



FEBRUARY

Technology with Mr. Jacobson

During the month of February, we will continue working on our Animal Books in *Pixie*. The students have learned how to customize their speech bubbles and change the size, style and color of their words. This month, they will learn how to use the spray can tool in order to add different patterns to each page, and will also learn how to use other tools such as the marker, 3D brush and crayon. Please remember to check my Portaportal as I update it often with links to different websites.



Music with Ms. Saunier

During the month of February, students will begin to learn about the musical concept of dynamics, which relates to loud and soft sounds. They will explore the difference between loud and soft, and they will use pictures, instruments and their bodies to demonstrate their understanding of both loud and soft sounds. They will learn some vocabulary such as the Italian words *forte* (loud) and *piano* (soft). As they listen to a variety of different examples that can be found in music, students will gain a deeper understanding of very loud and soft sounds! 1st Grade students will also begin preparation for their performance in March, which will be our Dr. Seuss show!!



Art with Ms. Ally-Khan



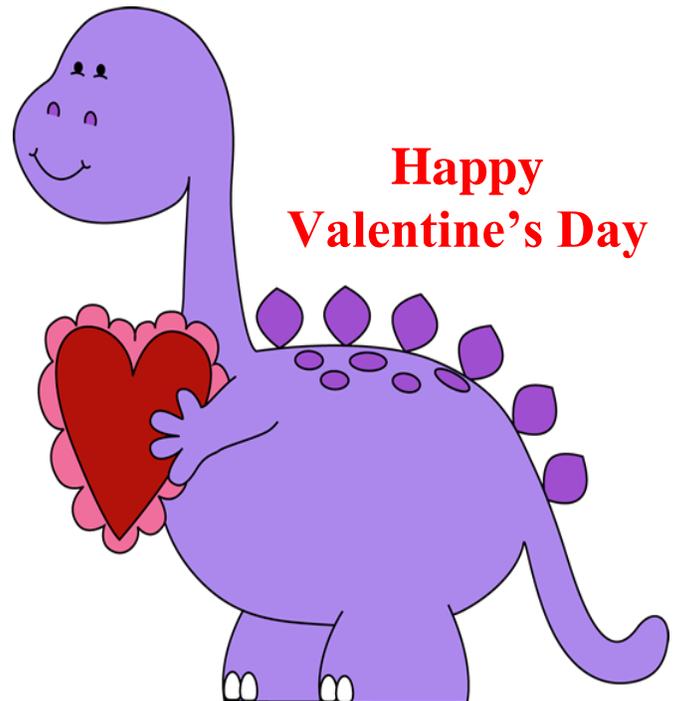
First graders will continue to learn about giraffes during the month of February. Students will take their drawings of giraffes in their habitats that they created during the month of January and paint them using watercolor paints.

Suggested Books

- *National Geographic KIDS Giraffes*, by Laura Marsh
- *George The Generous Giraffe*, by Kam Trumbo



Happy Valentine's Day



Art with Ms. Parisi

In February, class 1-319 will be working on a collage unit. Students will read Round Trip, by Ann Jonas, and will critique the black and white lithograph print of *The Scream*, by Edvard Munch. Students will then use black and white paper to create a collage using negative and positive shapes. They will focus on contrast in their collages by overlapping, as well as on proper use and control of materials.

Check out Mrs. Parisi's teacher page on the P.S. 108 website. Please be sure to look at the menu of extra credit assignments that can be completed and handed in to Mrs. Parisi for extra credit in art.

Art Tips

1. Re-create what we have been working on in art class at home! Gather your own art supplies and create a drawing or painting at home of giraffes in their habitats.
2. Check out #metkids by The Metropolitan Museum of Art for an interactive children's guide to the museum.

<http://www.metmuseum.org/art/online-features/metkids/>

Dance with Ms. Charles

In February, the first graders will participate in a unit that is all about Dr. Seuss. After learning about the author's life, each class will be reading a different book by Dr. Seuss. Some books that will be included are The Cat and the Hat, The Lorax, Green Eggs and Ham, and Horton Hears a Who. The class will then work together with the teacher to choreograph a dance that shows the main idea in each story. The children will use the illustrations to get ideas about different movements they can do to portray the characters from the book.

In March the first graders will perform their dances during an assembly. As the date comes closer, more information about the assembly will be sent home.

****Please make sure your child comes to school in sneakers on the days that they have dance classes.***

Physical Education with Ms. Klein, Ms. Acquaviva or Mr. Veltre

For the month of February, 1st grade students will be focusing on their volleying and striking skills. We will be using beach balls/balloons to enforce these skills while the children begin to learn how to volley underhand and learn how to strike an object using the underhand or sidearm striking pattern. When learning how to volley, students will develop a good sense of eye-hand coordination, and while working with their classmates, they will learn personal and social behavior that respects self and others.

Stem with Ms. Schock

For the month of February, first grade engineers will learn about balance and gravity while completing Valentine's Day and President's Day challenges. They will be challenged to not break any hearts when stacking paper hearts into towers and will help Abe Lincoln create a structure that will organize his hats.

Musical Theater with Ms. Lodescar

February is here! For this month, the students will delve into learning all about puppets. They will create different types of puppets and form characters with personalities to act on the "puppet stage." This will allow them to develop many critical skills such as using their imagination in a creative manner, and will help them with their public speaking skills and their ability to collaborate with their classmates. They will continue to acquire skills to help them build confidence independently, while also learning to work together to build ensemble.

****Please note that students will be engaging in a lot of movement activities, therefore comfortable clothing and shoes are suggested for that day.****