

June 14th, 2024

Dear CES Families:

The Unified Arts team hopes you have a wonderful Summer. The UA team consists of Art, Music, Physical Education, and Technology. In addition to our regular Monday thru Friday classes, we have enjoyed our Friday Health and Elective classes.

Our new Health program called "Positive Action" focuses on how a positive attitude assists in daily life. In addition, we cover basic health topics such as using medicine correctly, managing frustration/anger, and what to do about bullies. Students have been observed practicing the skills we learn. For example, they are seen being kinder to each other, and offering words of kindness when another student may need it. Overall, we see great engagement with the program. It gives students a chance to talk about all the good things that are going on in their lives. It encourages us to share with one another and help each other.

Art is one of the ways we reflect on who we are, the experiences we have, and how we feel about it all. Students in grades 1-4 ended the year working hard to further develop their ability to represent people in their artwork. Additionally, they explored more drawing, painting, printmaking, collage, origami and bookmaking processes. The Friday Elective rotation has allowed all grade levels the extra time to do this more fully.

The focus during the last couple of sessions in Technology Enrichment, has been coding. Coding improves computational thinking, encourages persistence, and enhances problem-solving skills and their confidence. Some of the coding assignments help students to express their creativity and build upon their communication skills when they help others.

Every class who rotated through Music on Fridays was able to perform in our school assemblies throughout the year. As a result, each assembly had a variety of performances which brought collaboration, community, learning, and engagement. In addition to students preparing something for an assembly, students also explored and practiced a variety of musical concepts. In addition to their music class during the week, students were able to practice and use those musical skills and apply it to our extra activities held on Fridays.

We have had a wonderful school year with the students and were fortunate to have extra time with them on Fridays. We reflected on how students were able to practice their previous skills from their Unified Arts classes and use those skills during their extra time on Fridays. We look forward to working with students next year and watching them continue to learn, grow, and create!

Sincerely, The Unified Arts Team

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