

August, 2009

Dear Students and Parents,

We welcome back all Preschool-4yr olds through 8th graders to our art program. We have many great projects in mind and are excited to begin another year of creativity!

All students will have art class every other week, alternating with library. The goals of the program are to allow each student to be expressive in their art work while exploring different art media and techniques. We will examine artists past and present for inspiration and appreciation. We will also tap into certain subject areas by connecting an art project with something they are studying in the classroom.

We will continue "Artist of the Week", displaying outstanding works of art near the office by the school's entrance, and in the hallway near the art room. All the students' artwork will be on display throughout the school on a regular basis. In the spring, we will have our annual Art Show with at least one art work on display from each student.

We know what an important part art is to a child's learning experience and development. Art education provides powerful educational benefits by developing students' creative problem solving and critical thinking skills while it emphasizes sensitivity to beauty, expression and order in our world. When students connect learning in other subject areas with an art project, research has found that they retain that information much longer. And a good art program allows each student to feel good about himself/herself through creating and exploring. I am committed to giving our students not just a good art program but a great one.

Thank you for your support of our art program. We are looking forward to a great year!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Patricia Newman

P. S. Please don't forget the art room when you are cleaning out closets, basements, attics or garages. Items such as yarn, fabric, buttons, string, old jewelry, beads, etc. can always be used. Also, recyclables such as plastic take out containers, bowls, cups, trays etc. are appreciated.