



## How to navigate the newsletter.

- ★ Starred classes have important information for next week.
- The underlined sections highlight this week's homework and any special details for the week ahead.
- Go check out the Journey Facebook page for all the action photos of these classes!

Class header colors =

HOMEWORK OPTIONAL CLASSES

HOMEWORK REQUIRED CLASSES

# M: Girls of Grace

Taught by Megan Buxton

All Ages 

We had a great time together today. We started with some great conversations about serving others. We talked a little more about our gifts and how we can use them to help others. We read our chapter books. 7th-12th graders need to continue reading chapters 26 and 27 at home this week.

# M: Page Turners Club Literature for Young Minds

Taught by Megan Buxton

1st - 3rd 

Today we read How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World. The kids loved this book! There is even a recipe in the back of the book that I've posted on our facebook page. We worked on our story discs.

Please continue to fill out reading logs at home! Students are rewarded in class for doing homework!

# M: Heros of Faith

Taught by Rebecca Cherry

**1st-3rd / 4th - 6th**

This week we learned all about David and Saul. Heroes have self-control! We did a cool experiment to talk about when we explode and made mini books about the life of David!

# M: Armour of Faith

Taught by Journey Team

7th - 12th

This week we dug into studying the Bible! We played head shoulders knees and cup and spent a good portion of the class in quiet study!

# M: Pillars of Imagination

## An Introduction to Architecture

Taught by Amy Johnson

**All Ages**

In Architecture, students finalized their streetscapes using two-point perspective, bringing depth and realism to their designs.

# M: Logic Lab

Taught by Samantha Todd

**1st - 3rd**

This week, we kicked things off with a Thanksgiving-themed story, then split into two fun activity stations. One group played Thanksgiving Bingo while the other played a Thanksgiving word game that stretched their memory and vocabulary skills. Afterward, the groups switched so everyone had a chance to play both games.

# M: Little Builders

Taught by Shannon Van Beek

**1st - 3rd**

This week in little builders we read "Sky Boys", about how the Empire State Building was built. Then we used marshmallows and toothpicks to build our own skyscrapers.

# Junkyard Engineering

Taught by Amber Cox

**All Ages**

1st-3rd

This week we designed our race cars. Your students painted during class time and next time we meet, we will assemble them and send them down the tracks.

4th-12th

Your students learned about simple electrical circuits and then they got to build a car and make it move on its own with a DC motor and battery pack. This was a huge hit for all ages. I cant wait to keep using our kits and build on our skills.

### All Ages

This week in Tech Titans, the 1st - 3rd grade class continued working on loops (iteration). They had challenges getting BB-8 to pick up all of the scrap metal. Some students moved on to using more complex loops to help the farmer harvest her crops. Lots of loops this week!

The 4th - 6th grade class finished up drawing complex snowflakes using loops. Then some of them began to code using both loops and conditional logic in some Minecraft coding challenges. Some students in this class were wanting time at home to finish up the Minecraft challenges. If that is your student, here is the logon link for the class. Stop when you finish the Minecraft unit (unit 16). This is optional - they will have time to continue work next class.

<https://studio.code.org/sections/XDNFRY>

In the 7th - 12th grade class, a few students finished working on their "final project" for the unit. The others began working with more complex, and realistic, code in the App Lab, which utilizes the language JavaScript. We started by building some very basic interaction on a simulated phone screen. We will continue working with this in future classes.

# M: Design Lab Studio Digital Design

Taught by Alex Lutz

## 4th - 6th / 7th - 12th

This week in Design, we kicked off an exciting new project — designing our very own mini LEGO figurines! Students explored what makes LEGO designs so unique and iconic, then brainstormed what they wanted their custom character to represent.

We started the creative process with paper-and-pencil sketches, letting students dream big and map out their ideas.

In the next few weeks, we'll take those hand-drawn concepts and bring them to life digitally as we recreate the designs in Adobe Illustrator.

It's been an inspiring start, and we can't wait to see their imagination take shape on screen!

# M: Crafting with Heart Exploring Handcrafts

Taught by Robbi Hilton

## All Ages

In Handcrafts the older two classes worked on making felt pie buntings. These turned out very cute. The younger class we made a thankful tree to share things on that we are thankful for.

All Ages 

Today we made caramel corn! Everyone had their own bag to add their kernels and oil to and pop in the microwave. We added all the popped corn to a big grocery bag then poured our homemade caramel sauce on top. It was super fun and delicious. Hope you all have a great thanksgiving. I'm very thankful to be part of this community and for getting to spend time with your kids each week.

[Why Does Popcorn Pop? | The Science of Food! | SciShow Kidsyoutube.com](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KuXWzXWzXWz&t=1s)

\*\*\*Parents of 7-12 graders\*\*\*

As I've gotten to know your students and have seen their abilities in the kitchen, I realize they are all very skilled and have things they could share with the class. I want to give them an opportunity to do that so I made some openings in class for them to be the teachers. Each student signed up for one week from now until the end of the year. My expectations are that they will prepare something for us to cook in the kitchen as well as a short lesson about the science behind what they are preparing. The lesson needs to be something that can be taught and made in 45-50 minutes. So if they wanted to do a pizza dough or bread they could bring in the dough and have it rising during the day, show us how they made it during class then bake with the one they prepared earlier.

I would like to have their recipe and ingredient list at least a week ahead of time so I can be sure to have all the supplies they will need.

I'm really excited to see what they come up with! Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions about this.

Below are the dates they chose:

December 15 - Lilly

January 12 - Corin

January 19 - Owen

January 26 - Camden

February 9 - Ethan

February 23 - Katelynn

March 9 - Jacob

Thank you in advance for your help in assisting them and keeping them on track with this schedule.

## All Ages

This week in baking and decorating we made pumpkin bars with cream cheese frosting!

Recipe:

Ingredients

Bars

1 (15oz.) can pumpkin puree

1 2/3 cups sugar

1 cup vegetable oil

4 large eggs

2 cups flour

2 teaspoons cinnamon

2 teaspoons baking powder

1 teaspoon baking soda

1 teaspoon salt

Frosting

1/2 cup butter, softened

3 ounces cream cheese, softened

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

2 cups powdered sugar

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 350F.
2. In a large bowl, beat pumpkin puree, sugar, oil, and eggs until well combined.
3. In a separate bowl, mix flour, cinnamon, baking powder, baking soda, and salt.
4. Stir flour mixture into the pumpkin mixture until thoroughly combined.
5. Spread batter into a lightly greased pan 10x15 inch jelly roll pan or 9x13 inch cake pan.
6. Bake until a toothpick inserted comes out clean. (25-30 min. for jelly roll pan or 30-35 minutes for cake pan.)
7. While the cake is cooling, make the frosting.
8. Beat together butter, cream cheese and vanilla until smooth.
9. Add powdered sugar a little at a time, beating until mixture is smooth.
10. Spread frosting on top of cooled cake.

# M: Equine Explorers

Taught by Alex Lutz

4th - 6th / 7th- 12th

This week in Equine Explorers, we kicked things off with a lively Jeopardy-style review game to wrap up our unit on horse anatomy. We did have to pivot a bit — turns out some of Mrs. Alex's questions were just a little too tricky (whoops!) — but we still had a great time learning and laughing together.

Up next, we're diving into a highly requested topic: Stable Management!

The students are excited to explore how a barn is run and what it takes to care for horses day-to-day. We'll even be creating mini barns for their horses as part of this hands-on unit.

Lots of fun and learning ahead!

# M: Life Skills

Taught by Samantha Todd

## All Ages

Our focus this week was on understanding the mail system. Students learned how to correctly address an envelope—including where to put the return address and the stamp—and then practiced their skills by creating thoughtful thank-you cards. They enjoyed both the creativity and the real-world usefulness of the activity.

# M: Survive & Thrive 101

Taught by Silvia and Amber

## 1st - 3rd / Amber Cox

In class, we went outside and practiced fire building. Once we got a small fire going, we ate smores, popcorn and just enjoyed spending time with each other.

## 4th-12th / Silvia Duthie

We reviewed the square knot using our small ropes. Then we moved on to the large ropes where each of them learned how to create their own harness intended to be used for climbing or other things. This will be used at a future time when we make a rope bridge and have to cross it. Excellent work today. Some of the students tried out their harness in a tree. We call these harnesses "Swiss seats." I'll add a video in the comments in case anyone needs to remember how to do it.

# M: Survive & Thrive 102

Taught by Silvia Duthie

## All Ages

We practiced a useful bushcrafting skill of whittling, making a wooden spoon using whittling knifes. For safety, they could wear cutting gloves to protect from getting cut on accident. Everyone handled these tools very maturely. This was not an easy task and I was impressed how far they got in one class time.

All Ages 

## 1st-3rd

ASL class was full of fun and focus this week! We started by warming up our fingers with some name-fingerspelling, and the kids did such a great job remembering their letters. From there, we jumped right into signing the ABCs along with the ABCs song—speeding it up and slowing it down to test our skills. They loved the challenge and kept up so well!

Next came a favorite activity: ASL Telephone! Each student picked a word from their sign book, then fingerspelled it to the next person in line. The goal was to pass the word all the way down without changing it. Some groups nailed it perfectly, and others ended up with a completely different word by the time it reached the end—which made everyone burst into laughter! It was a super fun way to practice clear handshapes and careful attention.

We ended up having such a good time with the game that we didn't get to practice our memory verse, Genesis 1:1, this week. Because of that, I would love to encourage students to review the verse at home along with their fingerspelling. A few minutes of practice makes a big difference!

## 4th-12th

This week in ASL class was full of energy, laughter, and lots of learning! We kicked things off by practicing our fingerspelling, starting with signing our own names and then warming up with the ASL alphabet. The students had a blast signing the ABCs along with the ABCs song—especially when we changed the speed to make it more challenging. They did an amazing job keeping up!

After that, we jumped into a fun signing version of the classic game Telephone. Each student chose a word from their sign book, then fingerspelled it to the next person in line. From there, it traveled down the row as everyone tried their best to remember and pass it on. Some groups ended with the correct word (yay!), while others ended with something totally different (also yay—it made everyone laugh!). It was a great reminder of how important clear handshapes and careful attention are in ASL.

We wrapped up class by practicing our song, "Lemonade" by Forest Frank, which the kids are learning to sign together. They are improving so much each week—it's really exciting to watch their confidence grow!

I would love to encourage the kids to keep practicing at home, especially their fingerspelling and the song. A few minutes a day can make a huge difference!

### All Ages

We had another fun music class! We learned a new song about seven steps and had a lot of volunteers come forward to lead singing! In the older class, we spent time playing a game about a squirrel, and in the younger we played a singing game about the Muffin Man. I hope you all have a blessed Thanksgiving!

All Ages 

We read through 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, aiming to encourage and teach them to be “thankful in all circumstances.”

This week, we played slap ball, hunters vs. turkeys, and dodgeball.

Hope you all have a great Thanksgiving break.

\*\*\*Please make sure your child has proper footwear for gym class when we return.\*\*\*

Thank you.

# **M: The World's Story 2: The Middle Ages (History 6-8) Taught by Leah Sytsma**

**6th - 8th** 

We reviewed Chapter 11 which was about the Gupta & Mughal Dynasties in India.

Homework: read chapter 12 pages 130-141

broken up option

Day 1: pages 130-133

Day 2: 134-137

Day 3: 138-141

Choose one of these options to research farther and write a short paragraph about what you learned

Learn about everyday Viking life. What did they eat? What did they wear? How did they spend their

time? Include drawings or pictures. Optional website to help you start your research

<https://www.lifeinnorway.net/viking-lifestyle/>

Scandinavia is where the Vikings originally came from. Study more about this area of Europe, including

its history, cultures, languages, geography and climate. Include picture(s) optional website to help start

your research <https://www.britannica.com/place/Nordic-countries>

Alfred the Great is considered a hero in English history for his fight against the Vikings. Learn more about

his life and reign. Include a photo or drawing. Website to help start your research

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Alfred-king-of-Wessex>

# M: American History (History 8-12)

Taught by Robbi Hilton

**8th - 12th**

In American History we finished talking about the civil war. We played Union vs Confederate game that the students had to first make.

# M: My Story and the World Around Me I (History I-2) Taught by Megan Buxton

1st - 3rd



We took a train through America today! We worked on chapter 11 in our books. We learned all about goods and services in this chapter! Please continue to work on chapter 11 at home this week.

# M&T: Exploring Creation with Anatomy (8-12) Taught by Silvia Duthie

8th - 12th 

Congratulations on finishing Module 6 by completing the test today. When we get back from break, we will begin Module 7. It goes quick too. We will have Mon and Tues for lesson and experiment, and then the following Mon will be the test. If you feel the need, use the time during break to get ahead.

For Module 7: Coloring book pages 116-123; OYO and SGQ's.

# M: Kinder Chronicles

Taught by Shelia and Wanda

This week we had a special guest, Police officer Marmolejos. She explained safety, what she does as a police officer, read a book to us and gave us a tour of her car. The students loved having her in our class. Here is what we did:

...calendar/weather

...number identification and practiced writing them

...Bible story

...verse of the month

...art turkey hats

...read a Thanksgiving book

...Thanksgiving bingo

...alphabet puzzles

...gym

Prayers that you all a wonderful Thanksgiving.