

CALENDAR

- 1/17 All-School Meeting 8:45 a.m.
Pizza Lunch
Collaborative Classroom
- 1/20 School Closed: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 1/24 All-School Meeting 8:45 a.m.
Pizza Lunch
Collaborative Classroom
- 1/29 Portrait of a Graduate Night
7:00 p.m.
- 1/31 All-School Meeting 8:45 a.m.
Pizza Lunch
Collaborative Classroom
- 2/6 Bring a Parent to School (UE)
8:30-9:30 a.m.
- 2/7 All-School Meeting 8:45 a.m.

Parent Coffee Meetup and Meeting sponsored by PACE
9:00 a.m.

Pizza Lunch

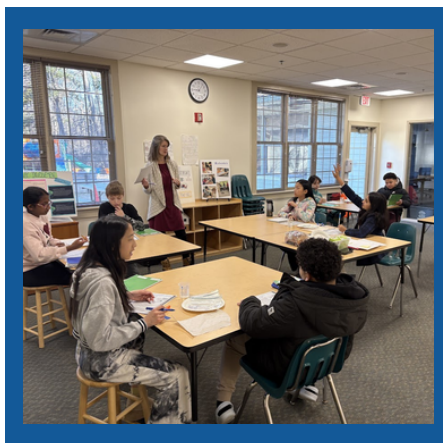
Around the World Cultural Festival sponsored by PACE
3:15 -5:15 p.m.
- 2/17-2/21 February Vacation

[Click here to see the full ASM calendar!](#)

Our Classroom...



This month marked the the return of our Collaborative Classroom, with third-year students moving up to join us in Upper Elementary while sixth-year students joined Mrs. Records to preview Middle School. The fourth and fifth-year students are designing and building their own Mars Colonies, complete with everything they will need to survive the harsh conditions of the red planet. After planning for their survival needs, they are planning their site layout before beginning to build their colonies.



Collaborative Classroom for sixth-year students was spent investigating what factors are necessary for bread mold to grow through a scientific inquiry lab called, "Please Pass the Bread." They worked through the scientific method, forming a hypothesis about if they think bread mold will grow on wet bread or dry bread more quickly. Students took careful observation over the course of days and recorded data in their data table. They are learning how to analyze data and form conclusions by making inferences. They are writing their first formal lab report, including all of the necessary components.

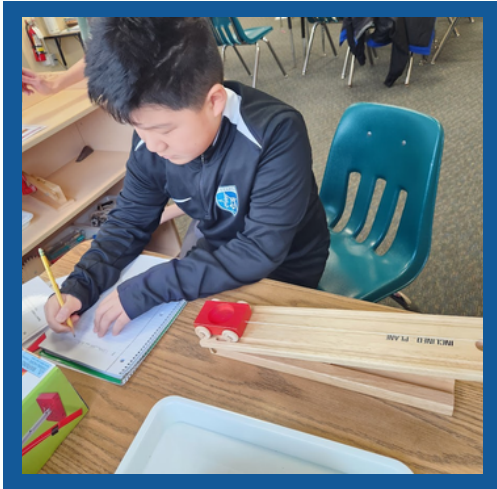
Math

In fourth and fifth-year math, students are practicing a variety of math skills, including a review of multiples and factors, the parts of a triangle, and triangle area formulas. Some students are working with our cubing materials to understand exponents and build binomial and trinomial equations. In geometry, we are beginning to learn about volume, starting with cubes and rectangular prisms to understand the measurement of space in three dimensions.

Some of the sixth-year students have completed their unit on numeric and algebraic expressions and are beginning to understand equations and solutions using the properties of equality. Other sixth-year students have been solving inequalities, graphing them, and using patterns to write and solve equations. Unit four concludes with an analysis of the relationships between dependent and independent variables using tables, graphs, and equations.



Cultural



In fourth and fifth-year history, students are hard at work on their Iron Age Civilization research projects, preparing slides for their presentations to their classmates. In sixth-year history, students have begun their new unit studying Western Expansion, starting with the Louisiana Purchase and the War of 1812.

In science class, the simple machines unit is coming to an end. Students learned about complex machines and are currently working in groups to build a Rube Goldberg machine. Their challenge is to design and construct a machine consisting of all six simple machines (lever, wedge, pulley, wheel and axle, inclined plane, and screw) that results in a ball landing in a container. Students have been collaborating in groups to tackle this challenge and solve problems together.

Language

In fourth-year grammar, students are studying adverbs and prepositions. In fifth-year grammar, students are working on sentence diagramming, including adverbial extensions, direct objects, and indirect objects. In sixth-year grammar, students are using the big red verb box to learn new tense forms in conjunction with the subjunctive, imperative, and indicative moods.

In writing, fourth and fifth-year students are focusing on their opinion writing pieces. They spent time deciding which viewpoint to take on the issue: Which developing technology do you think will impact us the most: self-driving cars or robots? Students organized their introductions by creating a lead, connecting sentences, and a focused claim. They also practiced correctly citing their sources using the reference texts that were provided. Additionally, in sixth-year writing, students are beginning to build their conclusions and final drafts for their argumentative essays, analyzing the main theme of a story and developing an argument for their interpretation of key events.



STEM



The fourth- and fifth-year students checked in about their Science Fair projects. They should have finished their research and hypothesis and be working on their experiments, which are due next week. They started a unit on electricity and circuits and have been learning about atoms, static electricity, batteries, and circuits. They were amazed that the balloon remained stuck to the wall several days later due to static electricity.

During STEM class, sixth-year students checked in on their science fair projects. They should have their experiments finished by January 23 and be working on their data tables and graphs. Students were excited to start the VEX robotics unit, where they have been building their robots with partners, carefully following directions step by step. Their first major challenge, Medbot, will be to program their robots to navigate a hospital while delivering medications to patients in several different rooms.

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

Elementary Summer Program

We are thrilled to announce an expansion of our summer program offerings at Andover School of Montessori. This summer, we're offering a diverse array of programs tailored to students from kindergarten through grade 8, designed to spark creativity, inspire curiosity, and provide meaningful enrichment.

Many of these dynamic programs are led by our talented ASM faculty and enrichment teachers, providing students with an engaging and high-quality experience. Whether a student is interested in exploring technology, diving into creative arts, or embarking on new adventures in science, there is something for everyone this summer!

Students from ASM and the wider community are welcome to join us. We're excited to open our doors to all who are eager to learn and grow with us during this exciting season. Please feel free to share ASM's summer program offerings with your friends and family.

Visit our [Summer Program 2025 website](#) to learn more about the programs and to register!

Looking Ahead...

Science Fair experiments should be completed by January 23rd, unless students have checked in with Mrs. Records about an extension.

There will be a Biogen field trip for the fifth and sixth-year students on Tuesday, January 28th. This trip will serve as an introduction to some of the experiences they will be having in Middle School as a cohort. Students will participate in an M&M Lab during the visit. A field trip permission slip will be sent home today, January 17th. Please return the slip by next Friday, January 24th.

