



AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM STUDENTS LEARNING TO USE CHOPSTICKS

# BSS Afterschool Program: February 2019 Newsletter

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## Enrichment

We started off the month by learning about the Chinese New Year and how to use chopsticks. Students were given fortune cookies and tried to use chopsticks to eat rice and other foods. They also played a game where they had to use chopsticks to pick up items and place them in a bowl.

For International Polar Bear Day, we talked about polar bear facts. We also looked at a website that had information about polar bears that are being tracked by scientists. Through the website, our students could see the names of polar bears, how far they have travelled, and how many cubs they have had.

## Enrichment Teachers

Mr. Mental, our middle school art teacher, taught our students how

to make clay pots. They completed the first phase of making pots, and next month they will get to glaze them. Before they can take them home, our students will plant seeds in them.



Mr. Striker, our high school art teacher, brought visiting photographer Gary Harwood and our high school photography team to the Afterschool Program to talk about a photography project our students will partake in. Students were broken up into groups and worked with a high school student to come up with a list of objects and places that they would like to take pictures of

downtown. In March and April, our students will continue to work on this project with Gary Harwood and the photography team.

## Career Investigations

Every month our students work with our visiting artist Vicki Murphy where they make different types of mosaics. This month students had the opportunity to learn more about Vicki and her career path to becoming a mosaic artist. Vicki brought in samples of some of her artwork and showed the students a slideshow presentation of her other artwork.

## Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day is always a reason for a big celebration in the Afterschool Program, and it takes a lot of preparation to throw a

successful Valentine's Day party. To prepare, students spent a couple of days in the kitchen preparing a snack to enjoy on Valentine's Day.

Then, on Valentine's Day our students participated in a Valentine's Day scavenger hunt around the school. Each year our students look forward to this event and run from one location to the next, picking up candy and other Valentine's Day treats along the way.



## Random Acts of Kindness



February 17<sup>th</sup> is National Random Acts of Kindness Day, so we took this opportunity to show our staff how much we appreciate them. Our students wrote special messages to staff members

throughout the school on a Random Act of Kindness letter and encouraged staff members to pay it forward.

## Literacy Activities

Our literacy activities this month were focused around fairytales. Mrs. Rebon came to the Afterschool Program dressed as a princess one day while we talked about fairytales. Mrs. Constantine and Mrs. Kepler even took turns reading a poem based on the "Three Little Pigs" as the voices of the Big Bad Wolf and the pigs.



Our students also took turns reading fairytales aloud. We even tied one of our cooking days to the fairytale theme as we made haystacks snacks to symbolize the houses in the Three Little Pigs.

## Attendance and Behavior Reward

Since we had to celebrate our January reward at the beginning of this month, we chose to have our February reward here at the school. All of our students were able to attend this reward which was watching the movie *Zeus and Roxanne*. Students also enjoyed popcorn and lemonade provided by the staff.

## Upcoming Events

- March 7<sup>th</sup>-Family Engagement *The Music Man* at 5:45
- March 12<sup>th</sup>-Field Trip with Gary Harwood
- March 14<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, & 21<sup>st</sup>-No Afterschool Program
- April 18<sup>th</sup>-Last day of the Afterschool Program
- June 3-20<sup>th</sup>-BSS Summer Program dates (Monday-Thursday only)