

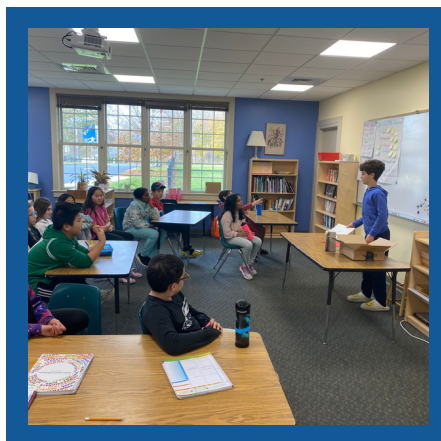
CALENDAR

- 12/1 All-School Meeting
8:45 a.m. (American Room)
- 12/1 Pizza Lunch and ASM Spirit Day
- 12/1 Portrait Re-Take Day and Sibling Portraits
- 12/8 All-School Meeting
8:45 a.m. (American Room)
- 12/8 Pizza Lunch
- 12/8 Edible House Decorating Social sponsored by PACE
3:30 p.m. (American Room)
- 12/15 All-School Meeting
8:45 a.m. (American Room)
- 12/15 Pizza Lunch
- 12/15 Elementary and Middle School Winter Concert
2:30 p.m. (American Room)
- 12/20 Pizza Lunch
- 12/21 Winter Break Starts
(Fun Day available on 12/21)
- 1/2 School Resumes
- 1/5 Pizza Lunch and ASM Spirit Day
- 1/5 All-School Meeting
8:45 a.m. (American Room)

Our Classroom



It has been busy in Upper Elementary since our last newsletter. We gathered for our family traditions feast right before Thanksgiving break and it was a great success! Thank you to all of the parents who contributed to our wonderful meal. We all enjoyed tasting everyone's wonderful dishes and discussing our favorite family traditions. Students also conducted several science experiments while studying physical and chemical changes in science class. Students should be proud of their hard work to prepare and present book reports!



As we continue into the holiday season, students will continue to make many wonderful new educational discoveries. They will also participate in several special projects, such preparing for the science fair and writing holiday cards for the residents of a local assisted living community. Please see below for an overview of the lessons that student have been engaging with for the past two weeks.

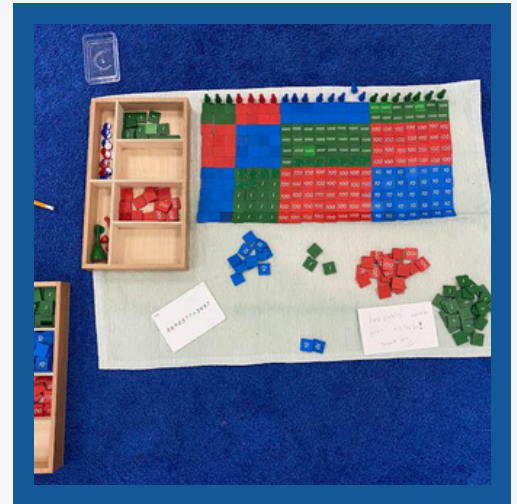
[Click here to view](#)
[ASM's calendar!](#)

Math

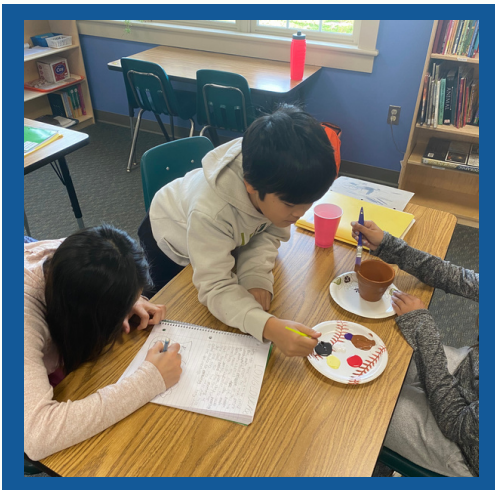
The fourth years are finishing up their multiplication unit and preparing for our next unit on division. In conjunction with our division unit, we are also starting to work with the Montessori protractor and fraction pieces to help visualize some of our new divisibility concepts.

In fifth grade math, students are working on building a strong abstract understanding of division. Students have been practicing building and solving multi-digit division problems using the Stamp Game, abstract modeling and algebra. Students also participated in a lesson on shape relationships in preparation for further studies in Geometry.

The sixth grade students have started working on numeric expressions with a review of exponents. In geometry, they have started a deep into the study of circles.



Language



In fourth grade writing class, students have completed their mystery essays and are working through the revision process. This week, students also participated in a grammar lesson on homophones.

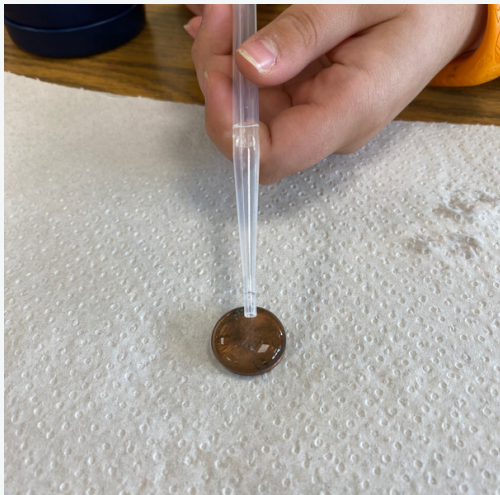
The fifth years have completed their final review essays and are preparing to share their reviews with each other on everything from favorite ice cream places to destination vacations. In writing and grammar, we have been practicing writing more descriptive sentences using vivid words, writing stronger topic sentences, and writing stronger conclusions that summarize our ideas.

In sixth grade language class, students are working to finish their mystery essays. This week, they also participated in a lesson on incorporating quotes to add depth to their writing.

Cultural and History

In Cultural class, students have been conducting a study of the field of archeology. To do so, they participated in a project where they worked in teams to create a culture, then decorate a clay pot with a story from their created culture. I was lovely to read student's creative stories! Next, Mrs. Mosby shattered the clay pots and mixed them into a bin of sand. Students were tasked with acting as archeologists to uncover, reconstruct and then form their own story to explain the culture of the pot they had "found".





Science

This week in science, students continued to make progress on designing their science experiments, moving from formulating good and testable questions to doing background research on their topic to help them design a good experiment. We also continued our study of chemical and physical reactions by conducting some sample experiments with elephant toothpaste as well as mentos and coke. In these experiments, we practiced taking experimental observations and interpreting the results of our experiments in preparation for the science fair.

Looking Ahead...

We ask that you please follow the emails that have been sent each week to see what students should be working on in regards to the science fair.

With winter weather upon us, please help your student remember to bring in an appropriate jacket and winter gear. We go outside for recess as long as the temperature with wind chill is above 20 degrees. When it starts to snow, students will be required to wear snow pants and boots to play in the field and other non-plowed areas.



[Click here for more classroom photos!](#)