Budding Artists Blooming Here!

THE ART ROOM AT QUAKER FARMS SCHOOL

Mary E. Haussler, Art Teacher

Each season is a growing season in the art room at Quaker Farms School. Our young artists blossom daily as imaginative, expressive individuals. Our art room is an exciting place to create art as well as to learn about the art of others.

This year all children at the primary level will receive forty minutes of art instruction each week. Our art program consists of four components; - creating, presenting, responding and connecting. Art units and lessons are
developed and aligned with the Common Core Arts Standards. For specific information about these standards, please go to http://www.nationalartsstandards.org/

Children's artwork is displayed in the art room and throughout our school building. Many of our young artists may have opportunities to have their work exhibited in the community as well.

Winter Art Opportunities!

The children are enjoying the “winter landscape” outdoors (the minimal amount of snow we’ve had, thus far) as well as winter landscapes created with various tools and materials inside the art room!

We enjoyed many holiday/seasonal art experiences in December exploring food art and crafts such as ornament making.
Below is a list of art experiences currently or soon to be in progress.

**PRESCHOOL** – The preschoolers have enjoyed many color mixing and painting experiences during the past several months including brush painting, finger painting, sponge painting and painting with found objects. We are awaiting the first significant snowfall of the new year so we can paint snow (yes, ... paint the snow!!) Soon these young artists will enjoy printmaking as they stamp and roll objects into paint and onto paper creating random or planned images. Opportunities to create with clay and sculpture will follow.

**KINDERGARTEN** – Kindergarten children have recently enjoyed stamp printing with found objects and will soon explore chalk and the unlimited opportunities this medium provides for young artists. We will experience chalk on wet paper, on dry paper, dipped in paint and used on fabric. Mask making and art experiences created with fabric, clay and tissue paper will follow.

**GRADE ONE** – Our first graders have been exploring color theory and have created primary, secondary, warm and cool color art. They are able to distinguish between 2 and 3-dimensional work and continue to learn about the similarities and differences between fine art and craft. We are currently learning about “composition” in art and how artists represent shapes and forms that are “near” and “far” in their work. Next, we will explore the “slab” method of clay construction and our young artists will create “slab trays” that will eventually be bisque fired, glazed and glaze fired. These can also be used with food, as all of our glazes at Quaker Farms are “lead free”.

**GRADE TWO** – Our more experienced second grade artists are creating abstract and non-representational art as they gain a greater understanding and appreciation for art that lies outside the area of “realism”. The children are learning about the work of Joan Miro, Pablo Picasso and Jackson Pollack. We will also be exploring the theme of “animals in art” and the work of Durer through a printmaking experience. Soon we will also begin our clay unit as the children begin creating clay coil pots. This, and our weaving unit scheduled for late spring, will be examples of utilitarian art created by “craftsmen and women.”
Save the date!

Crabgrass Puppet Theater

will present a puppet performance at Quaker Farms School for kindergarten children and their parents on

Thursday, April 9th 2020
at 2:00 p.m. in the gym.

The Three Pigs Build a BETTER HOUSE!

This performance supports and enhances the kindergarten art enrichment experience which has an animal puppet theme. As a modified English folktale, it also has a language arts component. More information about the program will follow.
We are looking forward to our district art show at Oxford High School. Please see the information below. All children at QFS will have one piece of art on display. Hope you can join us. More information will follow in the weeks ahead.

From Many Hands ...  
*a celebration of student artwork created by the young artists of Oxford Public Schools*

You are cordially invited to attend the

**Annual Oxford Public Schools Art Show**

Monday, March 2, 2020

5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Oxford High School.

Students in preschool through grade twelve will present artwork created in a wide variety of mediums.
Please join us as we celebrate our students’ accomplishments, our visual arts programs and the beginning of 

**National Youth Arts Month.**

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**Student Management Plan**

During the month of September, the *art room management plan* will be discussed with the children and periodically reviewed when necessary. Rules are consistently reinforced with good behavior and positive, cooperative efforts recognized as well. My management plan has merged with the school-wide ★ **STAR Positive Behavior Intervention and Support Plan**. Specific information about this will be provided by your child’s homeroom teacher. With reference to the art room, children will receive individual starts and the class can earn one star for positive behavior. Class stars will be hung a replica of the painting entitled *Starry Night* in the art room.
The art room management plan is as follows:

**Show kindness** = take turns; share; be helpful; use kind words

**Try our best** = best effort in all that you do; follow directions... *Whole Body Listening*

**Act safely** = hands and feet to yourself; use walking feet; use tools and materials safely and correctly; push in your chair.

**Respect others** = listen while teachers and classmates speak; raise your hand before you speak; allow others to share their ideas even though yours may not be the same; understand that it’s *OK* to be different; work with others to get the job done!

Children in kindergarten through grade two will receive a *SPECIALS REPORT CARD* three times during the school year in *December, March and in June*. Children experiencing difficulties in any of the special areas will also receive a *PROGRESS REPORT in November, January and in April*.

I look forward to meeting all parents at our annual "Meet the Teacher's Night" and during other school events throughout the school year. Please stop by the art room and say "hello". I can also be reached via school telephone at (203)888-5842 or by e-mail ... hausslerm@oxfordpublicschools.org.
And don't forget ....

The Yale University Art Gallery on York Street in New Haven sponsors a program for children on the second Sunday of each month called STORIES AND ART at 1:00 p.m., related to works of art in the museum collection. There is no cost for participation in this program. Call (203)436-1559 for more information. The Yale Center for British Art offers another wonderful museum experience for children and is located across the street from the Yale University Art Gallery. For more information on children's programs at this museum, please call (203)432-2858.

http://artgallery.yale.edu/education-overview/kids-and-families

http://britishart.yale.edu/education/k-12-and-teachers

REMEMBER ....

Please send an over sized shirt (button down or pull over [pull over is best] to school with your child to use as a smock for clothing protection from paint and other sometimes messy materials in the art room. Kindly print your child's name on the front of the shirt using a permanent marker. These will be stored in your child's homeroom. It is also a good idea NOT to have your child wear his or her best clothing on ART CLASS days.

RECYCLE and REUSE are important vocabulary words in the art room. We do it daily turning simple household packaging into interesting tools and art forms. We would be grateful for the following donations at this time: plastic bubble wrap, packing peanuts, and plastic yogurt containers.

I thank you for the opportunity to work with your child(ren).

More art news to come with the first flowers of spring!

Mary E. Haussler, Art Teacher