

MRS. MACDONALD'S MULTI-AGE CLASSROOM



CHEGI

THE ACADEMY MINDS IN MOTION

Mrs. Kang, a student from the University of Dayton, came in on Thursday morning despite the terrible weather. She talked to the school children about how she celebrated holidays in Korea. She made a powerpoint presentation that showed the traditional foods that were eaten, how Korean children bow to their grandparents, and bow to the ta-

ble that is full of wonderful treats. She showed the children a game called Yut that is played with sticks. The game is one of luck, you throw the sticks and get points for which side lands facing up. This game is traditionally played on New Years Day. Another game that is played on New Years Day is called CHEGI. Mrs. Kang

brought supplies for everyone to make the shuttlecock for the game CHEGI. It is a piece of vinyl, a coin or two for the center weight and a rubber band to hold it tight. After the CHEGI is made, you use your feet and compete to show who can do the most tricks with it. This was a great cultural experience.

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Important Dates

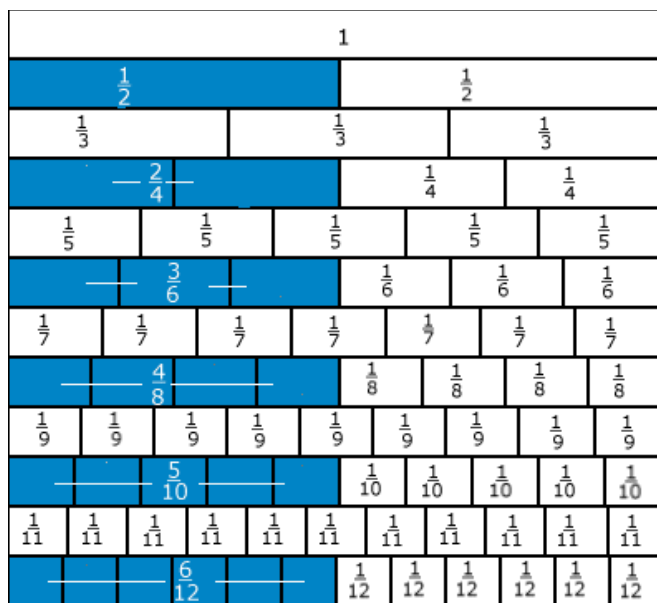
- ☺ Smoothies with lunch Friday December 8th—\$3
- ☺ December 11th, Informational meeting for parents about The Academy to be held at the preschool at 7 pm please join us!
- ☺ December 14, Parent Night Out, our treat to Academy Parents 6:15 drop off and 8:15 pick up. Make your reservations!
- ☺ December 21st—Holiday Party for Academy students.
- ☺ January 25th evening parent night penguin program



The teachers holiday gift to the parents is...Movie night on December 14th. We will be showing Polar Express. Children can start to be dropped off at 6:15. The movie will begin at 6:30 and pick up from the movie is at 8:15. We hope this will give you a chance to get a peaceful dinner, do some holiday shopping or get some things wrapped up. Children are welcome to bring a sleeping bag and a pillow to watch the movie in comfort. There will be a sign-in sheet that evening that all parents need to sign and tell us a number to contact them in case of an emergency. We hope everyone will be able to join us in this holiday activity.

Math

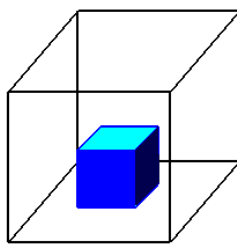
This week we worked on fractions and a review of skills. We worked on time and elapsed time, symmetry, and volume. Students practiced reducing fractions at home on Tuesday night. A game was sent home to practice equivalent fractions. (This would also reinforce multiplication and division concepts.) I heard that many people played or practiced with these cards in a variety of ways. I am happy to hear that you are adapting the games to suit your study needs. Some students took a fraction and listed from the cards the equivalent fractions on a sheet. Some just used the cards to make pairs, while others actually played the game like traditional go fish.



Science

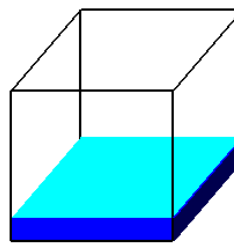
We took a test on matter this week and students were asked to recall the information they have learned about matter and elements of the periodic table. We watched a movie that helped explain more about the periodic table and how the elements are listed in groups and periods. We saw how different elements in a group have similar qualities...like helium in a balloon and argon in balloon. Ask your child about what happened to the balloons containing different gases.

We learned how a potassium mixture made a difference in the making of glass and made it much more durable. The periodic table is a valuable tool in creating new material. It determines the properties of the material. We learned about chemical changes and physical changes. Students did a great job on the test. These will be coming home next week so that I can put them in my grade book.



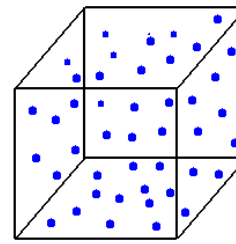
Solid

Holds Shape
Fixed Volume



Liquid

Shape of Container
Free Surface
Fixed Volume



Gas

Shape of Container
Volume of Container

Yearbook

The yearbook committee met again this week during extra time with the help of Mr. Dinsmoor. Students have come up with some great ideas and are making preliminary plans for the yearbook. We have so many pictures of the year the hard part is going to be choosing just a few.

Hot Dog Lunches We had two hot dog lunches this week and your response to our fundraising efforts was amazing. We will be able to purchase a laminator by the new year. A huge thanks for hot dog donations—for the matching gift and for an anonymous connection to Santa. Santa heard from one of our parent elves that we needed a chunk to get us to the laminator and he generously offered to write a check for this amount. We are touched by the generosity of the families at the Academy and we will enjoy using the laminator on future projects with your children.

Social Studies

This week we continued to learn about the colonization of the New World. We have examined the impact that explorers had on America, we learned about the turmoil going on in England in the 1600's and the problems with the Monarchy, the Reformation, religious wars and the desire to have more choices. We learned about the Puritans and what they endured to come to the New World. We compared the Monarchy they left and the tribal clans and examples of democracy the Native Americans showed them. We discussed how when the colonies had to decide on their own forms of government they chose not to imitate the government they left behind. We will now begin to explore the type of government they chose and the problems associated with other countries wanting to maintain control.

Reading

Reading Groups this week worked on a TIC TAC TOE type board and had responses to their literature. Students had to choose three of nine possible ways to report on the book they were reading. The responses included things like making a diorama of a scene in the book, telling about the turning point in the book, writing about a character, or changing the ending of the book. Students worked on finishing up their books this week and reporting on it. Tomorrow is their final work day. So far, sample of the work are fantastic and it was a great change of pace from how we have been reporting on our reading stories.

The younger students this week worked on a Holidays Around the World book and discussed the ways they like to celebrate. They finished diagrams they made to go with the Tom Swift book and worked in the wordly wise vocabulary book. They will be starting a new book next week.

We are also reading The Prophet of Yonwood which is the prequel to City Of Embers. It is a fascinating story and very thought provoking. Ask what this story is about.

The Academy Minds in Motion

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Mrs. Kang dressed in traditional Korean clothes helps Alex cut the outside of his CHEGI.



The CHEGI project also enabled the Academy students to work collaboratively with the kindergarten class. It is great to see how the students help each other and work together. Kyla helped her younger brother Jace make his CHEGI.

Mrs. Kang was here from September until November observing for classes at the University of Dayton. She was kind enough to return and talk about how the Holidays are celebrated in Korea.

