



Weekly Recap

May 30 - April 4

Music, Math, and Community Cultures

Prepared by The Verdi EcoSchool education team

Monday 4/30

YOGA/MINDFULNESS

All

We started the morning with ten deep breaths together, went through three vinyasa flows then had three student-chosen poses - eagle and bridge/camel.

MORNING MEETING

All

The students were congratulated on their hard work this school year and their amazing exhibition. We talked about the schedule for the next three weeks and talked about some fun/educational ideas for the last week of school.

AM COURSEWORK PT. I

Community Culture Pt. I

Ms. Denise

Andrei, Carson, Gio, Maddox, Magnolia, Tyberius, Zahra

We practiced our skip counting by fives, and talked about what we already know about time. We found out that there are 60 seconds in a minute, 60 minutes in an hour, and 24 hours in a day. We started creating our own giant clocks to develop a hands-on understanding of the basics of telling time.

Music and Math

Mr. Brock

Hammoudi, Jacob, Olivia, Oliver

Math Extension:

Ms. Mary

Amaru, Elliott, Harper, Nate, Neven, Samuel, Sarah

Students tried their hand at fraction practice in Khan Academy and began making a hands-on fraction “kit”.

AM COURSEWORK PT. II

Community Culture Pt. II

Ms. Denise

Carson, Maddox, Magnolia, Tyberius, Zahra

Mr. Mike, Maddox’s dad, came in for Meet a Musician. He shared with us his story of learning to play and the guitar and why he loves the instrument. He showed us the basics parts of a guitar - body, neck, bridge, sound hole, strings, frets, head, and tuners. He played us a blues song. The kids requested the Star Wars theme song, and he played that too! Next, he helped us build our own guitars. Thanks, Mr. Mike!

Math Extension

Ms. Mary

Hammoudi, Jacob, Olivia, Oliver

Our new Math Specialist, Ms. Mary, starts tomorrow, 5/1. Today this group joined us in Community Culture (see details above). Ms. Mary will be pulling this group during Portfolio later this week to make sure they don’t miss out on valuable Math Extension coursework.

AM COURSEWORK PT. II

Art

Ms. Rachel

Jacob, Oliver, Olivia, Sarah

Today we learned about abstract painter Wassily Kandinsky and music. We talked about the emotions and feelings we have when we listen to music and the impact it could have on our art work, then created drawings while listening to different kinds of music.

Agricultural Science

Ms. Mikael and Mr. Josh

Andrei, Carson, Maddox, Magnolia, Gio. Tyberius, Amaru, Elliott, Nate, Neven, Samuel

This week we relocated the nursery closer to the water source and organized it.

AM COURSEWORK PT. II

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Andrei, Carson, Maddox, Magnolia, Gio, Tyberius

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Agricultural Science

Ms. Mikael and Mr. Josh

Jacob, Oliver, Olivia, Sarah, Amaru, Elliott, Nate, Neven, Samuel

This week we relocated the nursery closer to the water source and organized it.

PE

Soccer Shots - Coach Beau

All

Today the kids started their first day of soccer. They met coach Beau and he led them in soccer skill practice, relay races, and a scrimmage.

Portfolio

All

Students worked on finishing or continuing on a variety of projects relating to their ability groups and courses including DIY guitars, a superhero writing prompt, and math extension fraction practice.

Tuesday, 5/1

YOGA/MINDFULNESS

All

We started the morning again with ten deep breaths together.

MORNING MEETING

All

This morning, we talked extensively about a community issue: an increase in kids hurting other kids intentionally and unintentionally. The teachers expressed that it is our first job to keep everyone safe, but that we can not do that on our own. We need the help of all the kids, too. We shared our observations as teachers - kids crossing physical boundaries, being too rough during playtime, not always controlling their impulses when frustrated or angry, and not always looking out for the well-being of others. The kids were asked what they were observing and said many of the same things, adding that some students are not honoring others words by not stopping certain actions when asked. We brainstormed solutions and talked about alternatives for safe play and respectful physical boundaries: using our words to communicate instead of our bodies, taking breaths and walking away when frustrated, asking for help instead of retaliating, choosing to play games at free exploration that do not include tagging, checking-in on friends who have fallen down or accidentally gotten hurt, and being aware of our bodies and their relation to others' physical space at all times.

AM COURSEWORK PT. I

Music and Math

Mr. Brock

Andrei, Carson, Hendrik, Gio, Maddox, Magnolia, Tyberius, Zahra

Reading Lab

Hammoudi, Ian, Olivia, Oliver, Levi, Sarah

The students read *Esperanza Rising* together and discussed meaningful passages/moments in the book.

Community Culture

Ms. Denise

Amaru, Genevieve, Harper, James, Nate, Neven, Samuel

Today we worked on progressing our Dream Vacation Project. We created folders in Google Drive and typed up all of our research so far so it is easily accessible and organized. We talked about the difference between an itinerary (day-to-day plan) and a budget (a detailed list of what things will cost). We did some more research about the beginning of our trips - What are the major airports where you are going? What are the major airports here? How do you get to the airport from your house? How do you find reasonable flights?

AM COURSEWORK PT. II

Math Extension

Ms. Denise

Carson, Hendrik, Maddox, Magnolia, Tyberius, Zahra

We practiced our skip counting. As most of our group members were absent, we spent this time painting our guitars. We will finish building our clocks during portfolio time.

Community Culture

Amaru, Andrei, Elliott, Genevieve, Gio, Harper, Hammoudi, Ian, Jacob, James, Levi, Nate, Neven, Olivia, Oliver, Samuel,

The kids loved Miss Sandra's class all about Italy! She made a large map of the country and spoke about it's Geographical location.

She covered several different regions and spoke about the history of each, including their food, art history, what that region is most known for and told fun stories about each area that had the children very engaged.

The children began the class with an index card with the name of a region or key word from one of her stories on the card. They had to listen for the word on their card during her stories and then write a fact and draw a picture about what they heard.

At the end of the class all the cards were attached to the map.

READING LAB

Students spent a half an hour reading outdoors at the beautiful Pineapple Park. Our youngest were led in a small reading group by Ms. Carmen, our middles read Esperanza Rising together, and our oldest read books of their choice on the rocks.

PE

Soccer Shots - Coach Beau

All

Coach Beau led the group in soccer skill practice, relay races, and a scrimmage.

PORTFOLIO

All

Students worked on finishing or continuing on a variety of projects relating to their

ability groups and courses including building their guitars and clocks, math extension fraction practice with Ms. Mary, and Agricultural Science with Ms. Camila.

Wednesday, 5/2

YOGA/MINDFULNESS

All

We started the morning again with ten deep breaths together.

MORNING MEETING

All

This morning, we all wrote our names on index cards and put them in a hat. Each person picked one out and then secretly wrote a compliment about that person. We did three rounds and then shared out the compliments anonymously. The kids were so excited to hear all the compliments about themselves from their peers. What a great way to start the day!

AM COURSEWORK PT. I

Reading Lab

Ms. Carol

Andrei, Carson, Gio, Maddox, Magnolia, Tyberius, Zahra

Today I met the students and read with them independently to get a sense of their reading levels and strategies they are using as they read.

Music and Math

Mr. Brock

Hammoudi, Jacob, Olivia, Oliver

Math Extension

Ms. Mary

Amaru, Elliott, Genevieve, Harper, James, Nate, Neven, Samuel, Sarah

This morning, we reviewed the details of adding and subtracting fractions with different denominators and practiced our skills.

AM COURSEWORK PT. II

Community Culture

Ms. Denise

Andrei, Carson, Gio, Maddox, Magnolia, Tyberius, Zahra

This morning we compared the difference between maps and globes and I asked the kids what they know about each. We learned about the general weather patterns around the globe (warm near equator and colder at the top and bottom). We looked at a compass and the kids told me what they already knew about it. Then we drew our own compasses to help us remember the directions of north, south, east, and west. We found our location on the map and globe and found the location of Italy - our Community Culture focus this week. We made comparative charts of Melbourne, FL and Italy's capital, Rome. We found the directions we had to travel to get there - northeast! We looked at our clock to determine what time it is in Melbourne, and then used our time zone map to figure out what time it is in Rome. We also researched the current weather in both places.

Math Extension

Ms. Mary

Hammoudi, Jacob, Olivia, Oliver

This morning, we reviewed the details of understanding fractions, adding and subtracting fractions with same denominator and practiced our skills.

Music and Math

Mr. Brock

Amaru, Elliott, Genevieve, Harper, James, Nate, Neven, Samuel, Sarah

READING LAB

All

Students spent a half an hour reading outdoors at the beautiful Pineapple Park. Our youngest were led in a small reading group by Ms. Carmen, our middles read Esperanza Rising together, and our oldest read books of their choice on the rocks.

PE

Salsa Kris

All

Salsa Kris led our kids in egg-drop relay races then we played our favorite freeze dance game.

PORTFOLIO

All

Students worked on finishing or continuing on a variety of projects relating to their ability groups and courses including and math extension fraction practice with Ms. Mary, OT with Ms. Faith, and making thank you notes for this week's guest speakers.

Thursday 5/3

YOGA/MINDFULNESS

All

We stood in a circle and used “soft focus” to have all of our peers in view at the same time. We took turns adding onto movements as it was passed around the circle bring a heightened awareness of our peers and surroundings.

MORNING MEETING

All

AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE

Ms. Camila

Tyberius, Carson, Magnolia

Ms. Mikael

Andrei, James, Jayna, Olivia

At Highland House we had a school-wide demonstration on ‘proper watering techniques’ and ‘how to plant a seed’. At the EGAD garden we planted porterweed, helped make worm towers, and watered our seedlings!

Mr. Josh

Gio, Jacob, Ian, levi

At highland house we had a school-wide watering and seed planting lesson. At EGAD garden we worked on our worm tower project.

Ms. Jamie

Amaru, Genevieve, Nate, Neven, Sarah, Samuel

At Highland House everyone participated in a seed-planting and watering lesson.

At the EGAD garden we each respectfully took a sample from a plant that we are not familiar with to identify. We attached the samples to individually numbered notecards and using a map of the garden we added each of our numbers to the location where we found our plants.

Reading Lab

By popular request, we ALL read books of our choice on the rocks by the water at Pineapple Park.

PE

Ninja Warrior Course - Coach Reed

Library

We returned our books, found new books of interest, and read individually or with teacher assistance during the remainder of library time. A small group of students helped Ms. Denise with naming the horses for the Kentucky Derby fundraiser.

Friday, 5/4

PORTFOLIO

Agricultural Science

All

Mr. Josh, Ms. Mikael

We performed a soil erosion experiment that pressed on the importance of mulch then we proceeded to mulch the garden with hay. We also planted marigolds and native plants throughout.

We worked on worm towers and planted plants throughout the garden.

Reading Tutoring Pull-Outs

Ms. Carol

Maddox, Elliott, Sarah

Math Tutoring Pull-Outs

Ms. Mary

Olivia, Jacob

Math Extension

Ms. Mary

Elliott, Nate, Neven, Samuel, Sarah

PE

Martial Arts - Sensei Morgan

This day the children worked on using front and side kicks, while keeping their faces protected.

STEAM FRIDAY

Nature Art

Ms. Rachel

Today we learned about the Galapagos Islands: where its located and the different kinds of animals that live there. The students created their own galapagos tortoise from paper plates.

Solar Cars

Mr. Mike

The students worked with Mr. Mike to add their solar panels to their cars and finished installing their battery back ups.

They also took the cars outside to charge the solar panels in the sun and were able to test them out with some mini races! They also finished filling out their log that they have been keeping every step of this process.

Photography 101

The students worked with Miss Kim using disposable film cameras to help them discover the difference in film and digital cameras and how they affect the process of taking pictures.

They also spoke about how different amounts light from different sources affects how a photo is captured. They worked in different areas of the Foosaner Education Center and outside.

