

A Little Outside Time

1. As Parks and Rec students hike through the Guadalupe Mountains, they look at all the beautiful scenery around them. "My favorite part of the trip was when we reached the top of the mountain after the ten mile hike. It was really cool to look down and see where we'd just been," Abigail Goff (7) said.



Photo by Abigail Goff

2. Students in beginning orchestra play alongside students from all over the district at Stringfest in Zilker Park

Photo Courtesy of Jeni Berecek



Sixth grader Ian Lin prepares to return a pitch from Ryan Abou-Hamd (6), while, Genevieve MacAlpine, Amelie Putnam, Ryan Aparicio and Ethyn Jester (all 6) wait for their turn. Students on the SMIA camping trip to McKinney Roughts enjoying taking some time out of hiking and field study to play some games.

Photo Courtesy of Mr. Natenberg

Black and blue, without pain, Jose Duron, Amirah Pinkston and Adrian Young follow Ms. Pena-Brook's doc cam instruction for a lesson on bruises. "It looked real, and I was able to trick people," Adrian Young said.

Photo by Sophia McLaughlin Diaz

In Mr. Slapak's class, Isabel Kilday (8) and Ellen Fritz (8) finish things up. "When we were analyzing pH samples of different elements, it made me feel smart because I had never learned this before," said Fritz.

Photo by Addy Lemoine

Testing the measurements, Pearl Heinley (7) fits her dress to Ava Longi (8) while Saniya Barnet (6) and Selina Rayos-Duron (7) look on. "It was so weird seeing something I had made being modeled. I had a feeling of pride," Pearl said.

Photo by Hannah Griesmer



Watchful Eye

Huddled around the lab table, Ms. Bruch, Eric Johnson (6), Jose Duran (6), Arissa Lopez (6), Breyonn Wooley (6), and Osbaldo Serna (6) "conduct" an experiment on conducting heat. The group used a hairdryer to heat the water in the bottle, making the penny on top "burp", or move. They had to keep a very close eye on the penny, because the movement was so small, they might miss it. "The thing I liked about this lab was when the penny burst up, it was unordinary," said Osbaldo Serna (6).

Photo by Kristen Scott



TURN UP THE HEAT

Students get fired up

From Physics to Biology, everyone had a different opinion about science. It took time to find and express your scientific passion, and fortunately, there were more than enough lessons and experiments that helped ignite that passion. In Mr. Slapak's Animal Studies class, students talked ethics. "We learn moral things, like animal testing and how to identify animals. It's strange but interesting," said Adison Lampert (7).

students built and tested, examining the world around them. But as in any class, the time comes to test that knowledge and really turn up the heat. "Tests in general stress me out," said Nadine Sauer (7). "With one big test per six weeks, I find myself studying a lot. [It] makes me feel even more stressed compared to a normal test," Sauer said.

It wasn't always easy, but with enough scientific exploration students like Sauer managed to test their skills, and their hypotheses, and sometimes, hopefully, develop excitement for the world of science.

Story By Benjamin Robison

Some science was less analytical and more hands on. With electives like Forensic Science and Tinkering,

The HOT seat

Study much? Andru Rees-Eissler(8) doing Ms. Tasneem's test review, the "Hot Seat". "I was excited because I knew the answer but also nervous because I wasn't prepared for the test," said Andru.

Photo by Isaac Lewis



All Hands on Work

Beheaded, Aidan Martinez (6) takes a rest break under the blade of a guillotine on a field trip to the Renaissance Fair in the Harry Potter elective. "Afterwards, I kept pretending to be a ghost," Martinez said.

Photo Courtesy of Mary McClellan

Prepping for the outdoors, Ian Lin (6) and Quentin Foley (6) set up their bunk at McKinney Roughts. "It was fun because I got to learn about astronomy. My favorite part was when we hiked down to the river."

Photo Courtesy of Michael Natenberg

Feeling accomplished after the hike, Walter Auby (7) and Aaron Gostein (8) take a water break at the Guadalupe Mountains. "It was fun to hike and see the different land forms. It was so hot during the day, but at night it was cold," said Auby. Photo by Abigail Goff



Up in Flames

Fire away! Sofia Moore (7) and Helena Laura (7) set a battery ablaze with Mr. Chuah for his tinkering class. Taking appropriate safety precautions including a student standing by with a fire extinguisher, the team completed their experiment. "I was really excited to see my project in flames, but I was also nervous because the battery was spinning and I was worried that the flame would get to close to me," said Helena.

Photo by Kristen Scott

