



# MUSTANGS



Please help us keep JMPS peanut-safe!

John McCrae Public School  
565 Fred McLaren Blvd.  
Markham L6E 1N7  
Phone: 905-294-9122  
Fax: 905-294-8196  
E-mail: john.mccrae@yrdsb.ca  
Website: http://johnmccrae@ps.yrdsb.ca/

## EARLY DISMISSAL June 26th



Students will be dismissed at 12:00 Noon on Thursday, June 26<sup>th</sup>. Buses will run as they normally do !

**Principal:** Ms. Lori Hall  
**Vice Principal:** Ms. Lindsey Rhamey  
**Office:** Mrs. Raymond, Mrs. Dunlop and Mrs. Fernandez

## GRADE 8 GRADUATION



Plans have been finalized for our Grade 8 graduation. This special event for our Grade 8 students will be held on Tuesday, June 24, 2014 from 6:00-7:00 p.m. at Markham Missionary Church, 5438 Major Mackenzie Drive East. This will be followed by a student dinner & dance 7:30pm—10:30pm at the **Pickle Barrel Restaurant**, Markville Shopping Centre, 5000 Highway 7 East, Markham.

**School Trustee:**  
**Mr. Alan Tam : 416-969-8131**



**Superintendent of Schools:**  
**Mr. Dan Wu : 905-940-7800**

## WHAT CLASS WILL MY CHILD(REN) BE IN

All new JK and SK students starting in September will be informed by mail in mid July of their classroom assignment for 2014-15. All current JK students entering SK for 2014-15 will continue in their same classroom with their same cohort for 2014-15. The expected FDK educator teams for 2014-15 will be: Rm 102 Ms. Manocha/Ms. Guo; Rm 104 Ms. Tustin / Early Childhood Educator (to be determined); Rm 105 Mr. Vidrih/Ms. Naazneen; Rm 106 Ms. G. Lee/ Ms. Rahimi; and Rm 121 Ms. McNaughton /Ms. Peddle-Wood . Students entering Grade 1 – 8 for September 2014-15 will be informed of class placement on September 2, 2014. See the chart as to the location for students to meet on September 2nd:

Grade 1	Gymnasium
Grade 2	Gymnasium
Grade 3	Room 202
Grade 4	Library
Grade 5	East Tarmac
Grade 6	East Tarmac
Grade 7	Room 217, 212
Grade 8	Room 219, 221

## FIRST DAY SCHOOL FOR 2014-2015



First day of class for students JK—8 will be Tuesday, September 2, 2014.

\*\*PLEASE NOTE—JKs will attend for part of the day only. We will advise parents via mail by mid July as to the time.

普通话翻译: 毛燕芳 联系方式: 电子信箱: [longarmding@yahoo.com](mailto:longarmding@yahoo.com) 电话: 905-471-7098

தமிழில் விபரங்களை அறிய அழையுங்கள்:  
தொடர்பு பெறப்படுபவர்கள்: (416) 917-3108  
மொறின் ரமணன்: (647) 977-4905

Last School Council Meeting of 2013-14 will be Wednesday June 18th, at 7pm

FIRST SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING for 2014-15—WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 at 7:00pm.

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS !

## STAFF CHANGES FOR 2014-2015

Congratulations to **Mr. Braj** and **Mrs. Miyazaki** who were offered and accepted positions at the new school, Robert Munsch in the North region, of our board. This is a school that will have a focus on The Early Years. Mr. Braj has been at John McCrae since it opened 8 years ago and has been such a fundamental part of our school during that time. Mrs. Miyazaki joined us two years ago as a Designated Early Childhood Educator and has contributed to the student focused classroom in room 104. Both of these educators will be fondly missed but their legacy will remain, as they have taught us all how even our youngest learners can embrace reading, writing and mathematics in a play-based inquiry classroom. **Mrs. Erin Raymond**, our Elementary Office Administrative Assistant is heading to Glad Park P.S. for September. Our school community has really appreciated the kindness and dedication that Mrs. Raymond has shown to us during her year here. **Ms. DeFry** will be going full time to Donald Cousens as a Child and Youth Care Worker. We thank her for all of the support that she provided our students. **Mrs. Martha Lee** will be going on maternity leave for 2014-15. We wish her and her growing family well. **Ms. Clarke** is taking a leave next year and we look forward to her return in September 2015. We welcome **Stephanie Weyrich** from Lakeside P.S. to our primary division. We welcome **Ms. Suzane Allum** from Parkview P.S. to the EOAA position here at John McCrae P.S. We welcome back **Ms. Agnes Wong**, **Ms. Julie Andrews**, and **Ms. Cheryl Martin**. Finally, we say good-bye to **Ms. Caroline Crimi**, **Ms. Dana St. Louis**, **Mr. Phil Parfeniuk**, **Ms. Rachel Lazarovic**, **Ms. Helen Lei**, and **Ms. Linda Mpindu**. These teachers have been doing such wonderful work for us this year — we are so fortunate to have such strong teachers that have done such an incredible job for our students. We wish them all the best and hope to see them back at John McCrae very soon.

# ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE



June is a spectacular month at John McCrae. We celebrate the achievement of our students in so many ways. Several of our students will be part of the regional band camp at Lake Simcoe from June 9 to 13th. Nadia in Ms. Grandbois' class was recognized for our School's Student Success Award Recipient by the York Region District School Board. Nadia was nominated by the Mr. Brandt, Mr. Doucet, Mr. Kassam and Mr. Sciberras for outstanding leadership and exemplary modelling of good character. Saryuhan in Mr. Kassam's class and Kobisha in Ms. Corcoran's class were recipients of an Uukkamathu Kaividale Award which celebrates the accomplishments of students of Tamil Heritage in YRDSB. Saryuhan was recognized for Academic, Arts, Athletics, Citizenship, Perseverance. Kobisha was recognized for Academics and Citizenship. Alexis in Ms. Grandbois' class and Josh in Mr. McGouran's class were the recipients of The Alliance of Educators for Black Students on June 2nd. Alexis was recognized for the Arts and Josh was recognized for Academics and Athletics. The entire John McCrae community congratulate these amazing students for their well deserved recognition.

I would like to thank the families and community members that donated to our school in the fall a total of \$ 3784.00. We used \$735 of those funds for families that could not afford the payment of field trips this school year. At our next school council meeting on June 18th we will be discuss how to spend the remaining balance.

Our Senior Kindergarten students will be enjoying a wonderful celebration on June 13th. Our year end assemblies will be on Thursday June 19th at 9:10 a.m. for our students in JK to Grade 2 and then at 11:10 am for our students in Grade 3 to Grade 8. Our grade 8 Graduation is scheduled for Tuesday June 24th and we are anticipating a most wonderful evening of celebration.

Celebrate a wonderful summer with friends and family. Explore and enjoy the great Canadian wilderness. Visit Canadian landmarks in Markham and Toronto. Take a visit to Ottawa or Quebec City – enjoy the history of these important cities. Maybe your family will take a trip overseas. Whatever you do – talk about it with your children; share the moment. We are all back to school on September 2nd.

Ms. Hall

## A MESSAGE FROM SCHOOL COUNCIL

The School Council would like to extend its gratitude to teachers, students and parents for their participation to this year's "Plugged In" event. Tips and methods on how to use technologies to enhance learning at home were introduced to parents and students through a series of presentations. Stay tuned for more learning events next year.

Using the proceeds from the Pizza/Sub fund raising event, the School Council contributed funding to several school initiatives, including; technology equipment purchase, library books refreshment through the Forest Reading Program and the GROW Interactive Learning Program in September.

The School Council would like to thank all the parents who volunteered their time and energy in these programs, including the weekly Healthy Snack Program and biweekly pizza/sub lunch distribution.

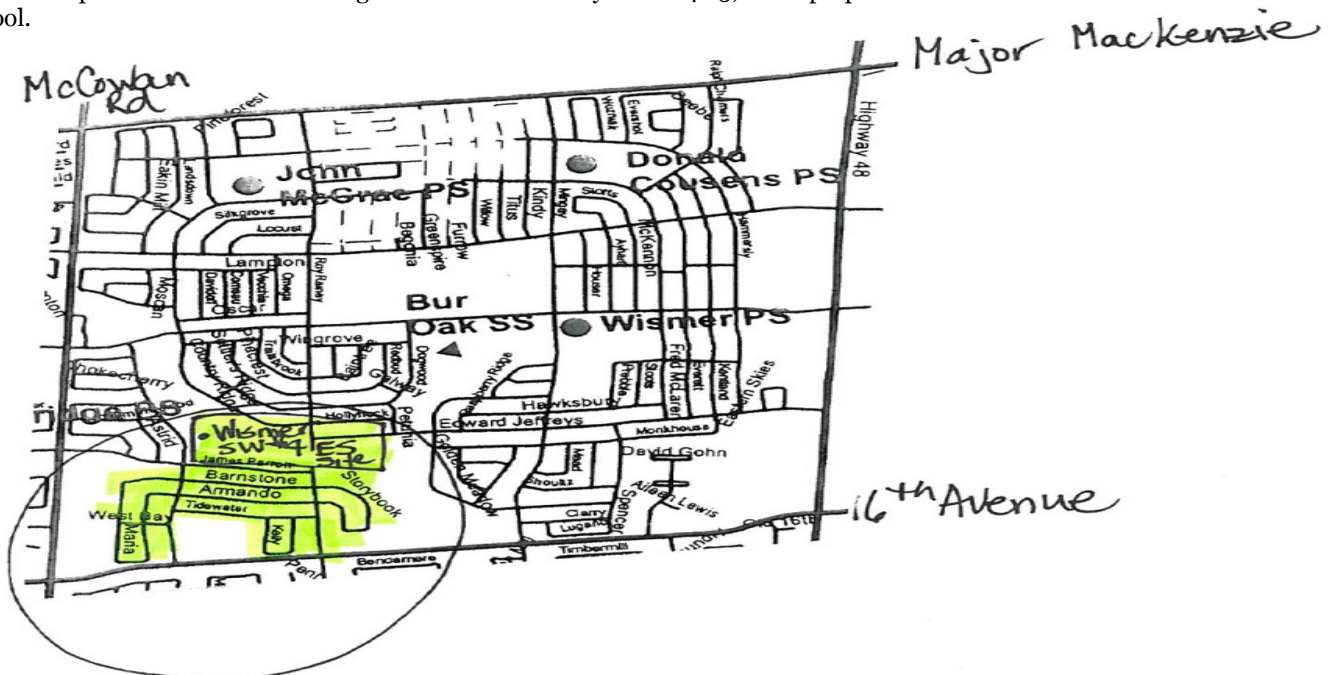
The School Council is an important and integral part of school life. In ensuring continuity and Council's contribution to the School's well-being, we urge more parents to become involved. Our first Council Meeting is on September 17, 2014 at 7:00pm. We look forward to seeing all of you there.

Have a wonderful summer!

## NEW SCHOOL

Students living south of Bur Oak Avenue (see circle area below) have been attending John McCrae P.S. while waiting for a school to be opened much closer to their homes. It was approved this spring that a New School would be opening in this area for **September 2015**. See link on New School Page of the YRDSB website. <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/NewSchools/Pages/default.aspx>.

We will keep families informed throughout the next school year 2014-15, as we prepare our students for the transition to this new school.



## REPORT CARDS



Students will receive their report cards on Wednesday, June 25th. Students who are not at school on that day can pick them up the 1st week of July, the last week of August or the beginning of September when school starts.

## STUDENT MEDICATION PICK-UP



If your child has a supply of medication or an Epi-pen at school in the office, please arrange to pick it up on Tuesday, June 24 or Wednesday, June 25, 2014. Thank you!

## LOST & FOUND

We will be putting all of our lost and found items on display the week of June 9th. Please drop by that week and check out the items to see if you recognize any of the items that might belong to your son or daughter. At the end of the school year, we will bag up the unclaimed items and donate them to Good Will.

Thank you!



## RETURN OF SCHOOL BOOKS



Please check around the house for any materials that belong to the school and return them promptly. Library books are due back by Friday, June 20th. Our preference would be to have the books returned rather than collect money from you. Thank you for your assistance in returning all library books by the deadline.

## STUDENTS TAKING THE BUS

For students taking the bus in September, please go to [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com) for notice of pick up site and timing of pick up and drop-off the last week of August, 2014.

Click the "Bus Stop Information" tab

Click the "MapNetWEB

Type in your address and your bussing information will pop up

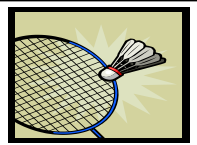


## June 26th, 2013 Early Dismissal in Elementary Schools

All students have received a copy of the *2013-14 Learning Calendar*. Please note that on **Thursday, June 26th, 2014** an early release day will take place to allow elementary teachers and support staff to participate in activities in the afternoon of that day in support of student achievement and school planning.

Students will attend school during the morning of Thursday, June 26th, 2014 only. Students will be dismissed early that day at **12:00 noon**. Arrangements will be made to ensure that students who are normally bussed to and from school will receive transportation at this time. Parents whose children attend after school child care should make appropriate arrangements to address this change in schedule.

## Badminton At McCrae



On May 15 our school's badminton team competed in the area tournament at Pierre Elliott Trudeau High School. There were over 80 people who tried out for the school team, and only fourteen students competed because they proved themselves the best. Their names are: Brandon and Eddie who played boys doubles as well as Jeffrey and Arthur the other boys' doubles team. The girls' doubles teams are Cindy and Emeline and Jessica and Vicky. Next was our mixed teams Connor and Allison and Thenura and Rachel. Last were our two subs who are Jonathan and Kylie.

Our school fought hard and represented the school with hard work and perseverance. There were over 10 schools, and over 100 people. We had two teams that did an outstanding job, Thenura and Rachel made it to the quarter finals and Connor and Allison made it to the mixed finals. Both teams lost but Connor and Allison are advancing to play Regionals and are going to represent the school and give it their all.

Each member of the team cheered on each other and showed true team work. Each and every one stood out for each other and had a lot of fun. We would like to give a special thanks to Mr. Brandt and Mr. Chueng for teaching everyone new things and hosting practices. Everyone learned a lot and next year we'll do even better.

By: Connor Mak

## TAMIL STUDENT AWARDS

On Wednesday May 21<sup>st</sup>, two of our grade 7 students, Kobisha Rajeswaran and Saryuhan Logeswaran, were recognized at the Uukkamathu Kaividale Awards of Excellence. The purpose of the event is to recognize, support and promote the success of Tamil students within the York Region District School Board. Uukkamathu Kaividale means to persevere and strive to reach one's true potential and these Awards of Excellence were presented to students of Tamil heritage who have demonstrated outstanding skills and achievements from the following categories: Perseverance, Citizenship, Athletics, Performing Arts and/or Overall Academic Achievement.

The two award recipients from John McCrae are student leaders who excel in not just one, but many of these categories. Congratulations Kobisha and Saryuhan on your awards!

## GAUSS MATH CONTEST

Hey Mustangs! The Gauss contest was back this year on May 14th, over 110 students took this challenge and did great! The Gauss contest is basically a collection of easy and difficult questions made to test the student's capability and problem-solving. Many of the questions on the test were pretty hard and required some deep thinking, but our school did really well!

Out of around 77 000 participants from all over Canada who took the Gauss contest, and out of around 100 participants who obtained perfect scores, 5 were from our school. They include four students that took the grade seven test and one who took the grade eight test, who are Joey Ma, Daniel Li, Oustan Ding, Michael Young, and Grace Gong. Congratulations to everyone for working hard and participating, we hope to you take the contest next year!

Written by Grace Gong

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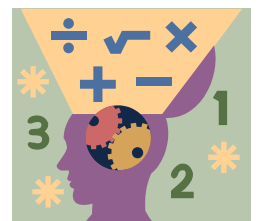
I am happy to report that John McCrae represented the school extremely well in the international math community. Each year, over 77,000 (yes thousand) students write the Gauss Math contest organized by Waterloo University. This year we have grown the McCrae math participation to 120 students. Each year approximately 100 students get perfect on the contest world wide.

I am pleased to report that 5 students from John McCrae received a perfect score. They were congratulated them at the monthly assembly.

Grace (Gorgey), Joey (Corcoran), Oustan, Daniel and Michael (Cheung).

Three cheers for John McCrae.....I mean five cheers for John McCrae !!!!!

By: Mr. Cheung



## **ROLAND BIBEAU**



Last week on June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014, a famous French singer by the name of Roland Bibeau came to our school. Roland Bibeau is a singer who has been to a lot of schools and performed many songs. He has been writing and performing French songs for the past 20 years. Featuring catchy, familiar, original and traditional songs, "The Beebo Music Show" is fun and educational for students of all ages. The songs make you want to stand up and sing, dance, jump, wiggle, clap and put a smile on your face. Some of his famous songs include Français Français, À l'école, En vogue et à la mode, and Bonhomme melen-nium. During the performance, Beebo had some students join him as special guests. They had the opportunity to sing with him and wear silly and colourful costumes. It was an educational and entertaining experience for our grades 4 to 8 students at John McCrae Public School.

By: Katherine Chun (4Lee)

## **OLYMPIA SPORTS CAMP**

On May 28th, the grade eight students packed up and journeyed to Olympia Sports Camp in Huntsville, ON. There for three days, the students formed bonds and friendships that will preserve the memories of the 2014 graduating class. During these three days, students woke at the break of dawn in order to participate in exciting activities and teambuilding exercises. Our activities list consisted of archery, orienteering, rock climbing, zip lining, and riding a giant rope swing which was a highlight for many. Following dinner were large group bonding sessions such as dance-offs, camp fire sing-alongs, and interactive skits- featuring a murder mystery! The students had a very memorable three days. The Sports Camp allowed them to do things that some have never done before, but with free time, it also gave us a chance to explore the freedom of the outdoors. The students had lots of fun and they became much closer with their fellow grade eight graduates and teachers.

Matthew Chin  
8-Gorgey



## Language Learning In Room 205

During the month of May the students in Mr. Sciberras' class were working on a heroes unit. We read information about Albert Einstein, The Buffalo Soldiers, Michael Jordan, and John Browning. We also learned the about what makes a person a hero, for example, helping other people, being brave, and persevering.

During the month our reading focussed on inferring. We began by first looking at pictures and inferred what is going on in the picture. Then we watched commercials and made inferences and then we read sentences and paragraphs. We always needed to support our ideas by looking at the actions in the commercial and in the picture and then using words that the author wrote when we looked at sentences or paragraphs.

One of the first writing activities we completed was ranking heroes based on a description and then we had to support our thinking. There were 9 hero descriptions given. Some of us chose "a person who, when walking his dog, saw a child drowning in a nearby river and risked his life to jump in the river to save the child" as the most heroic while others chose "a police officer, who works ever day to ensure that the city is a safe place for children and adults to live in".

We also studied different text features, such as captions, sub-titles, charts and graphs, the use of colour and borders. This was going to help us with our culminating task and help us to make choices with what we had to do.

With all of the skills we gained through our learning we then applied them to our culminating task which was to research a person we considered a hero. After the research was finished we had to come up with 10 questions based on the research. The 10 questions were to give the reader the most important information about the hero we researched. Our task was to create a trading card on the iPad using an app called Pic Collage. It was cool because we got to design the card using a lot of different colours and fonts.

This was a fun activity for us to do.

Written by: Veehaan, Katherhan, Daniel & Perry



## PLUGGED IN



We had a fantastic Plugged In evening on May 1<sup>st</sup>! During the evening, there was a great turn out, and families participated in a variety of technology based activities; everything from ipad apps, and websites, to trying out some old technology! Thank you to all of the teachers and students who volunteered their time to host sessions for the evening. We even had a guest speaker, Steve Chapelle come and talk to our community.

Mr. Chapelle gave us a few things to think about, here are some highlights:

- 1) Keep the personal information you are posting online to a minimum. People can learn a lot about you from what you write. Nothing is ever erased from your computer. Every email, text, photo, document will always be there, even if you think you deleted it.
- 2) Don't threaten or lie (even joking) on social media. Don't post anything that you wouldn't show your parents.
- 3) Maximize your privacy settings, turn the location services off in your phone or devices settings.
- 4) If you are threatened on line, Do not reply! Instead, take a screen shot, block the sender, then tell someone.

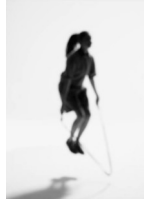
A special thank you to the School Council for all of their help in planning this event! The whole evening was funded through a government PRO Grant. We are also happy to announce that the parent council has applied for a similar grant for next year. We also had a little bit of money left over to purchase some technology resources for the library. Come to the library to check them out .

## CAMP COUCHICHIING

The Grade 7s at John McCrae Public School went on an overnight trip to Camp Couchiching in Orillia, Ontario. Archery, rock climbing, high ropes and drama were just some of the highlighted features of the trip. The Grade 7s went through their day of activities with free time in between. During free time, we had a wide variety of options, such as beach volleyball, tetherball, chess, and ping-pong. At the end of the exhausting but exciting day, we all sat by a campfire and sang many songs which got the students up on their feet, jamming to the beat. Being our first overnight trip for the Grade 7s, we had a lot of fun and will remember these memories for times to come. And we will definitely never forget the campfire songs!

By: Kobisha and Ushi

## **GIRLS ON THE RUN**



For the past 10 weeks, 21 girls, along with a number of staff and parent coaches have been a part of two teams called Girls on the Run and Girls on Track. We meet twice a week, on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school, and talk about issues we, as girls, encounter as we grow. Not only do we discuss our feelings, but we also have been training to run a 5K race at the end of our 10 week session. On Thursday June 12, at 3:45pm we will be running the 5K at John McCrae P.S. We invite you to join in our celebration by cheering us on at the race, running the race, or celebrating with us afterwards. Girls on the Run and Girls on Track have had a positive impact on us as girls, allowing us to educate ourselves about things like dealing with stress and issues that may come up with friends or family. We also got to know each other a bit more and bonded as a team. We would like to thank the coaches, Ms. Rhamey, Mrs. Corcoran, Ms. Ukposidolo, Ms. Lei, Ms. Mpindu, Ms. Chow and Mrs. Lumani for lending their time to help aid and support us.

**Chelsea and Kobisha - 7C**

## **VOLUNTEER BREAKFAST**



John McCrae is an amazing place to learn, teach and grow! We know that this is possible because we have over 50 volunteers helping out at our school, in our classrooms and on trips. On Thursday, June 5th, an appreciation breakfast was held to let the volunteers know how important their contributions are to our school. The staff and students of John McCrae are very fortunate to have so much community support.

## **MUSIC NEWS**

Congratulations to those students who performed at the volunteer breakfast on June 5th, at the Arts night on June 5th, and to the 12 students from McCrae who represented our school at the York Region Elementary Enrichment Band camp in Jackson's Point on June 9 to 13. These twelve students auditioned in March for a spot in this 70 person band and headed to camp under the baton of Dr. Jeff Reynolds from the University of Toronto. The students from McCrae were Evelyn, Chloe, Balaji, Bryan, Ariana, Ellen, Oustan, Neya, William, Jason, Megan, and Liam.

In September, Mrs. Morrison would like to start a bucket drumming program for grades 4 and 5. If any families have large 5 gallon plastic Home Depot style buckets that they would be willing to donate, please drop them by the music room by the end of June. Thank you!

Mrs. Morrison

## Our Tree Art



For our Tree Art, we used tissue paper and paints. The hills have different shades of green to add texture even though it is 2D. The tree was made with tissue paper and it has blossoms as well as the leaves. We had to choose a time when our picture took place so if it was during a sunset the sky is pink, blue, and purple. If it was during a sunrise, the colours included red, orange, and yellow. This is an example of mixed media because we used two different materials to create the picture. We like making because we love painting and we got to use tissue paper. We also like making this art because it looked great after we were finished.

By: Sachin, Arun, Jina, and Clayton.

## Skyline



When we learned about foreground and background, we painted a skyline. The sky is in the background and the shadows from the buildings were in the foreground. I like the Skyline because after we blended it, it looks really nice. It has different shades of colors. I like the buildings because it looks like a shadow. We used paint and pencil to make this art. We like using black and a mixture of colors, some colors were bright and some colours were dark. We even learned to paint the background first to make it easier. I like how they colours were mixed together, it was messy, but fun. The sky is so colorful and bright compared to the buildings which made it stand out more. We like how it is beautiful it looked in the end. For some of our skylines we made the CN Tower so that people would know it was Toronto. We learned a lot.

By: Justin, Davis, Alice, Fahad, Jay, and Eathan



## LILY-PADS



For art, we made something 3D. It really popped out of the picture. We made water lilies that sat on top of lily pads. First, we used paper water colours and we painted the paper the colour we wanted our pedals. After, we cut them up into big and small ovals with a flat bottom. While the paper dried, we got another piece of paper and drew a lily pad in the center. We made different shades of blue for the water. Once we were done with the lily pad, we went back to the pedal paper and we cut slits in the bottom. Next, we put glue at the bottom and stuck them together. After that we assembled the pedals and stuck the flowers to the lily pads. We then waited for them to dry. Finally, we put the pollen in and we were done. We liked making these because we like painting it and gluing it to the paper. The element of art we focused on was texture and form.

By: Naveen, Tori, Kaitlyn, and Emma

## THE BLOCK PARTY



When we were learning about three-dimensional solids, we made a painting called “The Block Party.” The elements of art we were focusing on were value, colors, and shape.

We learned that any color has many values meaning it could be a lighter or darker shade. We used different values of one color to make it look like it was 3-D.

We learned about complimentary colors and to make the blocks show up more we decided to use complementary colors. Those are the colors that are opposite each other on the color wheel.

We like doing this activity because we get to use paint and because it really looked 3D in the end.

By: Huron, Neiv, Adam, and Megan.

## ANDY WARHOL



An artist that we studied was Andy Warhol. We read books about him and learned that he made art that used a lot of colours. We like Andy Warhol was creative. We thought that it was really funny because he wears different wigs.

The art we did was based on symmetry. We had to make the four sections that we painted symmetrical. We were all given a different number of cats in different sizes and we had to figure out how many we had to put in each section. It was pretty tricky. We used cats because Andy Warhol had a collection of many many cats all with the same name. I think it was Sam.

We used complementary colours for two sections and analogous in the other two sections. Complementary colours are across each other on the colour wheel and analogous colours are beside each other.

By: Sydney, Olivia, and Gabi.