



MIDDLE SCHOOLERS  
.....ESTABLISH.....  
FOUNDATIONS

FOR  
MOVEMENT

BY DEVELOPING  
MOTOR SKILLS.



MS ACADEMICS



~ FIFTY YEARS LATER, "TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD" STILL JUST AS POPULAR.

Every year, the seventh graders read "To Kill A Mockingbird" for English, and this year is no exception. Seventh grader Meg Wilson posed with the novel. "To Kill A Mockingbird" has definitely been my favorite book that I have read for school. After reading the book, it made me realize not to judge people based on what assumptions I make about them, and to get to treat everyone I meet with equality. The character that most showed me this would definitely be Scout," Wilson said.



Photos by Carolina Campbell



36

English papers assigned

4

male teachers

10

seventh grade science labs

7

eighth grade text books

In Middle School, new forward-thinking projects accentuated the rigorous academic curriculum. Fifth graders created authentic Australian aboriginal dot paintings, while sixth graders in Spanish wrote cards to the Wesley Rankin Community Center. Seventh graders, on the other hand, learned algebra in a fun, yet challenging way and eighth graders created their own shadow play puppet production

**to portray and explain cellular systems.**

~ INTEGRATING SCIENCE AND ARTS

Eighth graders Ponette Kim and Sawyer Bannister work on a shadow play production to explain the basic structure and function of cells in science class. "It's a really cool way to learn about cells, and to show the process in real life," Bannister said. The major focus of eighth grade science this year was the biosphere. Eighth grade science teacher Olga O'Reilly believed that by studying the biosphere, the girls learned about the major sciences. "Life on earth depends on the environment which can only be described in terms of biology, chemistry and physics," O'Reilly said.

~ PART OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

Sixth graders Mia Savoldelli and Sascha Schwimmer make cards for Wesley Rankin Community Center in Spanish class. "Making cards for the kids at Wesley Rankin made me feel connected with the Hispanic part of our community," Schwimmer said. The focus of sixth grade Spanish this year was to continue developing confidence in listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. "These skills are necessary for the girls to understand and be an integral part of the culturally diverse Spanish-speaking world," fifth and sixth grade Spanish teacher Leslie Box said.

~ TRAVELING TO AUSTRALIA

Fifth Grader Abrea LaGrone eagerly listen to the description of her new project, creating her own Australian aboriginal dot painting in geography class. "Drawing the dot painting made me feel like I was really in Australia," LaGrone said. This year, Geography was designed to present fifth graders with an overview of cultures around the world. Fifth grade geography teacher Linda Elliott believed that using various activities and projects would enhance the students' understanding of the culture. "Independently created projects form the backbone of this program," Elliott said.

~ THE KEY TO SOLVING MATH

Seventh graders Reagan Rudman and Nyomi Thomas solve a math problem on the whiteboard. "The best part of math is solving equations," Rudman said. This year seventh grade math focused on developing algebra skills with equations and variables. The class was built around projects such as the Building Project and the Sunday Funnies Project, which both focused on learning the basics of trigonometry using real-life situations and structures. "I try to harness their effusive and energetic energy with projects," Seventh grade math teacher Terry Bourek said.