

Physical Education (P.E.) & Health

Happy Spring! All of the students are finishing the state mandated Sexual Health Education unit. They have learned important information to help keep themselves healthier and better informed. Hopefully these lessons have led to important discussions at home, too.

After Spring Break the third through eighth grade students will begin a badminton unit. They will learn different types of strikes or ways to enhance them along with game rules and strategies. It is always a competitive and fun unit. I look forward to seeing how far the students can advance in their game play. The kindergarten through second grade students will learn a variety of new skills and activities such as Frisbee tossing, parachute games, yoga, and fitness dance routines. I look forward to a lot of fitness fun that includes some important physical development.

Visual Art

Spring is in the air as primary students begin to explore the art elements color and value. Students will meet the elusive Roy G. Biv, learn about the color wheel, identify color families, and practice mixing paints. Intermediate students are embarking on a printmaking unit. Students will create relief stamps, collographs, or stencils, and learn how prints play an important role in history. Upper students will practice using classic proportions of the figure and the face. Sixth graders are working collaboratively on a frieze design, drawing ancient figures with a modern twist. Seventh and eighth graders will focus on the unique challenges of drawing the face.

Please let Ms. Kia or I know if you can assist with our Spring Arts Night on May 25th. I would love help displaying our talented students awesome artwork in the days before the show. Thank you in advance!



Library

April is a jam-packed month, with poetry month and with it, all manner of spring-related themes. Read-aloud classics such as Beatrix Potter's *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*, and both fiction books about seeds, planting gardens and growth, for example, *The Carrot Seed* and *Ten Little Seeds*, and Gail Gibbons's non-fiction books about plants and seeds will feature prominently this month.

After Spring Break the Scholastic Book Fair will be at Haines for the second year in a row. Parent volunteers would be greatly appreciated during the week of the book fair. The Grand Opening will be on Monday, April 17th at 3:00, and it will close on Friday, April 21st. Please come prepared with reusable bags for your purchases. Thank you.

This year we can shop ONLINE for four days before the Scholastic Book Fair arrives and also after it's been packed up and shipped back! Starting on April 13th you can shop online for a larger selection of books, especially for Young Adult titles, and to ensure a favorite book doesn't sell out. Online shopping will end on April 26th with all purchases delivered directly to the school. Again, ONLINE shopping for the Scholastic Book Fair is from 4/13 to 4/26. Go to www.scholastic.com/bookfairs/findafair.

Again, I welcome parent volunteers who would be willing to help with the Scholastic Book Fair any day(s) after 3:00 p.m. starting on Monday, April 17th and ending on Friday, April 21st. If you'd like to help, please contact Ms. Keller. Thanks for your help!

Music

April is the start of new musical journeys for Haines students. Middle School students listen to three songs related to environmental issues by the American songwriter, folk singer, and social activist Pete Seeger and discuss the role of musicians as agents of social change. Eighth grade students start learning ukulele, the Hawaiian guitar-like instrument. After successful performance of the song "Let It Be" by The Beatles, our seventh grade students continue their journey in piano with a fresh repertoire. Sixth grade students step into the world of singing and experience building vocal technique. Our Recorder Karate fifth graders continue earning their belts, while they add boomwhackers, the musical tubes, for accompaniment. Our third and fourth graders focus on two elements of music, melody and harmony, through boomwhacker repertoire. As Earth Day approaches us, the primary grades explore rounds that appreciate our planet as the precious habitat of all creatures!

Save the date: Haines Spring Arts Night will be held on Thursday May 25, 2017.

Permission slips for performers and further notes will be sent home after spring break in April. We encourage all of you dedicated parents to attend our show and support our students. It will be a night to remember!

Bilingual Department

***PAC meeting** on Friday April, 28 at 8:00am

Topic: Coffee with Friends (Please come and have coffee with a police enforcement officer, community health program coordinator, and Haines' administrators to learn more about what is happening in our community through a variety of activities.)

***LSC meeting** on Friday April, 21 at 8:30am

Spring Break Alternatives and Internet Safety Tips

Spring break (April 10–April 14) is fast approaching, and students deserve the much-needed time off. It's time to have some fun and relax. But it could also mean extra time online for your kids - a lot of it happening when you're not around to supervise.

While the Internet can be a great source of fun and social interaction for your kids, it can also be a dangerous place. It feels like home is the safest place for your kids, yet the

more time they spend online the more likely they will be exposed to inappropriate content (pornography, hate, violence, etc.), cyberbullying, and other online dangers.

Here are some suggestions that will help you keep your kids safe when online:

Spend some offline time with your kids daily! Try to devote some time every day to doing something with your kids that doesn't involve a computer, TV, phone, or any other kind of device. Spend time at the park in the morning, go to the beach in the afternoon, or just play an old fashioned board game at night. Your kids may decide that it's more fun to continue with similar activities during the other parts of their day, even when you are not there.

Give kids fun alternatives, even when you can't be there with them. Encourage your children to participate in "traditional" activities such as sports, dance, arts and crafts, or camp – activities that will keep them away from their computer.

Going on a family vacation? Use your vacation time for relaxing and spending time with your family and try to avoid constantly checking your phone for emails or messages. If you don't do it – your kids will be less likely to do so. Avoid posting details (dates, location) of your family vacation for the entire world to see, and make sure your kids don't do so either.

Discourage "checking-in" and geo tagging. Checking-in at certain locations on Facebook, Foursquare or other social networks is "cool" but could affect your kids' online reputation and privacy and could expose your home and family to risk. Make sure your kids turn off any geo-tracking tools, and avoid "checking in".

Cyberbullying doesn't end with spring break/the school year. Be aware of the warning signs that may indicate that your child is a cyberbullying victim. Notice any behavior that seems unusual. Does your child normally enjoy using the computer but suddenly no longer wishes do so? Is your child constantly engaged with interacting over the internet all hours of the day and night? These could be warning signs that you need to pay attention to.

Set spring break/summer online use boundaries. Set expectations early, even before the spring break/summer vacation begins. It is always advisable to have an online use contract, but perhaps this is the time to revise the contract and create a special "Internet Use Contract" and a "Mobile Phone Use Contract" to define clear and understandable rules about what is acceptable and what is not. Make sure you and your children sign the contract and agree on the terms.

(Resource site:

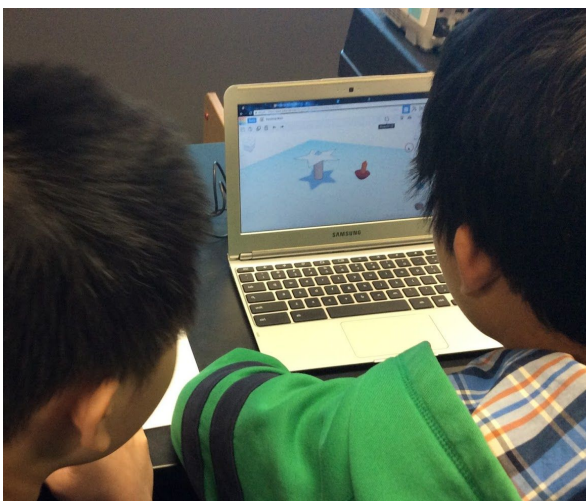
<http://puresight.com/Useful-tools/online-child-safety-during-summer-vacation.html>)

Technology

Third and fourth grade students will combine using Google Docs and digital media software to create a photostory about a Spring topic in April. They will first brainstorm and research for images that they want to include in their video. Then they are going to create captions and import the images into a digital media software. Finally, once they have exported their video with optional motion and music, students will share and celebrate their photostory with the class.

Fifth and sixth grade students will continue with their media project in April. Fifth graders will finish their first small objects stop motion animation with title, credits, sound effects, and background music. Sixth graders will work on their first featured video. These videos have a broad spectrum of topics and formats, from lyric music video to foreign country newscast. Sixth graders have been learning how to use various camera shots and angles to create cutscenes for a video.

Seventh graders are going to conclude their first round of the maker series. They have been designing 3D objects for printing as well as aesthetics, such as name tags and spring gardens. In April, seventh grade students are going to choose an architecture and miniaturize it. They will have to break down the physical structure into 3D printable parts.



(Left) Designing 3D Plants for a Spring Garden (Room 303)



(Right) Women's History Month Animation by Sophia Lao (202)

