

Physical Education

In P.E. class, students in grades 3rd - 5th recently finished the Fall Fitnessgram assessment. I was extremely impressed with the effort and enthusiasm all of the students brought to class each day.

Over the next few weeks, students will be participating in a soccer unit. This unit will provide students with the opportunity to develop / further practice fundamental skills such as ball-handling, dribbling, passing, shooting, and defending. The unit will conclude with some small-sided game play.

If you have any questions, you can contact me at brian.mitchell2@dc.gov

Visual Arts

Drop and Draw Day: Where Art and Mindfulness Meet:

Establishing traditions, whether it is in our homes or classrooms, is very important. In the spirit of encouraging mindfulness and a connection to nature, Brent artists are continuing the tradition of having "Drop It and Draw Days." On these special days, students go outside, find a personal spot (just like silent reading in their classrooms) and focus on observing and recording what is around them. The idea of practicing silent observation (allowing everything else to be put on pause for 45 mins) and really looking at and connecting with the environment is a wonderful learning experience for everyone involved. By being present with their drawings, students report that the thoughts in their minds settle and they are often astonished by the quality of art that they are able to create.

Visual Arts (continued)

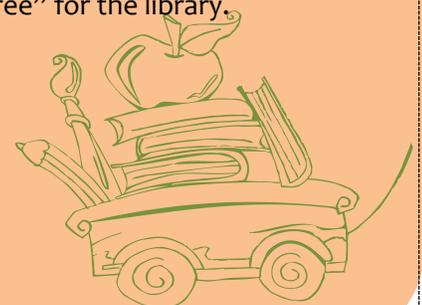
Artists enjoying the wonderful weather!

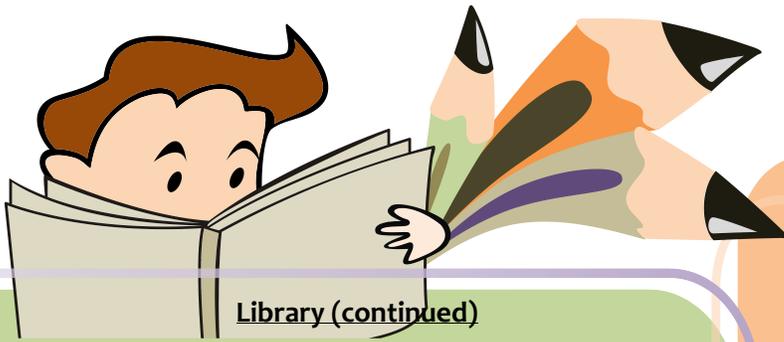


Library

ECE and Kindergarten friends started a fall theme with books dealing with the life cycle, such as A Tiny Seed by Eric Carle. They also explored all kinds of insects after reading Eric Carle's stories The Very Busy Spider, The Very Quiet Cricket, The Very Clumsy Click Beetle, The Very Lonely Firefly, and The Grouchy Ladybug.

We discussed what changes occur during the fall season reading the books One More Acorn by Don Freeman and Sixteen Runaway Pumpkins by Dianne Ochiltree. Fall Is for Friends by Suzy Spafford inspired us to create a "Fall Friendships Tree" for the library.





Library (continued)

Beanstack Reading App Beanstack

The Beanstack app is the perfect tool to track your child's daily reading anywhere and anytime. Using this app automatically logs the reading for the DCPS wide 5 Million Minute Reading Challenge. Here is how it works:

- Visit the App Store or Play Store and download the free **Beanstack** app;
- Search for Brent ES and select it;
- Sign in using your child's Student ID as the username and the birthdate (MMDDYY) as the password – this is the Clever login;
- Go to “Log” at the bottom of the screen and select the “+” button in the upper right corner—scan the book your child is reading.
- A timer will start when you press “Start a Reading Session”.
- You can access past reading sessions for a book by selecting the title, and swiping up. All time spent reading can easily be copied to the reading log required as part of the homework.

Please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Bettina (bettina.schewe@dc.gov) with any questions or concerns.

Happy Reading!

Specialists' Newsletter Page 2

November 6, 2018

Performing Arts

Musicians in Ms. Bizanz's, Mr. Meneghello's, Ms. Hill's, Ms. Werstuik's, and Ms. Saxton's classes are gearing up for their end-of-trimester performance! Their performance will take place on **November 16, 2018 at 6:00 PM in the multi-purpose room**. Students that are performing need to arrive at 5:45 in concert white/black (i.e. white shirt/blouse, black pants/skirt/dress).

Students in Ms. Bizanz's and Mr. Meneghello's class have been composing their own original music as well as learning how to play their original compositions on the piano during their music class. We will be hosting a publishing party on **Friday November 9 during their regular music class** (9:15 – 10:00 for Ms. Bizanz's class and 11:30 – 12:15 for Mr. Meneghello's class) where parents can learn how the students created an unique piece of music and how to create one themselves.

Students that take after-school music lessons with Mr. Krohn will be performing their **first trimester recital on November 9 at 5:00 PM** in the multi-purpose room. All are welcome to attend.

On November 19, 2018 we will have a specials-learning showcase where all 1st-5th grade parents will be able to come in to see the wonderful work happening in science, art, and music. The showcase will happen during the student's regular scheduled specials time. Hope to see you there!

