



Casey Art News



A Special Visitor Brings a Taste of Africa

JPSD



Volume 16 Issue 2
December 2017



On November 8, visiting artist Shanina Carmichael presented a fun, art-integrated lesson for kindergartners and first graders at Casey Elementary. Ms. Carmichael read the students an African story called *Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain* and then taught them a West African song and harvest dance. Students also learned about African drums and got to play alternating rhythms while their classmates danced. The students and teachers greatly enjoyed Ms. Carmichael's visit, especially for the fun and engaging way she was able to bring a

taste of African culture into the school.



Thanks to funding from the Casey PTA, Ms. Carmichael is the first of three or four visiting artists who will work with different grade levels this year.



Casey has been designated as a Model Whole School and receives support from the Mississippi Arts Commission, which in turn is supported by funding from the Mississippi State Legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts.



The Magic of Shakespeare

In October, the fifth graders performed one of William Shakespeare's funniest and most magical plays: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. While preparing for their roles, students created portraits and wrote descriptive essays about their characters. The final performance was a delightful success staged in front of a forest backdrop designed by Mason Kendrick.



The Court of Duke Theseus



Oberon casts a magic spell on his queen



Helena is bewildered by a double marriage proposal



Character Portraits



To the left are all the first place Reading Fair winners whose projects will go on to compete at the district level.

To the right is the lucky winner of the Book Fair Raffle, parent Elizabeth Bell.



Junkyard Wonders



"The Wolf Who Cried Boy"

On November 30, the Casey third graders performed an original, arts-integrated program called *Junkyard Wonders*, inspired by the books of Patricia Polacco. The program used songs,

theatre, dance, and student-created raps and poetry to express the themes of self-esteem, self-confidence, and the idea that "it's okay to be different."



The program summarized lessons

learned over the past several weeks through literature, Tools for Life, inspirational videos, songs, drama, visual art, and dance.



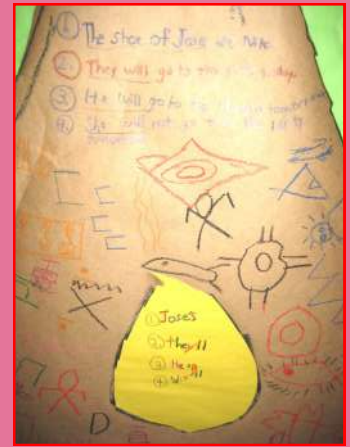
"My Many-Colored Days"



Above left: The entire school competed in the "Jump rope for Hearts" event. The winners were Claire McDonald (K-2) and Madison Henley (3-5).

Right: Casey winners in the JPS Chess Tournament, Jocelyn DeZutter (4th place) and Sam Cummins (2nd place)

Educational Artwork



Kindergartners enhanced reading and writing skills while drawing vibrant pictures of animals showing their favorite colors. Mr. Gandy's second graders created and wrote about collage animals and decorated wigwams with sentences that demonstrate the use of apostrophes.

Kennedi
The name I'm going to call my wild thing is scarr, because it is a predator so it needs a scary name. My habitat for my wild thing is like a warm forest that has trees, birds, squirrels, and bunnys. One of the adaptations my wild thing use to survive is his large nostrils it helps scarr find his food or prey. Scarr is a predator because, he has sharp teeth, horns, and claws. As you can clearly see that scarr is made up, is a predator, and



Ms. Liberto's third graders invented "wild things" designed for their environments. Students wrote about the special adaptations of their animals.

Miles
Let me tell you what my wild thing's name is it's name is Pentox. Pentox's habitat is a shady, sandy place and it has deep salt water near it. Pentox's bright feathers help attract fish and shrimp to eat and it's four wings help it glide through the water. Pentox is a predator because it has sharp teeth and is fast. I hope next time you'll stop to remember that Pentox is a predator.





Fourth graders begin their dance classes

this semester. They are using the arts to learn more about the history and culture of Mississippi. In Ms. Daniel's class, the students learned the structure of blues songs and wrote original songs about their recent "snow day" and other matters of concern for them.

Next semester, they will develop musical and dance performances and experience the Mississippi Bicentennial in visits to the Mississippi Museums of Art, History, and Civil Rights.



Special Events for January-February 2018

Tuesday, January 9

K-2 field trip to **New Stage Theatre** to see the musical, ***Beauty and the Beast*** (9:15-1:00).

Wednesday, January 10

K-2 field trip to **New Stage Theatre** to see the musical, ***Beauty and the Beast*** (9:15-1:00).

Monday, January 15

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

January 18-24

Visiting artist **Sarah Campbell** will present a workshop for teachers and work with **grades 4-5** on the use of writing and photography to better understand geometry.

Wednesday, January 31

4th grade field trip to the new **Mississippi History Museum** and **Civil Rights Museum** (8:20-11:20).

February 2-3

A team of Casey teachers will attend the **Whole Schools Winter Institute** for further arts integration training in Tupelo.

Monday, February 12

A team of Casey teachers will attend the **Model Whole School Tour** at **St. Anthony Elementary** in Madison.

Tuesday, February 13

Casey will tentatively host at **Model Whole School Tour** for visiting teachers.

Monday, February 19

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE DAY

Monday, February 26

The **Mississippi Arts Commission** will send a team of evaluators to conduct a **Model School Review** of Casey.

Tuesday, February 27

21st Annual CASEY ARTS FESTIVAL!

Our school will showcase arts-integrated learning in every grade all day long.

10:00 a.m. **4th grade** dance presentation

6:00 p.m. PTA meeting with **4th grade** musical performance **"I'm Gonna Let It Shine!"**

Musical Performers



Among the groups of special musicians that have performed for our students this year are the MSO String Quartet and Woodwind Quintet and the Covenant Presbyterian Handbell Choir, which brought a holiday concert to Casey.



In November, second graders presented a dance demonstration to show what they have been learning with their teacher, Kathryn Wilson. They performed dances based on the movements of animals in stories and poems they had read this year.

The next day, they held their Second Grade Feast with the help of many parents who brought food representative of the sorts of dishes the original Plymouth settlers would have had at the first Thanksgiving.



Magnificent Masterpieces



Several Casey students have artworks on display at the Mississippi Arts Center on Pascagoula Street as a part of the annual Whole Schools display of great examples of arts integrated work from schools all across the state. Some of the students attended a reception on December 16. Other students or parents who haven't toured the exhibit yet still have plenty of time. The exhibit will remain on display through the middle of January.



Third graders concluded their studies of "wild things" and their various habitats and adaptations with a visit to the Jackson Zoo. The zookeepers let students see and touch different classes of animals, reinforcing all the information they have learned.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



Mr. Howell fights the Mouse King while Ms. Johnson plays Clara in the interactive production of *The Nutcracker* presented by "Kinetic Etchings," a dance troupe run by our dance teacher, Kathryn Wilson, and her husband Emile. The story was fun, and the dancers were fabulous!

On December 15, first graders visited the Canton Christmas Festival while Santa himself dropped by to see our heroic dads escorting their children to school during our second "Doughnuts with Dads" event.



Getting Smart Through the Arts!

Casey Elementary
2101 Lake Circle
Jackson, MS 39211

Phone: 601-987-3510
Fax: 601-987-4944
Email: jhowell@jackson.k12.ms.us