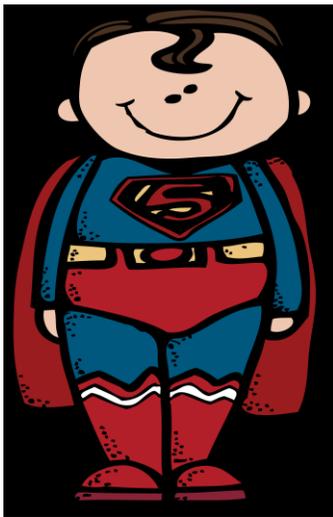
K-4 News

Ms. Jennifer Miller



We have been very busy! The kids have turned into SUPER HEROS! They have put on their super hero capes and learned all about SUPER HERO SOCIAL SKILLS. They have spent a lot of time discussing the following topics:

- Safe
- Respectful
- Responsible
- Asking about Others
- Thinking about Others
- Problem Solving
- Learning Expressions
- Understanding Feelings



This is our Feelings Thermometer that we use when we are identifying our feelings. Ms. Brown will help us identify where we are on the thermometer. Then we decide where we need to actually be. This helps us calm down and put our feelings into perspective.

K-4 News**Ms. Jennifer Miller**

In Literacy/Language Arts, the kids have been working on ABC Order, Nouns, Proper Nouns, Adjectives, Action Verbs, Sight Words, Endings, Long and Short Vowels, Digraphs, Syllables, Beginning and Ending Sounds, Compound Words, Sentences, Capitalization, and Punctuation. We have been reading stories and identifying the main idea, characters, plot, problem, and solution. We use reading in our Science and Social Studies activities. To make practicing our spelling words more engaging, we use different and fun methods. During Dr. Seuss's Birthday week, we read and rhymed! We ended the week with making our own Green Eggs and Ham! Yum!

In Math, the kids have studying about Number Words, Missing Numbers, Skip Counting, Ten Frames, Ordering and Comparing Numbers, Patterns, Graphing, Addition, Subtraction, Fact Families, Word Problems, Place Value, Expanded Notation, Tally Marks, and Multi-Digit Addition and Subtraction. We use Lego's to measure different things around the room. We use our shoes to do help us understand fractions. During St. Patrick's Day, we used Lucky Charms cereal to help us learn about graphing and interpreting data.

We found a HUGE dinosaur egg! This was the beginning of our Dinosaur Unit! We used our inference skills to guess what was in the strange egg. Using all the clues, we discovered that a dinosaur was inside it! The paleontologists used an anchor chart to review our schema and learn new facts. We used a Venn diagram to compare and contrast Carnivores and Herbivores. Bubble Maps helped us organize our new learning about the Tyrannosaurs Rex and Triceratops. The kids made themselves into "Paleontologists". We learned a new song that helped us understand what a Paleontologist does. The crafty kids made movements to correlate with the song! The paleontologists used toy dinosaurs and playdoh to make fossils. But the favorite activity was Chocolate Chip Excavation. We used tools to remove the chocolate chips from the cookie! The best part...eating the cookies!



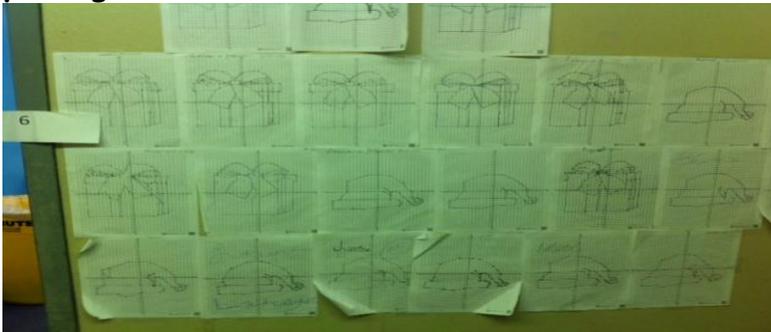
Math & Health News

Ms. Courtney Goodwin

Mathematics

It never ceases to amaze me how enthused the students are about certain parts of their math curricula. Graphing is a major skill in the world of mathematics. It is not just a tiny skill, it encompasses so many other math talents like functions, equations, geometrical shapes, and other phenomenal skills all wrapped up in one! The student's had a great time finding points on a graph which later, they were able to connect the points to find a holiday picture. The students were so excited to find which object they had that the math was a breeze for them! At the same time of preparing for the final outlook, they went through all of the correct graphing skills.

The New Year brings a quick review of lines, lines, LINES! Geometry is an array of math, not only does one use algebra, but also many real-world problems. As I prepare them to learn about parallel and perpendicular lines, we will touch on angles that are formed by lines. Geometry prepares students for many career choices such as engineering, construction, and accounting. Hopefully, the students will feel confident in putting their best foot forward when it's time to prepare for the workforce!



With P.E. out, Health is in! What a perfect way to start the New Year with some resolutions about our health! Health is overlooked many times, but is essential to us all. The curriculum is designed to give students hands-on experience in tasting great foods, learning how to manage stress, exercise, getting adequate sleep, and the importance of family and friends. Healthy relationships are ideal to maintaining a healthy life and here at The Pointe Day Treatment, we strive to model such behaviors! 2014 will bring about positive living!