

Art

Primary Grades continue to focus on categorizing artworks based on subject matter and media. By studying the artwork of Faith Ringgold and African Adire cloth, third and fourth graders are exploring fiber arts. On the lighter side, fifth grade is looking at things that make us laugh by drawing parodies of famous paintings. Sixth grade students are discovering Islamic art while they work on intricate tile designs. Dipping their paint brushes into the world of watercolors, seventh graders are working on abstract paintings. Finally, the eighth graders are bending and twisting wire to make portraits like the Alexander Calder.

Dancing with Class:

On March 8th, fifth and sixth grade students have their first ballroom dance lesson. The lessons will occur on Wednesday each week until the end of May. Students will learn how to dance Merengue, Fox trot, Bachata, Swing, and Paso Doble. The Dance-Off competition is scheduled for June 1st at the Chicago Cultural Center. I hope you will mark your calendar and join us for this fun event!

Library

Students from Kindergarten to grade eight will be taking part in classroom lessons from Common Sense Education's K–12 Digital Citizenship Curriculum, designed to educate and guide young people to harness the power of the Internet and digital tools so they can become safe, responsible, and respectful digital citizens.

WHAT IS DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP? Digital media and technology is evolving at a rapid pace, bringing with it amazing opportunities as well as real risks for our children. On the positive side, young people are using the Internet and mobile technologies to create, connect, explore and learn in ways never before imagined. Challenges from harmful behaviors, cyberbullying to digital cheating, are surfacing in schools and in homes across the country. Young people face ethical challenges daily without a roadmap to guide them.

WHAT COMMON SENSE EDUCATION TEACHES The core message of the curriculum is one of empowerment: With powerful digital tools that allow for creation and communication comes great responsibility. The curriculum centers on 8 main categories based on the digital ethics research of Dr. Howard Gardner and The GoodPlay Project at the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

Raising and educating young people in today's 24/7 digital media environment is one of the most exciting and overwhelming challenges that parents and schools face today.

Working together with Common Sense Education, we can raise a generation of kids who become smart, responsible, and respectful digital citizens.

Music

This March marks the 32nd Annual **Music In Our Schools Month** (MIOSM) and we want shine a spotlight on our music program. This year, we're encouraging you to share how music inspires your children by sending us photos and videos of their music making. Your stories will be shared on the J.C. Haines Art Instagram page (@jchainesart) with the hashtags #MIOSM and #MusicInspires. You can also support music in our school during the month of March by changing your Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram profile photos! Visit this website to download your "Music Inspires" picture: <http://www.nafme.org/change-your-profile-picture-for-music-in-our-schools-month/>

March in music class is devoted to spring and how the concept of renewal in nature is reflected in the works of musicians. We will listen to music pieces from different parts of the world and from different time periods and discuss how spring has been a universal subject and a source of inspiration to many musicians. In addition to our theme, upper grades continue building their piano skills, and are rehearsing "Let It Be" by the Beatles. Fifth grade continues on their "Recorder Karate" journey. Through the power of recorders, students explore call and response, improvisation, sight-reading, as well as solo and ensemble performances. We anticipate having our first group of Recorder Karate black beltters in March. These are students who have successfully played nine songs. Third and fourth grade students are using American folk songs to explore compound meter and rhythmic activities. Primary grades are exploring rondo form through Antonio Vivaldi's Spring using theme visualisations and creative movements.

Haines Chorus: Your child is interested in singing but doesn't know where to start? Haines chorus is the answer! We will start fresh in March with a student-chosen repertoire that is meaningful and haunting. All fifth through eighth grade students are welcome to join the choir. It will be a beautiful combination of learning, socialization, discourse, and fun!



Physical Education (P.E.) and Health

The weather is starting to change and I am hopeful that you and your child(ren) are able to get outside and actively enjoy it! Play at the park, take a walk, or ask your child about some of the things they do in P.E. class and try them outside. The kindergarten through second grade students are working on proper throwing and tossing form in stations. Encourage them to “make a muscle” when throwing overhand so that the ball is at their ear and their throwing elbow is pointing back. Have them step with the opposite foot toward their target. They are also completing some fitness work and learning the Cha Cha Slide. The third through eighth grade students are learning floor hockey skills and advancing their game play.

Starting on March 17, students will begin their Sexual Health Education curriculum during their normally scheduled P.E. class time. There was an informational sheet sent home with every child and a copy of that note posted on the website. If you would like to opt your child out of this curriculum, please send Mr. Hennessy a note asking to do so. An alternative assignment will be provided for those students during that time.

Bilingual Department

- The ACCESS 2.0 assessments began at the end of January, and the testing window

ended on Feb 17. A total of 198 students took the ACCESS assessments. Thanks to all the ACCESS administrators and the technology coordinator, who assisted in the assessment process.

- Bilingual staff planned and organized the 4th Bilingual Advisory Committee meeting on Feb 10, 2017. Special thanks to our guest speaker Ms. Anna Soto, who shared the “Common Core Standards for parents.” Parents were engaged and actively participated in the “Q & A” session.
- Special thanks to Ms. Moy, Mr. Scherquist, Ms. Ruan, Mrs. Lei, Ms. Mei, Ms. Jones, Ms. Cheung, Ms. Ferrer, Ms. Ma, Ms. McClain, friends, students and parents who participated and represented Haines School in the *Chinatown parade* which took place in Chinatown on Sunday, Feb 6. It was a beautiful day!

GOTR

- This season we have eight sixth to eighth grade girls signed up with the “Girls on the Run-Heart and Sole” program. They are committed to a nine-week training program and meeting after school each Tuesday and Thursday.
- The GOTR Spring 5k will be held on May 20, 2017 at Butler Field in Grant Park. Any family members, teachers, or Haines’ staff who are interested in joining us, please contact Ms. Cheung at mcheung@cps.edu
Again, thank you for the support!

Valentine's Day Sweet Treat Sale sponsored by Haines Girl Running Club

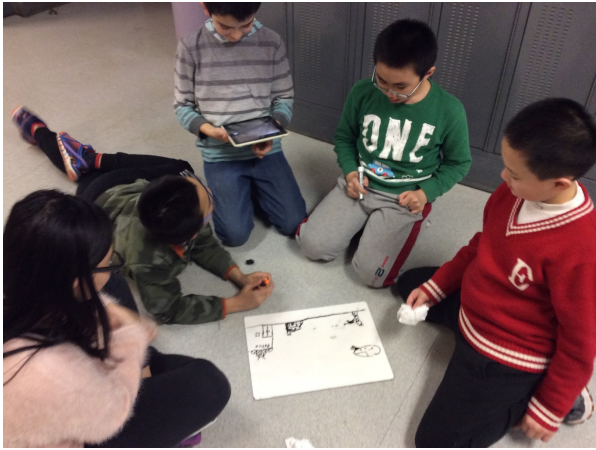
- Thank you Haines family for your generous support of the Girls Running Club! We are excited to announce our teacher winner, Ms. Ruan from room 310, who sold the most pretzels.

Technology

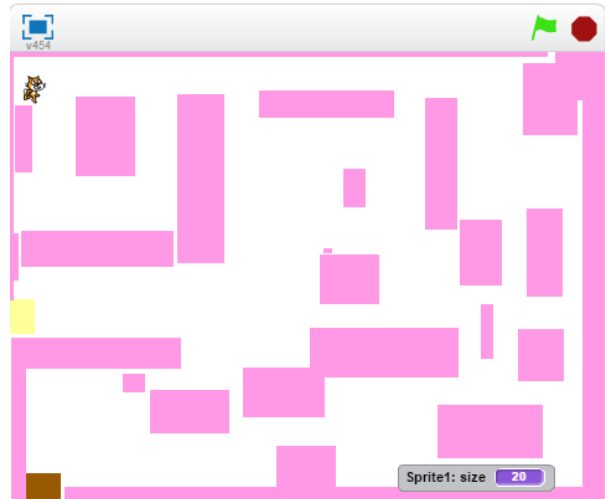
In March, third and fourth grade students are going to continue to write computer programs in Scratch, a visual programming environment (scratch.mit.edu). So far, they have used commands to process inputs from the keyboard, change positions, colors, and sizes of a sprite (a graphical object on the computer), as well as compare logics for making conditional decisions.

Fifth graders have completed their whiteboard animation and will move onto small object animation. They will use the Stop Motion app on the iPads to author and direct

their video. Sixth and seventh graders will create a visual digital short media about various situations and feelings.



**(Left) Making of the *Clone Warfare*:
A Whiteboard Animation (Room 312)**



**(Right) A-Maze-Ing maze game
By Jasmine Croft (Room 215)**

Haines' ACE - A Champion in Education

Please nominate “A Champion in Education” at Haines. Who makes a difference in your child's school day? Haines’ inspiring staff and teachers? Haines’ secretaries? Haines’ support staff who lead by example? Now is the time to recognize their contributions through our ACE (A Champion in Education) Awards! To nominate a Haines’ staff members who demonstrate excellence in education, go to www.tinyurl.com/hainesACE2017

Every nominee will be honored in April, and one person will win a \$100.00 cash prize. Nominations must be submitted by Friday, March 17. The ACE Awards is a new award to celebrate Haines' staff and teachers.