



Art Newsletter

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Why Art?

Why is art important in education? Art teaches students creativity, problem solving, diversity, visual learning, motor skills, focus, and confidence.

Art is valuable to the learning process and plays a large role in developing cognitive and social skills while promoting innovative thinking and creativity.

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Fundraiser



We will be participating in the Original Works fundraiser. The program will give 33% of the proceeds to West Cypress Hills Elementary Art Room. This School Art Fundraising Program will feature students' artwork on shirts, calendars, mugs, and much more.

During October, students will be working on original pieces of artwork. Detailed information about this program will come in January.

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Projects

Fifth Grade

Fifth grade students began the year learning about Op Art. This is short for 'optical art'. The word optical is used to describe things that relate to how we see. Artists use shapes, colors, and patterns in special ways to create images that look as if they are moving or blurring. Op art started in the 1960s.

For this project, we drew circles, added lines, color, and shading to create an optical illusion.





Next, we are learning about different cultures and the importance of masks. We used paper mache to construct a mask. Students decorated their mask using many different mediums. This was a messy but exciting project!

Fourth Grade

Fourth grade students began the year learning about the artist Sandra Silberweig. Sandra Silberzweig was born and raised in Toronto, Canada, in the 1960s and still resides there. She is a contemporary painter and has been painting all her life.

Students created portraits inspired by Sandra Silberzweig, using oil pastels. They used bright bold colors, along with line and shape, to create their masterpieces.



Our second project involved a cityscape. Students built their very own city using a ruler and sharpie. They added a variety of windows, doors, roof tops, and other details. We used metallic paint to create a whimsical colorful background.



Third Grade

Third grade learned about the artist, Vincent van Gogh, for their first project. Students viewed two of his most famous pieces of art, “Sunflowers” and “Starry Night”. After reviewing these paintings, we combined the two to create our very own masterpieces. We used a combination of oil pastels and watercolor paint for this project. They are SPECTACULAR!

Our second project involved a spooky spider web. We learned how to use chalk pastels to create a colorful drawing. Look for these spider web drawings in our hallways.



Second Grade

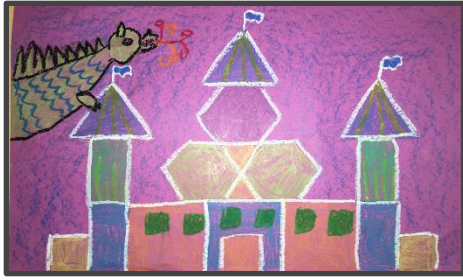
We began learning about the artist Henri Rousseau. He was a French self-taught painter. Rousseau's favorite subject was the jungle. However, he never actually saw a jungle. He based his scenery on the botanical gardens in Paris, and the animals were drawn from guide books and zoo pamphlets.

Second grade students used tempera and watercolor liquid paints to create their Tigers. These are true masterpieces!

Second grade has been learning about ceramics by making a pinch pot bird. They started with a pinch pot and then added additional clay pieces, using the score and slip technique. Once their pieces were fired, they were able to paint their incredible bird creations. We added feathers and pipe cleaner legs for the final touch. These certainly turned out amazing!



To wrap up the semester, we drew a colorful bug resting on a flower. This particular project will be used in our Fundraiser, Original Works. These adorable paintings will be available for you to turn into a cup, shirt, necklace, etc. A portion of the proceeds will be given to the West Cypress Hills Art Room. This is a wonderful opportunity for our school.



First Grade

For our first project, we learned about different shapes, while creating a Shape castle. We reviewed the names of different shapes and how they can be used together to make something magnificent. After drawing their Shape castles, they used oil pastels and construction crayons.

Next, we used torn construction paper and black paper to create a spooky tree. This project took a lot of patience and hard work to complete. They turned out amazing!



Last, we made a ceramic pumpkin. The children always enjoy learning how to work with clay. We used scoring and slip techniques to attach our stem and leaves. These will go great with your Fall decorations.



Kindergarten

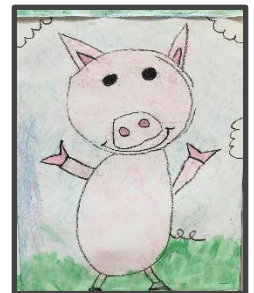
We began the year learning how to use our scissors and glue stick correctly. Students used primary colored squares to create their very own Piet Mondrian styled artwork.

Piet Mondrian was a Dutch artist best known for his abstract paintings.

Our first drawing lesson was inspired by the book The Three Little Superpigs, by Claire Evans. We enjoyed listening to this book and learning how to draw our very own pig.



After learning how to draw a Superpig, we drew a friendly scarecrow. We used tempera paint and textured crayons for this project.



To wrap up the semester, we are forming pinch pot ceramic pumpkins. Students learned how to make a pinch pot while learning scoring and slip techniques to attach the stem. Then, we painted our pumpkins using tempera paint and a special glitter glaze.

