



6th Grade



JOURNEY TO THE ORIENT

On Thursday, February 5th, the 6th graders traveled through various “ports-of-call” in Asian culture!

Since we couldn’t take the students to Asia, we decided to do the next best thing - bring aspects of Asia to them! As they did during “Africa Day,” students encountered a wide variety of activities as they “traveled” from place to place.

To get a feel for some of the complicated dances of the Far East, students “visited” the Philippines where they attempted a traditional dance called “tinikling.” This dance

requires two people to move bamboo poles while the dancers perform complicated steps as the poles are moving.

Another form of movement that students explored was martial arts. Students observed and attempted Tae Kwon-Do moves, a Korean form of martial arts. Mrs. Prior, a teacher on the Mariner Team, along with students and volunteers from Pathways TaeKwon-Do, showed 6th graders some interesting techniques.

Because of the importance of tea in Asia, teachers demon-



strated Pakistani tea etiquette while students sipped chai (black tea with sugar and milk) and nibbled on sweets.

Origami and art were just a few more examples of the great opportunities that awaited our 6th grade “world travelers!”

GETTING AROUND WITH ACADEMICS

The World of 6th Grade Science



Science has had a wonderful time exploring the physics of light & color and electricity & magnetism. We have used lenses, prisms, rayboxes, mirrors, circuits, fuses and magnets to have hands-on experiences with science!

In mid-February, science students will begin their semester long study of water and its role in the world. We will study the chemistry and properties of ocean water, topography of the ocean floor, and the ocean zones.

Rivers will be our focus in March and April, discovering the features and ages of rivers. May will bring our much anticipated visit to our local streams.

Mathematical Explorations

The winter months will bring about a “flurry” of mathematical explorations for all levels of math. Math classes are working on a Geometry unit, tying in some measurement concepts along the way. Fractions, decimals and percents are up ahead, with a focus on applications and conversions between each representation. Fast Paced Math students will be participating in two investigative units using the *Connected Math* series. Group work will involve the discovery of concepts related to data, statistics, equations and inequalities. It’s time to put those graphing calculators to work!

WE HAVED ENJOYED
WORKING WITH YOUR
CHILDREN AND ARE
LOOKING FORWARD TO
THE REST OF THE YEAR!



Phantom Tollbooth February 13, 2009

“Let’s hear it for WORDS!” “Cast your vote for NUMBERS!”. In Language Arts classes, students will read the play “The Phantom Tollbooth” based on the novel by Norton Juster. In this drama, Milo is a bored boy until he travels through a magical tollbooth to the Lands Beyond. Students will join Milo as he works to help save the kingdom by solving the debate over which are more important, letters or numbers. Along the way, Milo will encounter imaginative and humorous characters. In the end, he will learn many life lessons. Students will enjoy watching this adventure come to life when they attend a live performance of the play at College of DuPage on February 13.

Important 2009 Dates

January 19 & 20	No School
January 26	Domo 77– Aviators
January 27	Domo 77– Mariners
February 5	Asia Day
February 6	1/2 day—11:30 dismissal
February 16	No School Presidents Day
February 27	No School Institute Day



Now that we are more than halfway through the year, please be sure your student’s supplies are up-to-date and replenished!

Thank you! ☺

