

Thomas Fleming Art Room News

Fall Newsletter 2009

Welcome back to another year of art at Thomas Fleming School.

Thanks to parents who have already started dropping off recyclables to the art room. We are always in need of baby food jars, Styrofoam trays of all sizes, large plastic ½ gallon containers and used adult sized T-shirts to be used as painting smocks.

We are also going to be collecting all manner of tiny metal, wooden and plastic doo dads for sculpture projects! Please start saving things like bottle caps, small wood

scraps, screws, nuts and bolts, small toy parts, paper clips, pen caps, clothes pins and packing material, just to name a few.

VOLUNTEERS!

We need you whenever you have time to spare. If it is an occasional circumstance and you happen to have the time off and want to stop in for a while to help or if you can come on a regular basis, your help is greatly appreciated. Much of what you can do is support our young artists by preparing materials, hanging art in the school and near by

community. We will also be doing our Arts Integration Projects again this year, so this is another one time chance to get messy with your child on an cross curricular integrated project.



Fifth Grade Artists to Exhibit at The Birds of Vermont Museum!

The fifth grade students are all working very hard to meet a deadline of September 30th to complete Foil Repousse Relief Sculptures of Vermont birds. The Birds of Vermont Museum is sponsoring a contest and exhibit for various aged students to exhibit their work at the museum in October.

Winners from each age group will be invited to have their art work on display on the museum website.

More details will follow as we race to complete our work on a very short deadline. I am giving the student artists the choice to have their work exhibited and will not require each student to do so.

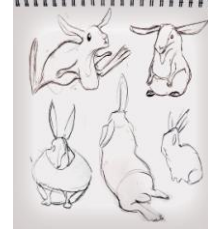


First Trimester Lessons

Fourth grade students are busy learning about Gesture Drawing and how to “draw what you see”. The kids have had a great time taking turns modeling while the class draws. The next lesson in this unit will have them drawing a large silhouetted gesture figure, which is then cut out from color paper. The students will learn about Edgar Degas and other artists who use the technique of gesture drawing before completing a painting. This will segue into our horse unit. Students will use their gesture drawing skills while observing

scenes from the film *Black Beauty*, which they will use to create images of horses in motion. They will then learn about the Expressionist period of art and how artists use color to represent emotion. The final lesson will be to create colorful painted ponies. Other units coming up in the trimester will deal with the subject of architecture and cut paper design, as we combine these two concepts together. The art students are very excited about the new projector installed in the art room. We have been watching one

minute art history clips about famous works from the Louvre museum, as well as other pertinent images and video regarding our current curriculum.



Gesture Drawings
Flickr artist:
Chris Schroeder

Fifth grade students, as mentioned are hard at work making foil repousse relief sculptures of a Vermont bird for the museum exhibit this October. Other projects coming up this semester will be a self portrait lesson done in the cubist style of Picasso. They will learn about the artist’s life and works. The students will also be incorporating color theory knowledge as they complete the self portraits as part of the fifth grade art assessment for the



Pablo Picasso
By the MetMuseum.org

school district. Students will also learn about perspective drawing and turning shapes into form through this realistic drawing style. We will also focus on the art work of M.C Escher in this time. Like the fourth grade classes, fifth grade has already benefitted from the new projector by viewing famous prints of John Audubon, from the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.

Celebrating Creative Minds

Mark your calendars as the Chittenden Central Supervisory Union plans to celebrate all of the Fine Arts during Youth Art Month. The opening night will take place on Friday, March 12, 2010 from 6-9 p.m.

Every art student will be making a pair of designed paper hands, so all students will have an opportunity to have a piece exhibited.

