



## 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 learned about massage! We looked at the muscular system and practiced doing hand massages. We also talked about our Girls of Grace class party for next week!

Please check out the Facebook page if your student needs a reminder for what they chose to bring for the party.

# M: Page Turners Club Literature for Young Minds

Taught by Megan Buxton

1st - 3rd 

This week we read Cranberry Thanksgiving together. The kids really enjoyed the illustrations in this book! Through the book we learned an important message about not judging others! Please continue reading logs this week!

# M: Heroes of Faith

Taught by Rebecca Cherry

1st-3rd / 4th - 6th 

Today we did a little bit of review, learned about the nation of Israel splitting, learned about Elijah and Elisha, and recreated their story with some tasty snacks. Our main point - Heroes get power from God.

# M: Armour of Faith

Taught by Journey Team

**7th - 12th**

We spent most of our day in different prayer stations such as petition, thanksgiving, and praise!

# M: Pillars of Imagination

## An Introduction to Architecture

Taught by Amy Johnson

### All Ages

In Architecture class we worked on finishing up our Gothic Rose Art windows. These are turning out so great. Lots of creativity going into these all while practicing their symmetry skills. A few who finished up early worked on an architectural symmetry drawing completing the other side of a building.

# M: Logic Lab

Taught by Samantha Todd

1st - 3rd

We started our morning with a holiday and logic story about the gingerbread kid, through our literary experience we worked on studying the pages and remembering some of the details in the illustrations. We also learned what a plot twist was!

Afterward, we were able to tie in our creative logic to build gingerbread houses out of cardboard boxes. Many students had the opportunity to problem solve how to connect their house cut outs and secure them. And as always, the creative expressions through design, stickers, commentary, drawing and logic were delightful!

# M: Little Builders

Taught by Shannon Van Beek

1st - 3rd

Today in Little Builders, we watched a video about a book on playgrounds. We discussed what our favorite parts of parks or playgrounds are. Then we used craft sticks, straws, pipe cleaners, yarn, and tape to create playground models.

# Junkyard Engineering

Taught by Amber Cox

## All Ages

**1st -3rd** Your students were aerospace engineers in class.

I handed out several variations of paper airplane designs and tasked the kids with building a what they could. We then took to the skys and watched them soar.

**4th-12th** Your students have been learning about electrical circuits so this class we had to throw in new concept. Switching polarity on a motor from a battery source will make a motor spin counter clockwise.

With that knowledge, I had the students build mini marshmallow launchers with 1 motor spinning clockwise and 1 motor spinning counter clockwise. The younger age group got to learn how to wire in a on/off switch in the circuits.

So much learning happened this week.

# M: Tech Titans

## Computer Coding

Taught by Rebecca Wiegning

### All Ages

I subbed in coding class today for 4-6 and 7-12. Everyone worked on finished projects and starting new ones.

# M: Design Lab Studio Digital Design

Taught by Alex Lutz

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

This week in Digital Design, students created their very own holiday postcards using a chosen color palette, festive fonts, and a variety of holiday vector elements. Their creativity truly shined—every design was unique, thoughtful, and beautifully put together. We're so proud of how well they did on this project!

Our 7th–12th grade students completed their postcards, and printed copies will be ready for them next week. Students in 4th–6th grade made great progress as well; they will finish up and print their postcards during next week's class.

Once printed, all students will be able to share their artwork by writing and giving their holiday cards to a few people of their choosing. We can't wait to see their designs brighten someone's day!

# M: Crafting with Heart Exploring Handcrafts

Taught by Robbi Hilton

## All Ages

In Handcrafts, today was all about getting organized. We had a lot of projects that needed to be finished so next week we can focus on just one. Lots of team work today and truly people realizing they even like sewing. It was a great day!!

All Ages 

Today in cooking science we used the buttermilk we made last week to make biscuits. We revisited the Maillard reaction and browned some pork to make a sausage gravy. We had butter (also from last week) and honey to top the biscuits if they chose.

\*\* 7-12 grade class\*\*

We had a slight adjustment in dates for student presentations. Please see below for updates. We're all looking forward to Lilly teaching us next week.

December 15 - Lilly

January 12 - Corin

January 19 - Owen

January 26 - Katelynn

February 9 - Ethan

February 23 - Camden

March 9 - Jacob

### All Ages

Today in Banking and Decorating we made Christmas cutouts and will decorate them next week.

#### Recipe:

#### Ingredients

1 1/2 cup butter

1 1/2 cup sugar

1 teaspoon baking powder

2 eggs

1/4 teaspoon salt

1 teaspoon almond extract

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

4 1/2 cups flour

#### Instructions

1. Cream the butter and sugar.
2. Add almond and vanilla extract and eggs. Mix until well combined.
3. Combine flour, baking powder and salt.
4. Add flour mixture and mix until dough forms.
5. Flour your surface and roll out dough.
6. Cut shapes from dough and place on a lined cookie sheet.
7. Bake at 350F for 7 minutes. Let cool completely before icing.

# M: Equine Explorers

Taught by Alex Lutz

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

This week, our Equine Explorers kicked off an exciting new project—building their own model horse stables! We began by learning why proper ventilation is essential for horses' health, explored what an adequate stall size looks like, and discussed which horses need more space and why. Students also considered the additional features every well-designed barn needs to keep horses safe, comfortable, and cared for.

After planning their individual barn layouts, students moved into the building phase with lots of creativity and teamwork.

If you have any clean, recyclable items—such as cardboard, small boxes, paper tubes, bottle caps, or other craft-friendly materials—we would be very grateful for donations to help bring our barn projects to life. Thank you for your support in helping our young designers!

### STRUCTURE & WALLS

Cereal or cracker boxes – wall panels, doors, stall dividers

Cardboard tubes – posts or columns

Corrugated cardboard – barn siding, stable walls, loft flooring

Plastic food containers (butter tubs, sour cream cups) – feed bins or wash stalls

### DOORS, WINDOWS & ROOFING

Plastic lids – stall doors or windows

Egg cartons – roof tiles, feed pans, stone textures

Aluminum foil trays – metal roof sheets

Soda cans (washed, edges dulled) – metal roofing or trim

Gift box lids – pitched roof pieces

### STALLS & FENCING

Popsicle or craft sticks – walls, fences, gates

Chopsticks or skewers – fence rails or support beams

Plastic strawberry baskets – realistic fencing

### GROUND, PASTURE & DETAILS

Woven placemats – pasture or gravel base

Dried coffee grounds – arena dirt or flooring

Shredded paper – straw bedding

Fabric scraps – saddle blankets or tack room décor

Bottle caps – feed buckets, water containers, salt blocks

String or twine – lead ropes or hay ties

Corks – mounting blocks or stools

### TACK & TOOLS

Paper clips – pitchforks, hooks, bridle parts

Beads – grooming bottles or small buckets

Foam packing material – hay bales or feed bags

Bread ties – halters and reins

### NICE ADD-ONS

Scrapbook paper – wood, brick, or shingle textures

Toothpaste boxes – tack boxes or small cabinets

Clear plastic packaging – barn windows

Any and all items are welcome. Thank you!

# M: Life Skills

Taught by Samantha Todd

## All Ages

### 1st-3rd Grade:

This week we covered United States currency. We learned or reviewed value of coins and paper bills, as well as the symbols for cents and dollar sums. Each student was given play money to cut out. After our play money was ready; we used our imagination to drive to a restaurant for some burgers and shakes. The kids each were able to work with a partner to practice exchanging exact change for our imaginative lunch. Some of the older kids really leaned into helping out our younger students and lent a hand with finding out how to add the coins up. A fun time was had by all.

### 4th-12th Grade:

Students put their money skills to the test against their peers and played monopoly and the game of life.

# M: Survive & Thrive 101

Taught by Silvia and Amber

## 1st - 3rd / Amber Cox

Today we started class off with talking about terms like hypothermia, frostbite and internal body heat. We reviewed why wearing layers matter when it comes to dressing for the cold weather.

We eventually headed outside where your kids were given the challenge to build snow shelters. They had a great time brainstorming and working together.

## 4th-12th / Silvia Duthie

We started off inside, going over the dangers of cold weather survival. We discussed frostbite, hypothermia, friction for heat, the body's mechanism for survival, medical treatment, and even how to get out of a frozen lake if you fell through the ice. The book discusses avalanches, which some of the kids read and were prepared to discuss how to find which way is up.

Outside, the students got to build shelter using snow. The key was to create something that could stop the wind from impacting them. At points, of course, this turned into snowball fights. They had a great time in the snow today.

# M: Survive & Thrive 102

Taught by Silvia Duthie

## All Ages

We spent the entire class outside, making rocket stoves out of snow. Rocket stoves are simply cooking devices made out of whatever material you can find with the purpose of making a fire inside of it for the use of cooking. An important element of a rocket stove is having an area near the bottom open to air, so that fire can breath. Using sticks, they created the hole at the top where they built their fires, and then another hole on the side that connects to the fire area. Once built, they could light them and see what happens. They had to gather small sticks to use and feed their fire to keep it alive. Many fires were created. It worked better than I thought it would. The last class ended up wanting to actually try to melt snow with their fires. Excellent work today!

All Ages 

### 1st-3rd

Hi families! We had such a fun and silly day in ASL class today! We started by watching a short video that showed us lots of new winter and Christmas signs, and the kids loved trying them out with big smiles and excited hands. Then we all practiced together using flashcards so everyone could sign at the same time and cheer each other on. After that, we played a super fun game called Sign Detective! One student got to be the detective, and they had to figure out who the secret leader was while everyone else quietly copied the leader's signs. There was so much giggling and sneaky signing they did an awesome job paying attention with their eyes. For homework, your child is bringing home a Bingo sheet. Their mission is to complete at least six squares by teaching someone at home a new sign, and the person who learns it gets to sign their name right in the box! They can also use a mirror at home to practice making their hands look just right. We are so proud of our tiny signers ask them to show you a sign they learned today, they will be so excited to teach you!

### 4th-12th

Hello families! We had such a fun day in ASL class today learning new winter and Christmas-themed signs. We watched a short video that introduced lots of new vocabulary, and then we practiced the signs together as a group using flashcards so everyone could follow along and try their best. The students were very excited and encouraged as they recognized more and more signs. After our practice, we played a game called Sign Detective, where one student is "the detective" and tries to figure out which classmate is secretly the leader while everyone copies the leader's signs. The kids loved trying to hide the leader and guessing who it was while still signing together. For homework, students received a Bingo worksheet. Their goal is to complete at least six squares by teaching someone at home a new sign, and the person who learns the sign will sign their name in the box. They are also encouraged to practice their signs in the mirror to help with handshapes and placement. We are so proud of how quickly they are growing as little signers, and they would love to show you a sign they learned today!

### All Ages

This week in music, we continued our study of form using "Trepak" from "The Nutcracker Suite." We learned a silly movement activity that helped us sense when the music shifted into different sections, and the older kids activated the lesson using rhythm instruments. We ended the class reading a book about a talented young boy with a gift for music. It was a great day!

# M: GYM

Taught by J Nimtz

All Ages 

We read through Isaiah 7:14, and talked about the reason for the season. Also, discuss who Isaiah was.

We played Basketball. Having them learn the fundamentals and main things about basketball.  
Next week we will be playing the reindeer games!

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

Hope to see you all next week for both days.  
Thank you.

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

**6th - 8th** 

After reviewing chapter 13 about knights and castles, the kids had a little fun by building their own castles out of cardboard!

Homework: read chapter 14 pages 152- 163

broken up option

Day 1: pages 152-155

Day 2:156-159

Day 3:160-163

Pretend you're a newspaper reporter who goes back in time to the Crusades. You accompany one of the Crusades to the Middle East. Write a newspaper account of your journey, including the people you meet, their motivations for joining, and what happens. Be sure to identify which Crusade you are with.

\*optional\* dig deeper

Learn more about the Schism of 1054, which officially severed the Eastern Orthodox and Roman Catholic churches. Optional site <https://www.britannica.com/event/East-West-Schism-1054>

Discover more about medieval Christian pilgrimages. Where did people travel to on pilgrimages? What was the life of a pilgrim like? Optional site

<https://www.thehistorycorner.org/articles-by-the-team/the-pilgrims-progress-why-did-pilgrimage-flourish-in-the-middle-ages> or video [What Was A Medieval Pilgrimage Like?](#)

Learn more about the Crusader States established in the Middle East and their histories. Optional site [https://www.worldhistory.org/Crusader\\_States/](https://www.worldhistory.org/Crusader_States/)

# M: American History (History 8-12) Taught by Robbi Hilton

8th - 12th 

In American History today we did an escape room learning about the history of Christmas. It was very cute and filled with rhymes. My favorite!

The homework is to read chapter 18 and 19. We will be having a gilded age dinner. I told the kids to feel free to dress up either as a rich or poor person.

# M: My Story and the World Around Me I (History 1-2) Taught by Megan Buxton

1st - 3rd



We took a taxi through South America in chapter 13! We visited the Aconcagua mountain! We also saw the Angel Falls in Venezuela! Please continue lesson 13 at home this week!

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

8th - 12th ★

Monday: I decided that Module 7 test was too difficult at this level, and instead of taking that test, I created a Jeopardy game that reviewed Mod 1-6. All students participated so well! Tomorrow, we will finish the game since we got through just over half of it.

# M: Kinder Chronicles

Taught by Shelia and Wanda

We had a busy week in kindergarten getting ready for our program next week.

## CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

On December 15 & 16 our kindergarten classes will have a short Christmas program and Christmas cookies to follow. Parents and siblings are invited to attend.

Date: December 15 & 16

Time: 9:30

Place: High Pointe Community Church Sanctuary

What we did this week:

...Calendar

...Number identification

...Bible story

...December Bible verse

...Christmas tree alphabet game

...Art nativity scene

...Gym

...Read Christmas books

...Practiced and prepared for our Christmas program.