



The Dominican Kiddy TORCH

Lower School Edition



Quarter 3

DOMINICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL STUDENT NEWSLETTER

Contributions from Homeroom and Subject Teachers

Goodbye Ms. Petro!!!



What an incredible journey my life is taking me on. I have always been one for adventure and challenges, but never could I have imagined that I still have adventures waiting for me.... New Zealand!

This adventure is a tough one, I must admit. Being far away from my husband and daughter is not easy on any of us. My brother, his wife and my little niece are such wonderful hosts in New Zealand, I am really lucky to have them supporting me while everything is being prepared here. I was lucky enough to find a job in Auckland and is just awaiting my documents from immigration..... then I will be reunited with my family!

One thing I want to say to each and every DIS staff member and student: If an opportunity arises, take it! If you struggle, ask for help. If you are happy, share it.

I have some of my best memories from DIS. I took a look through my online albums from the years and I was smiling the whole time. Memories from little incidents in class, in school. Some silly moments (not only with the students, but also with some staff members) will be part of my life forever! I thank you for making my memories filled with love and laughter. Thank you for letting me be a part of your life!

Carpe Diem!

Ms. Petro Venter





Welcome to DIS!

Grade 1 Bl. Mannes



Melanie Curaca

Sophie Luna

Grade 1 Bl. Diana



Sophia Kwon

Grade 3 Bl. Imelda



Andre Wong

Grade 2 St. John



Jaden Lee

Kelvin Kim

Grade 4 Bl. John



Natalie Wong



Mia Luna

As a Lower School DIS family, we would like to welcome these 8 students. We are so happy to have you become part of our family and we love you already!

D'TORCH Junior Orchestra

We are proud to announce that Ms. Zoe officially started the D'TORCH Junior Orchestra at the beginning of 2018.

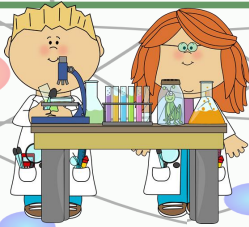
The members of the D'TORCH Junior Orchestra range from Grades 3-6 and were personally invited by Ms. Zoe to be part of this elite group of musicians in the making.

The D'TORCH Junior Orchestra will perform at various events throughout the school year and will join the D'TORCH Senior Orchestra on stage for special celebrations.



This is an exciting new chapter and a big honor to start developing our students' music talents at such a young age.



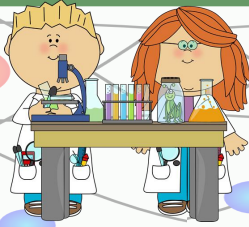


Science Fair

This year's Science Fair was held in the new cafeteria. The weather was cold and rainy, but the students were able to enjoy the large indoor area to display, examine and inquire the variety of scientific projects which ranged from space, health, weather to food. The area provided more than enough room for parents, students and teachers to learn and discover what each grade level was able to accomplish. From the collaborative work from the kindergarten through the advanced projects in grade 5, the students displayed their work with pride and knowledge, discussed each theory, idea and question with thorough knowledge and skill. We are all proud and eager for next year's fair. So until then, keep learning, asking questions and be eager to discover what interests you in the world of science.

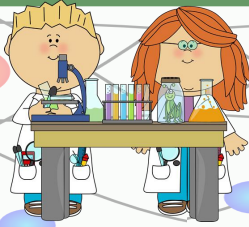
- Mr. Eric Williams





Science Fair





Science Fair





Sunflower Ambassadors

THE SUNFLOWER AMBASSADOR PEER HELPING PROGRAM

The Sunflower Ambassador Peer Helpers are composed of 12 girls and 12 boys who best exemplify the virtues of a good peer/student. Those nominated should demonstrate respect for staff, students and the school community; show compassion, courage, respect, dedication and inspiration; and be positive role models for their classmates, staff and peers.

STUDENTS NOMINATED MUST BE IN 4TH GRADE AND BE NOMINATED BY A PEER IN THE SAME GRADE.

Listed below are the virtues developed by the Second Step Counselling curriculum.

Those students nominated must demonstrate one or more of the virtues.

- Respect: A caring and regard for the value, dignity, uniqueness, and safety of self and others;
- Responsibility: A willing fulfilment of obligations to self and others and accountability for one's conduct;
- Compassion: Empathy for others, combined with the demonstration of kindness and support;
- Courage: Acting on your beliefs even in the face of adversity.

When the grade 4 students voted, they did not only write the name of the nominee, they also wrote down the reasons why they believe the nominee was the best person to become a Sunflower ambassador. When kids struggle with problems, they automatically turn to their friends. These nominees will be taught the crucial skills necessary for building healthy relationships, including the following:

Communication- asking questions and listening for content and feelings.

Assertiveness- expressing rights and desires, dealing with peer pressure and managing sensitive issues.

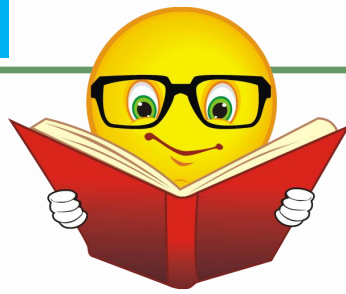
Confidentiality- honouring what others share and deciding when safety concerns override it.

Decision-making- weighing information and evaluating choices.

Conflict Mediation- dealing with disagreements and reaching peaceful solutions.

These grade 4 students will be the incoming leaders of the lower school students next school year (being grade 5 students) so they will be groomed to be good leaders. The Sunflower Ambassador peer helpers will be trained so that they can be good role models to the lower school students.





Learning

RELIGIOUS STUDIES — Mr. Beck *Grade 3 Shoebox Nativity Diorama*

Religious decorations are common during the Christmas season, including Nativity scenes. Traditional Nativity scenes are made with statues. Our G3 students created an alternative way to make a Nativity scene and so discover the real meaning of Christmas.



CULTURAL EXCHANGE WITH JORDAN — Mr. Charles *Grade 2*

We are in the middle of a cultural exchange with Ms. Carli in Jordan. We worked with Grade 3 to send them cards and Taiwan treats (Hi Chew and Milk Candy). They are preparing a care package for us now, and a video chat is in the works. It was fun for everyone to learn about the culture in Jordan, and we look forward to getting to know them better!





Learning

Learning is FUN!

Our pre-school children are getting better and better at their fine motor skills.

It was very hard for some of us to even use scissors at the beginning of the school year.

Can you believe what we can do now?

We made turtles out of paper plates and color papers all by ourselves during Art Class!

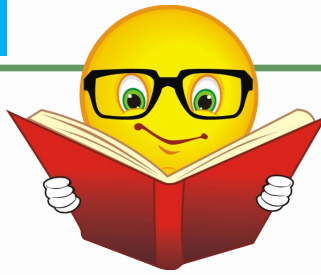


Pre-Kindergarten — Ms. Lai

We focused on the numbers 11- 20.

Children learned to count by using the 10 charts and the 10 rods. This was an assessment using both of the skills that they have learned during the past month. The students needed to build numbers from 11 to 19 using the number rods, then after building the numbers they had to show me their number using number charts.





Learning

E.L.L. — Ms. Mafalda
Grade 3 Creative Writing

The Grade 3 E.L.L. students needed to use words to create a picture in the reader's mind.
Using their senses to describe an event.

The Christmas Eve

One Christmas Eve we were staying at a beautiful hotel. Suddenly , I ran into our hotel room. I saw the....."Gift" on a chair. I cried "Yay". I wish inside was my video game but when I open it was.....a camera. My smile was gone .I looked down on the ground. I thought why didn't I get my video game? My mom said, you've got enough video games. When you go to the fieldtrip you can take pictures, you don't need to use my phone anymore. I am still very disappointed but I said "ok" and I said " Thanks mom your idea was great.

By: Kohan Chang

The Scary Big Dragon

One late night I was sleeping in my bed and I heard a sound of glass breaking "Ching!" I opened my eyes and I saw sharp teeth and big mouth was opening in front of me and I also felt a hot dragon breath on my skin. He almost ate me, I was so afraid! I screamed "AAh!" But no sound came out from my mouth. Nobody heard me. I took my pencil from my little table, I poked him in the throat with my pencil. He screamed "Oh!" The pencil stuck in his throat and he opened his wings and flew away. I was so excited because I was so courageous.

By: Chloe Hsieh



Learning

MATHEMATICS — Ms. Ismari **Grade 1**

In Mathematics, Bl. Mannes de Guzman focused on subtraction for a few weeks. We used base-ten blocks to review the concepts of deduction.

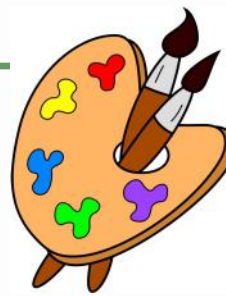
The students were then required to use their base-ten blocks to create demonstrate the math problems on the whiteboard. Later on in the lesson, the students were required to build their own addition and subtraction problems using their base-ten blocks.



LANGUAGE ARTS — Ms. Gatsensby **Grade 5**

This quarter St. Dominic de Guzman had a blast learning all about idioms. We came to the understanding that idioms were a colorful way of expressing different situations. When then decided to learn some new idioms off by heart that it was time for a novel study. We read the *One and Only Ivan*. Which was great because we had a chance to see a character in our story develop over time. This helped to make the story more relatable and therefore we had more interest in what we were reading.





Art

ART — Mr. Jofil
Grade 1 BI. Diana Andalo

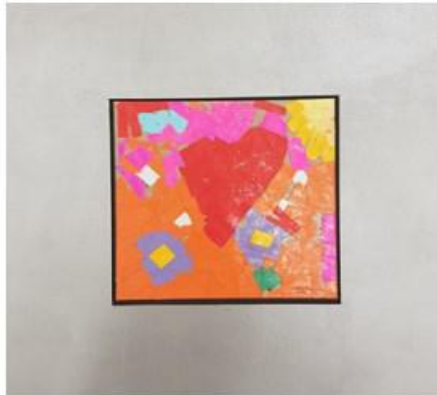
Paper Mosaic

The focus of Quarter 3 is to engage children’s artistic consciousness in basic activities that enable them to visually manipulate available art materials, arrange colors based on a design or pattern, and to use the available tools to create or express a visually aesthetic product.

The activity is aimed to challenge the Grade 1 students to produce work of art with the limited option of using only bits and pieces of colored paper. The purpose of this activity was to introduce another way of expressing art, other than the classic pencil and paint and to let them actually touch and feel the materials that they were using. This was to prepare them for their sculptural works in the next quarter. This activity turned out to be fun and engaging as it was suitable for their interests and perhaps to their cognitive and technical level. Here are few early works that may represent their class:



Artwork by: **Fiona**
 Grade level: **Grade 1-**
 Medium: **Colored Paper Mosaic**



Artwork by: **Venus Gin**
 Grade level: **Grade 1-**
 Medium: **Colored Paper Mosaic**



Artwork by: **Sophia Kwon**
 Grade level: **Grade 1-**
 Medium: **Colored Paper Mosaic**



Artwork by: **Katherine Chen**
 Grade level: **Grade 1-**
 Medium: **Colored Paper Mosaic**



Artwork by: **Yoyo**
 Grade level: **Grade 1-**
 Medium: **Colored Paper Mosaic**



Artwork by: **James**
 Grade level: **Grade 1-**
 Medium: **Colored Paper Mosaic**

中文 Chinese

CHINESE — Ms. Lillian

Grade 3 Chinese Crafts and Spring couplets.

the Year of the Dog

According to the Chinese lunar calendar, the Year of the dog began on Thursday, February 15th. This Chinese crafts activity introduced the students to the legends. These red banners with black calligraphy ink are hung outside the doors of homes in Taiwan, with the wishes of longevity, fortune, and happiness



CSL — Ms. Samantha

Grade 1 Bl. Mannes de Guzman

Ms. Samantha was teaching her Grade 1 CSL students about the importance of Chinese New Year, where after they had the opportunity to make their own art for Chinese New Year.





Library

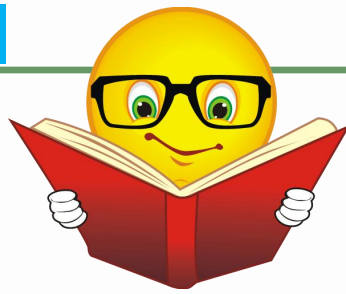
DOGMAN VISITS DIS!

New from the creator of Captain Underpants, it's Dog Man, the #1 *New York Times* bestselling, crime-biting canine who is part dog, part man, and ALL HERO!

The Dog man series is much beloved by our students. In fact, the library copies are always checked out and high on demand! When Ms. Iris went to the Taipei International Book Exhibit, she told the local Scholastic representative that our kids really enjoy reading Dog Man. They allowed Ms. Iris to borrow the Dog Man stand

to be displayed in the library. Photos taken have been sent to Scholastic, USA and hopefully the author, Dav Pilkey will get to see the pictures and maybe pay us a visit!





Learning

DIY CLUB — *Ms. Mafalda and Ms. Lize*

Here are some of the fun activities the DIY club did this quarter. Discovering pastel colors, creating paper ballerinas, and doing some tie dyeing.

What an amazing club to be part of!



SCIENCE — *Ms. Lize*

Grade 4 BI. John acted out the rotation and revolution of the Moon and the Earth around the Sun. The groups had to research the topic in their Science books before the demonstration.

