

Physical Education (P.E.) & Health

It has been a wonderful year at Haines School! The students have worked hard learning new skills, improving their fitness levels, and trying new things. Many students saw increases in their fitness test results. Ask your child how they did in Curl-Ups, Push-Ups, and the Pacer Run Test if they are in grades two through eight. The top combined scores for the three tests will earn a boy and a girl from each homeroom the Physical Education Fitness Award at the Awards Assembly. My hope is that all of our students stay active and healthy during the summer break. Try some of these videos on YouTube: *Fitness Blender Kids Workout*, *Ultimate 20 Minute Full Body Workout for Kids*, and *Whip/NaeNae Elementary Cardio Workout*.

I look forward to seeing everybody after a hopefully safe and fun summer. While you are out purchasing school supplies, I am always in need of sports equipment and other supplies, such as: copy paper, paper towels, badminton birdies, tennis balls, plastic whiffle balls, and anything else you may be able to donate. Thank you for another great year!

Visual Art

What an exciting year in the artroom! Students in all grades learned how to use and care for art supplies and stretch themselves artistically. Encourage your child to make art during the summer. For our youngest artists, art-making promotes important fine motor development and problem-solving skills. Older children benefit from having an outlet to share their feelings and ideas. Plus it's a wonderful, hands-on break from digital activities! Art fosters empathy and open-mindedness in kids of all ages. There are many awesome family art activities around town. Check out the suggestions below:

- **Movies in the Park** – You and your family can enjoy an outdoor screening of a new or classic film.
- **Grant Park Music Festival in Millennium Park** – One of my favorite summer activities!
- **Chicago Shakespeare in the Parks** – Catch Shakespeare's Greatest Hits at one of Chicago's parks this summer.
- **SummerDance** – Take a FREE dance lesson followed by 2 hours of live music and dancing.
- **Art Institute of Chicago** – always FREE for kids under age 14
- **National Museum of Mexican Art** – Free to the public
- **Museum of Contemporary Photography** – Free to the public

Have a safe and creative summer! See you next year!

Music

June is the month of reflection and review in music room. During this year students from all grades built a lot of musical knowledge and skills. Some of the skills came easier to them and the rest required them to really stretch themselves, and for that reason I am very proud of them.

Throughout this year, we had a lot of enjoyable moments when we made music together. There were also times when we had to show resilience in the face of a challenge that looked so overwhelming at the beginning. When we first started buckets, it seemed so impossible to play on a consistent tempo and play with various dynamic levels. When we first held recorders in our hands, producing a smooth sound seemed like an impossible task. Singing with two-part harmony seemed very confusing in the beginning. Don't even ask how hard it was to play two different patterns at the same time on piano with each hand. However, all of these challenges came with the joy of learning and that was the fuel that kept us going. We started believing in ourselves and our capabilities and learned that practice makes perfect regardless of how talented we are in music. We learned that we can accomplish complex musical skills by establishing a positive mindset and developing self-discipline. We learned to see the world through the eyes of composers and performers. We experienced the rush of adrenaline in our veins when we were about to go on the stage to perform and we learned how to utilize our stage fright to our benefit, to boost our energy, and to deliver an expressive performance. We did a lot, and this is just the beginning of our journey!

Make music-making part of your family fun during summer. Nothing is more enjoyable than playing a clapping game or singing a round with your child. Enjoy outdoor events such as Grant Park or Ravinia. Encourage your children to write their own songs, build instruments out of disposable things, listen more intentionally, and explore the music of nature. Also, encourage them to practice their instrument. Youtube tutorials can be a great resource. Happy summer!

Technology

As the school year draws to an end, students are wrapping up Tech Lab with celebrations and reflections in June. Students will share their work and acknowledge each other's creativity and skills with technology. Students will then review what they have learned in 2016-17, rate their favorite projects, and give feedback on others. Students will also brainstorm what they would like to learn next year, either about something new or an extension to what they already know.

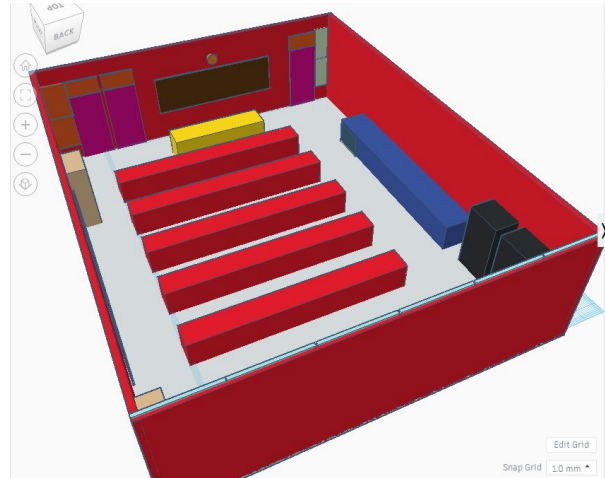
From May:



(Above) Photo Stills from *The Battle* - A Stop Motion Animation by Adan Vazquez, Eric Lau, Ryan Lau, Yan Heng Liu, and Jennifer Mei (Room 312)



(Left) *Hunt for the Vampire* - Use Coding to Tell a Story by Philip Cao (Room 308)



(Right) *Haines Room 313* - 3D Design Scaled Model by Ivy Huang, Mei Lian Wu, Miaozi Tan, and Tina Ma (Room 303)