



Parent Weekly Newsletter 3 November, 2017

This week the students participated in two **interdisciplinary** discoveries. Having studied different biomes of Africa in Geography the students then recreated rainforests and deserts using locally available plants. They each planted a rainforest, with a variety of plants, in a bottle. As they continue to observe their 'rainforests' the students will use their knowledge of scientific method of experiment to record their findings. They also made a desert, using different soil and plants and were able to create desert conditions based on their knowledge of such a climate. In International Mindedness and French class, the students took part in French cooking with practical experience by making macarons, in the colour of the French flag. Vive le France!!!

Language Arts Class: Miss Alice

(What) IMYC Learning Goal: Students should be able to determine the theme of a text and its relationship to plot, setting and characters and be able to use writing to organise thoughts, experiences, emotions and preferences.

(How) Activities: Students completed an activity to match new words from their reading with the definitions. Students explored the language of the book and historical time by discussing whether the racist language should be removed from modern copies of the book. Students were able to record their ideas in a creative way by writing structured poems on the character of their choice

(Why): Students were able to increase their vocabulary as well as grapple with issues around the use of language in historical novels. Through continuing to read the the novel and record their observations in a variety of ways students are preparing for larger pieces of work at the end of the unit.

Differentiation: Our yr 8 student has been given extension questions to develop her ability to understand the themes of the novel. In the written tasks there was individual support for each student to complete tasks and developing understanding.

Assessment: Of student understanding through discussion and written answers.

Homework: Read to at least chapter 20 and answer accompanying questions. Due Friday 10th November.

History Class: Miss Alice

(What) IMYC Learning Goal: Students should be able to describe and identify the causes for and the results of historical events, situations and changes in the periods they have studied.

(How) Activities: Through using a variety of sources, including video, pictures of artifacts, and lecture the students explored the development of humans including tools and art. They discussed higher level questions about the structures of human society and self expression.

(Why): Students are able to see the links and differences between early society and modern society. They are preparing to create an artwork inspired by cave paintings.

Differentiation: Structure of class discussion and extension questions.

Assessment: Written answers recording information, discussion of critical thinking questions, storyboard of the main ideas recorded.

Homework: Worksheet on stone age tools. Handed in Wednesday 1st November.



Geography

Class:

Miss

Alice

(What) IMYC Learning Goal: Students should be able to make plans and maps using a variety of scales, symbols and keys. Know about the main physical and human features and environmental issues in particular localities. Know how the features of particular localities influence the nature of human activities within them

(How) Activities: Students made grid maps of Africa. They learnt about three different biomes and started their presentations. Students made a rainforest in a bottle to see how a tropical rainforest is an ecosystem.

(Why): Students went deeper into their study of African geography by choosing particular biomes. In doing so they were able to develop their map, ICT and scientific skills.

Differentiation: Students chose the biome to research and present. Extension questions were provided for the research.

Assessment: Peer assessment of previous homework on Africa's vegetation.

Homework: Students are to finish their powerpoint presentation on either deserts, savanna grasslands or tropical rainforests. Due Thursday 9th November.

Science Class: Mr. JJ

(What) IMYC Learning Goal: Students should develop an understanding that scientific knowledge is built up from the systematic collection and analysis of evidence and the application of rigorous reasoning applied to the evidence.

(How) Activities: We were introduced to the scientific method, how to conduct an experiment, and a few things to keep in mind as you are doing your experiment. We then set up an experiment to test the absorbency of different paper towels. Our hypothesis is that more expensive towels are more absorbent.

(Why): To provide real world, hands on experience of how science develops and advances.

Differentiation: Students will be given the choice to design their own experiment to test a hypothesis that they are interested in.

Assessment: Informal assessment on lab procedures and behavior as well as assessment of written lab report after the experiment.

Homework: Decide on an experiment that the student wants to do and what hypothesis they would like to test.

Math Class: Mr. JJ

(What) IMYC Learning Goal: Students should be able to understand the concept of a ratio, unit rate, and fractions and start to see the similarities between the three.

(How) Activities: We related ratios to english language analogies to help students see that ratio is just a comparison. We connected unit rate to our calculations of average speed in science. We also connected our Math to music by looking at whole, half, quarter, etc. notes and using equivalent fractions to add them up. Then we played a number line fraction game that will continued to be used in class to differentiate instruction.

(Why): Ratios, unit rates, and fractions are common ways to compare two numbers and are used in many other areas so it's good to be able to understand and feel comfortable with them.

Assessment: Informal during warm-ups and quiz on metric conversion was also used.

Homework: Subtraction, Multiplication and Division of decimals.



Spanish Class: Mr. JJ

(What) IMYC Learning Goal: Students should be able to address discrete elements of daily life, including 'greetings and introductions' and 'body parts'.

(How) Activities: We made connections with Physical Education by learning names of body parts and verbs used in yoga class. Our yoga instructor is from Costa Rica and is willing to help out by doing some of the yoga instruction bilingually. We also are using body parts and some dancing verbs as the students start to learn about salsa dancing in PE.

(Why): We want to be using our spanish outside of the spanish classroom and in a 'real world' context. The more opportunities you have to used a language in different settings the more you will retain it.

Assessment: Informal assessment along with short quiz(exit ticket) on parts of the body.

Art Class: Mr J.C

(What) IMYC Learning Goal: Students should be able to use the elements of art and principles of design to discuss and critique works of art showing understanding, respect and enjoyment as appropriate.

(How) Activities: Observation drawing of a composition made of two glasses with different texture design and a cup with a flower and a leaf atop it.

(Why): This exercise is meant to improve the eye hand coordination of the students. A developing artist needs to develop this as a skill and the use of elements and principles is crucial in achieving that.

Differentiation: A varied composition with the student expect to depict 2 point perspective.

Assessment: End of course survey.

Homework: Observation drawing, due 31st November.

ICT and Computing: Mr. Bernard

(What) IMYC Learning Goal: Know that the study of ICT and Computing is concerned with designing and applying technology to gather, use and exchange information

(How) Activities: Creating a Power Presentation

(Why): PowerPoint Presentations are a way of attracting audience towards your views and arguments. It is one of the most helpful factors behind the success of every meeting. There are various uses of powerpoint presentations, some of them are integrated. The most popular uses of powerpoint presentations are in modern days learning, corporate training sessions, business and marketing meetings, and sales gatherings.

Differentiation: Our year 8 Student was tasked create a powerpoint presentation on both google slide and Microsoft powerpoint .

Assessment: Evaluation of their Power Presentation based on their grading rubric..

Homework: Producing a video in one of the following topics; Video Book Report, Video letter, School Newscast, Public Service Announcement, Movie Scene, Interview, Documentary due 7th November 2017.

Music, Mr John

(What) IMYC Learning Goal: The work of musicians from different cultures and countries



(How) Activities: Exploring the use of orchestra and traditional instruments in Brazilian music. Performing the little train of caipira. Practice Indian raga, pentatonic scale and create individual improvisation with the scales.

(Why): To appreciate music from different cultures and learn about the process of creating music in different cultures.

Differentiation: Each student has individually worked with the teacher in creating improvisations and learning to read and perform the music from lerno verde.

Assessment: Continuous assessment as students continue to practice on various music instruments to perfect the piece of music.

Homework: Two pieces of homework have been given to the students this week.

French.Ms Proscovia

(What) IMYC Learning Goal: Develop an understanding of the concept of culture by comparing and contrasting the culture of France and different aspects such as tourism, discovery of the origin of the French Kitchen and be able to compare and contrast with their own.

(How) Activities: The students were given a task to research about museum vocabulary and formulate sentences accordingly, which they did elaborately.

They were also asked to research about the history and origin of the French Kitchen, to give them an idea and understanding of the great French secret, and discover some kitchen vocabulary.

Why: This was to help the students discover the different cultural aspects of France as a country with rich tourist sites, and get an understanding of the origin of the French kitchen and compare with other countries.

Differentiation: The Students worked hand in hand with their teacher on the tasks given in identifying the museum vocabulary and origin of the French kitchen, some students were given more task to translate some kitchen vocabulary in French on the extract given

Assessment: Students were assessed through asking questions about the content given, to gauge their knowledge and understanding of the material.

Homework: One piece of assignment on reading comprehension, and answering the questions accordingly: to assess their reading and interpretation skills

Physical Education (Mr. Ronnie)

(What): IMYC Learning Goal: Students should be able to demonstrate knowledge of movement concepts, principles, and strategies that apply to the learning and performance of physical activities

(How) Activities: Students were tasked to develop a cooperative movement game that uses locomotor skills, object manipulation, and an offense strategy and teach the game to another person. Students were also tasked to identify and use opportunities to pass or dribble while being guarded.

(Why): Students should be able to analyze and correct errors in movement patterns so that they can identify practices and procedures necessary for safe participation in physical activities.

Differentiation: Students were tasked to identify steps and rhythm patterns for folk and line dances.



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Assessment: Peer evaluation enabled students to provide feedback to their partner assisting in developing and improving movement skills.

Homework: Students were divided into two groups to research the history of football (soccer) and changing trends of female soccer players. Due Monday Nov.6