

The dePaul School

Respect-Teach-Challenge-Inspire

Targeted Professional Development

Several upcoming conferences, symposiums and retreats promise to provide dePaul teachers and staff with exciting and useful information on the latest research, methodologies, best practices and innovative classroom instruction ideas that benefit our students.

- 3rd Southern Regional IDA Conference, "Dyslexia: Discovering New Pathways to Learning" March 24 & 25
- Academy of Orton-Gillingham Practitioners & Educators Conference, "Dyslexia On My Mind: Research, Practice, Instruction, and Understanding" April 28-29
- "Neuroscience and Education: The Connection" June 1 & 2
- Gow School Leadership Retreat, June 15 & 16

We are so fortunate to have the opportunity to attend events like these, designed by, and for, professionals in the field of dyslexia education and research. By committing to continual professional growth, we ensure that our students are receiving an excellent education, guided by evidenced-based research and enhanced with informed and innovative teachers and staff!



Upcoming Events

March 13-17
Spring Break – School Closed

March 20
School Re-Opens

March 31
Special Event Planning Meeting, 8:00 am

April 13
Summer Reading Camp Info Session, 4:30-5:30 pm

April 14
Pro-Ed Day – No School for Students



Flip the Script: Cursive Sees Revival in School Instruction

By Karen Matthews, Associated Press NEW YORK — Mar 6, 2017

Cursive writing is looping back into style in schools across the country after a generation of students who know only keyboarding, texting and printing out their words longhand.

Alabama and Louisiana passed laws in 2016 mandating cursive proficiency in public schools, the latest of 14 states that require cursive. And last fall, the 1.1 million-student New York City schools, the nation's largest public school system, encouraged the teaching of cursive to students, generally in the third grade.

Read the full article at <http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/flip-script-cursive-sees-revival-school-instruction-45920663>

Class Notes

...Abstract art is taking over in Art History! The students are turning into Cubists as they explore Picasso's still lifes! More modern coming up.

...The Delta students are learning to play hockey and volleyball in PE. We were able to buy new hockey goals and sticks that the kids really enjoy using. Students are also learning about the importance of limiting sodium intake in our Nutrition class.

...Ms. Brown's Power Reading classes are working on decoding and spelling multisyllabic words and suffix endings. This new program is really helping students with their spelling and decoding!! Her composition class is working on opinion/persuasive writing.

...Mrs. Schorr's Composition class is learning how to write a summary for fiction and non-fiction literature. Her Reading class is finishing up *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis. The class has enjoyed this book!

...Mrs. Edward's Math class has been working on multiplication, division, money, and are beginning fractions using (and eating) graham crackers!

...Mrs. Stafford's various Math classes are working on plot, bar, circle and pictograph graphs, integers and order of operations and pre-algebra. Her Reading class is finishing with their two books: *Things Not Seen* and *Human.4* while they continue to work on comprehension, syllable sounds and increasing fluency.

...Mrs. Stanziani's Social Studies students are working on in-class reports on Presidents, landmarks and states.

...In music class this month, students are continuing the study of various sounds and tones, working on bowing technique to get the sound we like. We are learning the country fiddle tune "Cotton Eyed Joe".

...Mrs. Olson and her Fox class just finished up with Dr. Seuss, learning facts about him, reading and cooking *Green Eggs and Ham*, making *Cat In The Hat* hats and an edible hat snack! A group of Delta students came over and wrote poems with them as well!

...Mr. Kenny is teaching a lesson on finance, covering topics of debt, fixed vs. flexible expenses, cost of living and gross vs. net pay. Other students are doing a stock market simulation, learning about investing by "purchasing" stocks and following the results of their portfolios.

...Several of Mrs. Nicolo's Social Studies classes wrapped up their study of the United Kingdom and celebrated with Tea and Scones. They also completed their landform projects for geography, and they were ALL AWESOME! American History class has started a simulation of the Oregon Trail. Groups of students have a wagon for the trip and experience life on the trail!



House Panel Votes to Expand School Vouchers

March 7, 2017

Florida's scholarship programs for students with disabilities and for those from low-income families would be expanded under a proposal a Florida House panel approved this week.

The bill (HB 15) would make more children eligible for the Gardiner and McKay Scholarship Programs, which serve students with disabilities and would increase the per-student for the Tax-Credit Scholarship Program.

The bill adds more categories to the list of qualifying disabilities for the Gardiner Scholarship and the McKay Scholarship program would get a small change that reduces the requirements related to public school enrollment in the year before seeking a scholarship. Read the entire article at orlandosentinel.com/features/education/school-zone.

Volunteers Needed to Help Plan Fundraising Event

If you are interested in helping to plan and organize a fundraising event to be held next school year, please RSVP to Ms. Boortz to attend a brainstorming meeting on Friday, March 31 at 8 am. The goal is to create a fun event that will have community-wide appeal and raise funds and awareness for our school!! All ideas are welcome☺