

NICHOLS SCHOOL

FINE ARTS AND P.E.

NEWSLETTER

MAY, 2016 EDITION



Physical Education (Mr. Ginicola)

Hello everyone! All grades have just started our foot manipulation units and we are working on the skills, terms and rules of soccer.

Field day is set for May 24 with a May 26 rain date. This year's theme is American Ninja Warrior. I have Joe "The Weatherman" Moravsky coming to sign autographs and take pictures. Drew Dreschel and James "Beast" McGrath may also make it. We will also have the largest (92 feet) inflatable obstacle course in Connecticut at the event! All parents are welcome to attend and more info will be sent home soon.

I've also updated our YouTube channel name to: **Nichols PhysEd Depot** to reach a broader audience.

You can always reach me via email at: ginicolam@stratfordk12.org

Art (Mr. Morelli)



A view into the art room! The students have recently been creating master artist drawings, paintings, landscapes and 3D art. If you come to Nichols, you will see artwork hanging on the main floor leading to the gym and on your way to the library. Currently on display are fifth grade Contrast Designs and fourth grade Frida Kahlo Portraits. In the classroom the students have just finished or are currently working on:

- Kindergarten –Spring Trees and Hungry Caterpillar Prints
- First Grade – Design Paintings and 3D Caterpillars
- Second Grade – Jackson Pollack Paintings and Texture Castles
- Third Grade – Clay Cups and Underwater Paintings
- Fourth Grade – Gesture Drawings and 3D Clay Figures
- Fifth Grade – Contrast Cut Designs and Contrast Paintings
- Sixth Grade – 3D Cubes and Hair Designs

Various 6th grade Art Enrichment students have recently finished their own 3D clay pieces. They created their own ideas and they are on display in the glass cases in the main hallway.

Mr. Morelli can be contacted via email at morellim@stratfordk12.org

Music (Mrs. Nelson)



Music classes have been very busy this spring! 5th and 6th grade Chorus members have been practicing very hard for their Spring Concert on May 5th. 3rd grade has been learning how to play 3 songs on their recorders! They will be performing for the school on May 5th as well.

My classes are working on:

Kindergarten--- Movements through Freeze dance and learning our patriotic songs
1st Graders: Half Notes, Quarter Notes and Quarter Rests through singing and playing
2nd Graders: Focusing on Tonality with William's Sons
3rd Graders: Recorders: Pitches G A B C & D
4th & 5th Graders: Movement dances (Alabama Gal) and studying Jazz Music
6th Graders: Notating rhythms and music using bucket drumming



Instrumental Music (Mr. Orduz)

Hello everyone! This is what the students are working on for the spring concert on May 5.

Advanced Band

Themes from Harry Potter by John Williams/Paul Cook (arranger)
Engines of Resistance by Larry Clark
Salvation is Created by Pavel Tschesnokoff/Michael Story (arranger)

Beginning Band

When the Band Goes Marching In arranged by Michael Story
March for a Fat Cat by Barbara Littell

The spring concert is right around the corner, being May 5th at 7 p.m., so make sure you're there to see how far the students have come this year.

Mr. Orduz can be contacted via email at orduzv@strafordk12.org.

Library Media (Mrs. Oliver)



Students are using "Cloud Computing" here at Nichols when they use the school's Chromebooks. They are saving documents into their GoogleDocs folder and now have the ability to access those folders and saved documents from home. Grade 3 students are researching the many animals in the book, *What do you do with a tail like that?* They are learning about the many amazing things animals can do with their ears, eyes, mouths, noses, feet and tails. Kindergarten students continue to practice their mouse skills--point, single-and double click, drag and drop and are learning a little bit about coins in a sort and count online activity. Grade 2 students are using their computer time to do activities that have them practice telling time and converting digital time to analog time.