

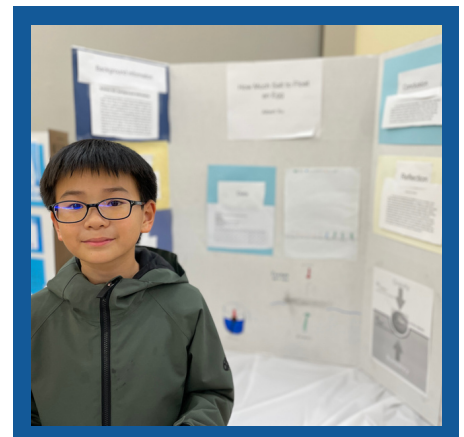
CALENDAR

Our Classroom

- 3/15 All-School Meeting
8:45 a.m. (American Room)
Pizza Lunch
- 3/21-22 Parent Teacher Conferences
- 3/15 All-School Meeting
8:45 a.m. (American Room)
Pizza Lunch
- 3/20 Pizza Lunch
- 3/29 All-School Meeting
8:45 a.m. (American Room)
Pizza Lunch
- 4/3 Red Gate Farm Information
Session (Google Meet)
- 4/5 All-School Meeting
8:45 a.m. (American Room)
ASM Spirit Day
Pizza Lunch
- 4/9-11 Scholastic Book Fair
(American Room)
- 4/12 All-School Meeting
8:45 a.m. (American Room)
Pizza Lunch
- 4/15-19 April Vacation
- 4/22-26 Red Gate Farm Trip



Last Thursday the students presented their final projects for the Science Fair. This was the culmination of months of hard work on both the student and parent end. We wanted to thank all of the parents and caregivers for their support during this project. This was the first time that many of our students had participated in such an event. Some of our 6th grade students were selected to participate in the Regional Science Fair. Congratulations to everyone for a job well done!



This morning at the All-School Meeting several of our UE students showed how they use Montessori materials in their math studies. They presented the following topics: multiplication of decimals and fractions, how to use geometry nomenclature cards and equivalency insets, and using the properties of equality to solve geometry area problems. If you were not able to attend the All-School Meeting this morning, please check out the video in the photos link below.

As the weather starts to warm up and our outdoor areas transition from hard ground to spring mud, it is especially important that students have shoes that are specifically designated as Indoor Shoes. Please check to make sure that your student has both shoes for playing outside and shoes for wearing in the classroom.

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

Math

This week in fourth-year math, we completed our division unit and are moving on to our new unit where we will practice translating word problems into math expressions with variables in preparation for solving more challenging multi-step problems. In geometry, we are tackling new and challenging formulas for surface area and volume, using our Montessori shelf materials to visualize each formula and understand the difference between two-dimensional and three-dimensional space.

Fifth-year students have successfully tackled multiplying fractions by both whole numbers and other fractions. Additionally, students have expanded their work with fractional operations, learning how to divide fractions by utilizing the concept of reciprocals.

The sixth-year students have been continuing their introduction to algebra by learning how to solve one step equations. They have learned about the four properties of equality (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division). This work is being used in their geometry studies where they are reviewing areas of quadrilaterals in order to move into a unit on surface area and volume.

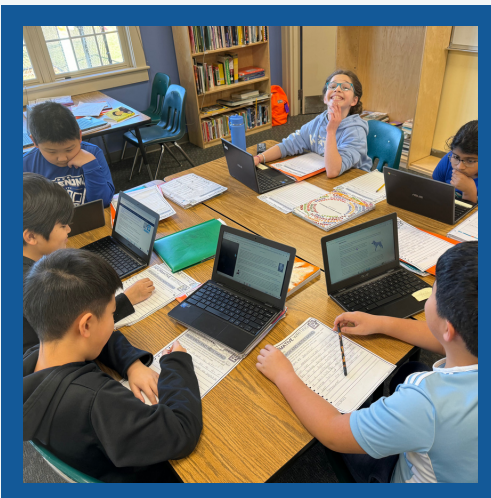


Language

In fourth grade literature circle, students have been working on their final projects for Maroo of the Winter Caves. They are putting together an exhibit to explain what life was like 10,000 years ago to younger students. In grammar, students are working on identifying adverbs. Fourth-year students have also started a new unit on informative writing, where they have chosen topics, conducted research, and begun taking notes on subtopics.

This week in fifth grade writing, students put the finishing touches on their suspense essays as we moved on to our new informational writing unit. Students began to brainstorm historical events to research, developed questions about the topic they wanted to ask, and began thinking about sources that they can use to research their topic. After choosing our topics, we reviewed how to properly cite our sources to avoid plagiarism as well as how to document what information we gathered from each of our sources using an organizer.

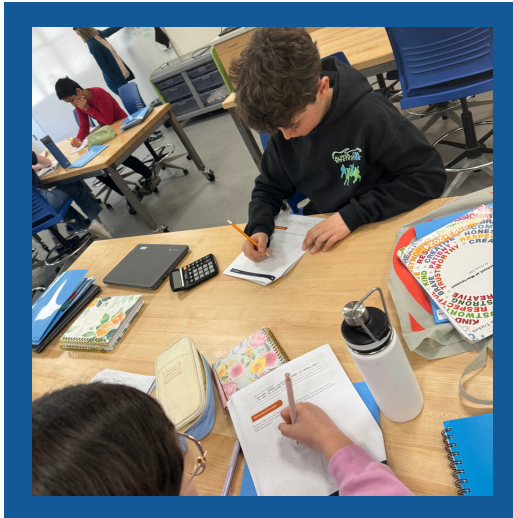
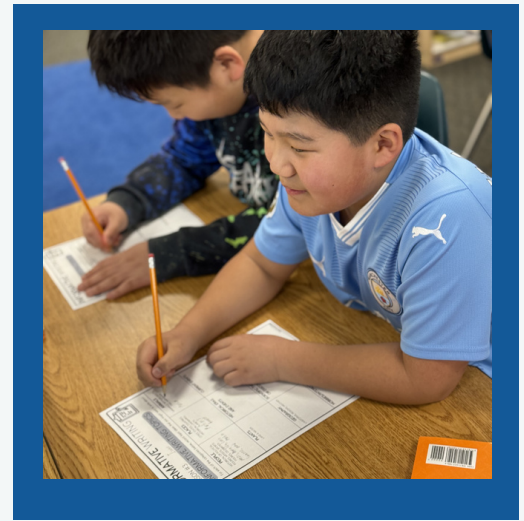
The sixth years have begun their new book, *The Alchemist*. This past week, we introduced the idea of metaphorical narratives and practiced constructing our own stories and interpreting their meanings. We also began work on our dream journals. Dreams play an important role in the book and the dream journal will be a fun introduction to the more challenging practice dialectical journaling for each chapter of the book. Sixth year students have also begun working on informative writing, selecting topics and engaging in research to take notes on their subtopics.



History and Geography

Fourth and fifth year students concluded their study of Paleolithic people in present day Europe by recreating their own cave drawings. These were made using natural pigments and charcoal. Students are now studying people of the Mesolithic era (in present day Europe). Throughout the lessons, students use the framework of "Fundamental Human Needs" to study how ancient people lived. Students have chosen topographic regions to study and have traced the contour lines of these areas. They are using foam board to build a model that represents the elevation levels of the region, showcasing the topography in a hands-on way.

The sixth year students have studied the countries, capitals, and cultures of Asia. They have made a travel brochure based on a country of their choice from that region. We have looked at maps and played trivia games as a class to enhance their understanding. Next, students will be studying Africa and they will be writing a song that includes multiple physical features of the region before beginning a unit on the Boston Tea Party and the American Revolution.



Science

This week in science we spent some time reviewing taxonomic classes and orders, the difference between warm-blooded and cold-blooded species, and began our unit on the order of birds. Students spent time learning about and taking notes about the different orders of bird species using our Montessori control charts. They then learned fun and interesting facts about different birds using the Audubon website, completing different activities and projects such as building different bird wing types with paper, writing poems about birds of prey, and creating height charts for different wading birds.

Looking ahead

Parent Teacher Conferences are March 21 and 22. We look forward to seeing everyone and discussing your individual student's progress.

Our trip to Red Gate Farm is just around the corner! There will be a parent information session on April 3 that we encourage you to attend. Please fill out all of the paperwork and turn it in by Monday April 8 to confirm that your student will be travelling with us. All of the links for the trip can be found in the Red Gate Farm email from Ms. Young dated February 16, 2024.



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