

***“In your life’s blueprint you must have as the basic principle the determination to achieve excellence in your various fields of endeavor.” - Martin Luther King, Jr.***

## Elizabeth Public Schools Celebrates Dr. MLK, Jr.

Students throughout the district participated in lessons and activities that honored the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a man whose words and actions awakened in all of us the hope for a more just and compassionate world.



## Dr. King's Dream Lives On...



Being virtual did not stop Mrs. Papa's 2nd grade class, at **Toussaint L'Ouverture-Marquis de Lafayette School No. 6**, from celebrating Dr. King's legacy. Through teacher read-aloud, students' discussion, writing assignments, and postage stamps' designs, students articulated how they're making connections with his life's work and how as future leaders, they will keep his dream alive!

## Dr. King's Legacy

In memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., students in 2-014, from **Benjamin Franklin School No. 13**, watched the video *The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*. Students answered questions related to the video and made connections to the video. Students also used Epic, (Reading Program) to read the book Martin Luther King Jr. Day. During the activity, students were able to see examples of how to continue Dr. King's Legacy. To complete the activity for Dr. King, students had to share one way they would continue his legacy.





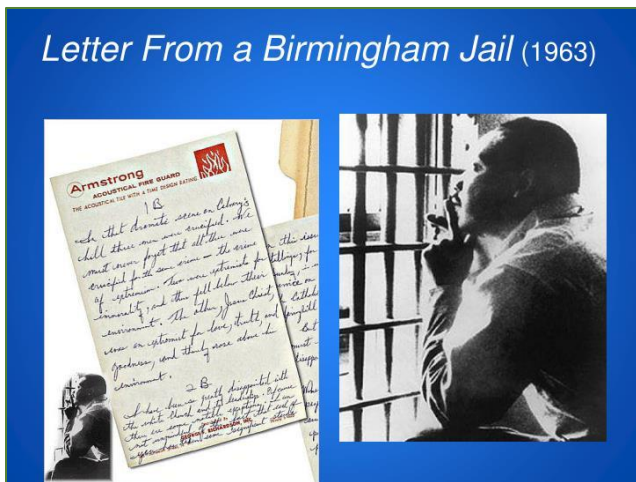
## Honoring Dr. King

Students at **Nicholas Murray Butler School No. 23 Annex** were engaged in activities relating to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The students in Room 3-101 learned about his accomplishments by watching a video and reading information about his legacy. They also wrote about his accomplishments, some of the challenges he faced, interesting facts, and they were able to explain the lessons learned from Dr. King.

Some of the lessons mentioned were:

- not to judge anyone by the color of their skin
- to be kind and respectful to everyone
- to never give up
- to follow their dreams.

Students designed the attached cover pages for their report.



## Letter from Birmingham Jail

Eighth grade students in **Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy School No. 26@ 31** observed Martin Luther King Jr. Day in an interesting way. Mr. DeMarco and Mrs. Pires gave students the task of reading and analyzing an abridged version of his “Letter from Birmingham Jail.” Students identified the literary techniques of ethos, pathos, and logos which King used to make his letter so persuasive. Students discussed King’s references to Saint Paul and Socrates. This fit perfectly into the International Baccalaureate curriculum. At the end, students used King’s quote “Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere” as

a prompt to write about how they can demonstrate positive actions in their community as an inspiration for justice. Students also viewed a powerful video of several American citizens reciting King’s letter.



## Kind Matters

During virtual instruction, Ms. Kennedy’s Kindergarten class at **Victor Mravlag School No 21**, took time to talk about the importance of being yourself and being accepted for who you are. Ms. Kennedy read a heart-warming story entitled “Just Being Ted” about a dragon who just wanted to be accepted by his friends. It shares the message of individuality, acceptance, and friendship. Students traced their hands and filled them in with rainbow colors to celebrate Martin Luther King’s birthday. When students returned to school, they created a “Peace Tree” with drawings to show how they will carry on Dr. King’s wish of treating people fairly and with kindness. Because Nice Matters!

## Martin's Big Words



The students in Mr. Webb's and Mrs. Navas 4<sup>th</sup> grade class at **Abraham Lincoln School No. 14** celebrated the legacy of the late, great Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. by reading Martin's Big Words, a picture book that weaves the immortal words of Dr. King into a captivating narrative to tell the story of his life. The students then participated in a guided drawing activity where they made a portrait of Dr. King surrounded by words they brainstormed together that represented his dream. The activity was a great way to end virtual learning and learn about Dr. King's contributions to society.

## Celebrating MLK, Jr. at School No. 50

Throughout January, students at **Frances C. Smith ECC School No. 50** have been learning about the life, beliefs and struggles of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Discussions included why laws, or rules, are needed; how changing laws may be difficult; why it's important to be fair and kind to one another and what students may do to be fair and kind; what dreams are; how each make the world a better place; explorations of mixing brown and white to make different shades of brown, tan, beige; observations of individual characteristics and discussing their beauty.

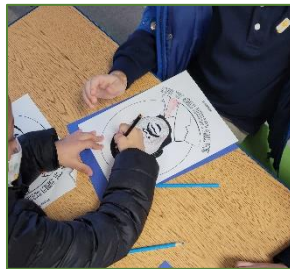
Finally, students discussed the similarities and differences and observed that we have more similarities than differences. The class also discussed how nice it is to all get along well with each other, working and playing together.





## Honoring Dr. King, Jr. Through Art

**iPrep Academy School No. 8** celebrated the accomplishments of Dr Martin Luther King Jr by learning about him through historical video presentations and oral discussions in art class, later creating original portrait works of art. Grades K-5 created collage projects, coloring images of the Civil Rights activist then adding him to hand drawn, patterned backgrounds. Middle school students painted abstract backgrounds in watercolor and traced images with sharpies on clear transparency film to combine both works as one whole piece. Works were then displayed throughout the school.



## Honoring Dr. King, Jr.

**Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. Health and Public Safety Academy's** students celebrated Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday immersed in various events throughout the week. Students had the opportunity to participate in a virtual tour of the Civil Rights Museum. Various classes watched the documented speech *I Have A Dream* and the famous *What Is Your Life's' Blueprint*, emphasizing self-worth and dignity. At the end of the week, students created an artistic display of hand cut-outs showing a diversity of colored hands portraying student dreams.



## We Can Change the World!



Pre-K and Kindergarten students at **Elmora School No. 12** have been learning about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the many influential African American men and women that have made a difference in our country. Students were inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's dream to live in a world where all are judged based on the content of their character, not the color of their skin. Students listened to the song "With My Own Two Hands" by Ben Harper and then discussed on ways they plan to change the world and make it a better place.

## Students Tweets Kindness



Being a National School of Character, **Nicholas S. LaCorte Peterstown School No. 3** loves to tweet each other kindly. This month's character word of the month is kindness, each student tweeted a blurb telling their friends why they are so special.

Eighth grade student, Mathew Mendez, had a special message for School No. 3 family, "Kindness is a gift we can all afford to give!"





## sElFie Station

The halls of the **JVJ STEM Academy** were alive with joy, cheer, and little magic this holiday season as the faculty, staff and students participated in a door decorating contest the week before winter break! The competition was fierce, and participation was at an all-time high for this fun and festive school wide activity. The creativity was astounding as images of the Grinch, Charlie Brown, elves, and Christmas trees brought color and sparkle to each door and hallway of the school.

Taking this year's top prize was the Transition programs fun and interactive sELFie station! Mrs. Richer and her students used every inch of their door with lights, tinsel, presents and even personalized elf photos of each student. They lined the hall leading to the classroom with a stocking for each staff member of the building and finished it all off with JVJ's 1st Christmas hanging from the ceiling welcoming all visitors. The bar has been set and plans for next year are already in the works!



## Holiday Spirit Week

During the week of December 20, **Madison Monroe School No. 16** students and staff celebrated the upcoming holidays by participating in theme days during *Holiday Spirit Week*! Students started off the week with their ugliest Christmas sweaters and masks, and finally, comfy pajamas! In addition, during morning announcements, students learned about the different holidays and festivals, not only here in the U.S. but around the world. From Christmas, to Hanukah, to Kwanza, and how different countries around the world such as Japan, to Denmark, to Australia. Students and staff had a blast while learning about all the unique traditions and customs.



## The Warriors are Caroling!



One way to bring in the festivities to life at **Woodrow Wilson School No. 19** included a surprise visit from the Music Department to each classroom to witness some live music playing and to participate in holly jolly caroling. They were accompanied with the school social worker, Mrs. E and the security guard, Michelle Guevara. This was a great way to kick off the holiday season. The students were not only excited to watch Mr. Darrow on the guitar and Mr. Shafron on the saxophone, but they also got to hear the department show off their singing skills as well! Some students got up and danced, while others clapped along and sang. Warriors ended 2021 with a great holiday bang!

## Virtual Holiday Concert

Students, staff, and families of **Madison-Monroe School No. 16** were treated to a fantastic virtual holiday concert the week before December break. Students in the school band and choir performed several holiday tunes lead by their music teachers Ms. Nilla and Ms. Rodriguez.

Students performed songs like “Tiny Reindeer,” “Sugar Plum Fairy,” “Carol of the Bells” and “Winter Wonderland Remix.” Grades 6-8 also performed a dance routine “Hip Hop Holiday Remix.” It was an awesome way to welcome in the holiday!







## National Financial Wellness Month

Mrs. Hakeem's Principles of Finance class at **J. Christian Bollwage Finance Academy** held a contest where students participated in mock interviews for various financial positions such as financial planning, stockbroker trainee, and bank teller. Students prepared by researching job descriptions and communicating how their background, skills, and education would make them a good fit for the "company."

## ST - Math

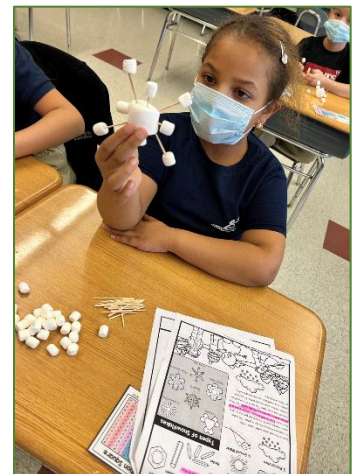
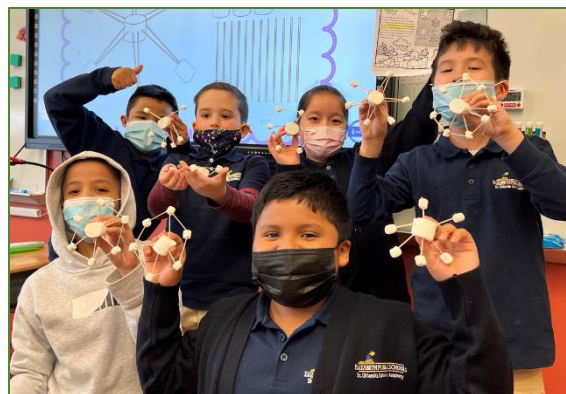
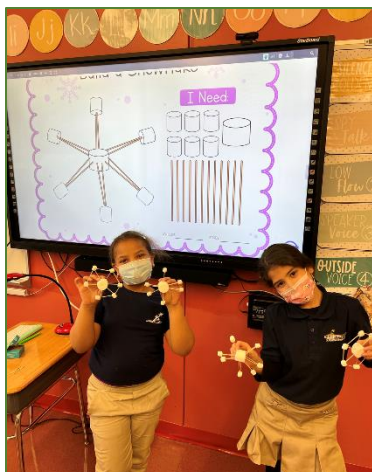
**Abraham Lincoln School No. 14** would like to congratulate Ms. Leitao & Ms. Veronica's K15 Students (Liliana Echeverria, Jaylani Hernandez and Diamond Bonilla) for completing ST Math Journey.

ST Math is a visual math program that builds a deep conceptual understanding of math through rigorous learning and creative problem solving.



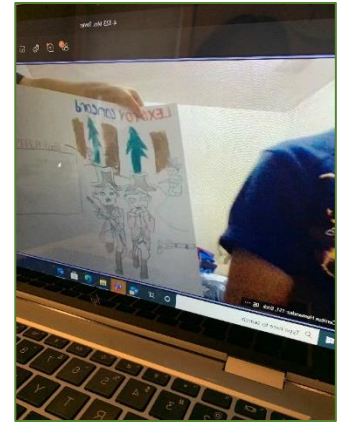
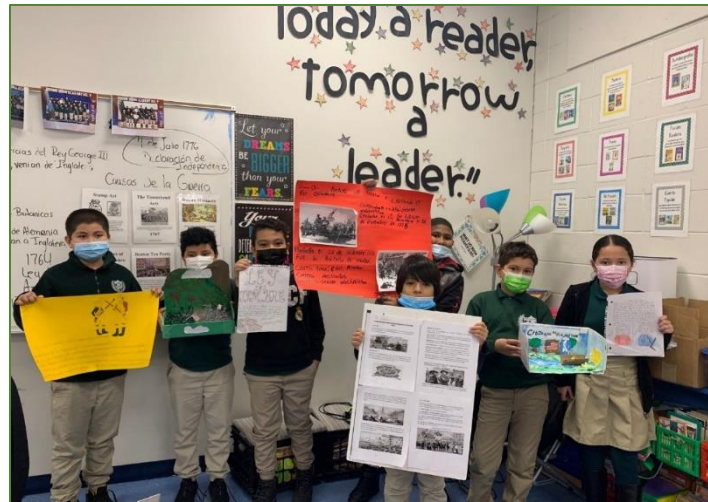
## Snowflake STEM

The 3rd grade ABL class at **Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy School No. 26 @ 31** put their research and critical thinking skills to the test with this STEM activity! Throughout the week, students learned about snow, snowflakes, and the water cycle. After concluding a science unit on snowflakes, students used limited materials to construct unique snowflake shapes.





## Virtual PBL- The American Revolution



Learning continues in-person or remote at **Jerome Dunn Academy of Mathematics, Technology and the Arts School No. 9!** During virtual learning, Mrs. Jenny Tovar's 4<sup>th</sup> grade bilingual students resumed to work on their PBL on the American Revolution. Some scholars created dioramas, poster boards, and others produced timelines of the major events during the American Revolution. The scholars took turns presenting, while others upon return presented in person. Both learning platforms allowed the scholars to share their analysis of the American Revolution.

## School Garden Sleeps as Its Garden Club Awakens

For the first time in almost 2 years, the Garden Club is back as part of **Juan Pablo Duarte - Jose Julian Marti School No. 28's** enrichment after school program. The school's garden suffered greatly during quarantine with broken garden beds and overgrown weeds. This new group of garden students will be tasked with getting the garden back into full working condition and finishing the sensory garden, which was started in March of 2020, just before the quarantine. To celebrate the reinstatement of School 28's Garden Club, Mrs. Montalvo will work with the students to plant almost 400 flowering bulbs to create an outdoor spring flower show. This display of spring flowers will include hyacinths, tulips, crocuses and daffodils, adding a pop of color to the outdoor space and hopefully will bring joy to the school community.





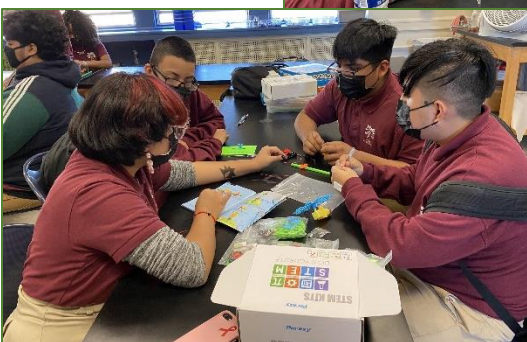
## NASA at School No. 21



At **Victor Mravlag School No. 21**, students in Mrs. Brennan's 1st grade class and Mrs. Armento's 4th grade class received a generous donation from Irene Tzinis of The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), care of parent, Luis Melendez. Students received stickers, patches, postcards, activity books, and more! This motivated scholars to learn more about NASA and STEM. Students' discussions about NASA could be heard throughout the school! What a wonderful way to inspire the future scientists, engineers, and astronauts!!

## JVJ STEM Club in Action

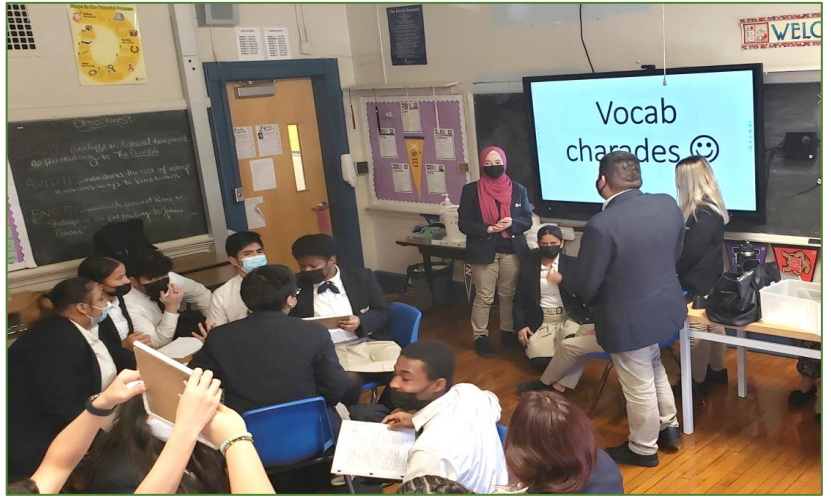
Students in the **JVJ STEM Academy** participate in the JVJ STEM Club advised by Mrs. Preeti Jain. Due to substantial interest from the students, the STEM Club is hosted twice a week with different sets of students. Students are challenged with highly sophisticated kits and have the opportunities to explore, discover, build, and troubleshoot scientific problems. Many of their accomplishments created in the club are shared in the school showcase. The most recent projects were hydraulic arms, solar cars, robots, and an exploration of augmented reality (AR/VR) using Merge cube creation. The STEM Club allows the teams to collaborate and exemplify students in action. The goal of the club is to cultivate student interest in STEM and hopefully motivate them to pursue STEM-related fields. During the COVID-19 pandemic, students have undergone immense stress and isolation, and the STEM club is one of the avenues through which students can grow in a welcoming and open environment to be motivated to contribute to the world positively by challenging the energy of isolation into the energy of empowerment.



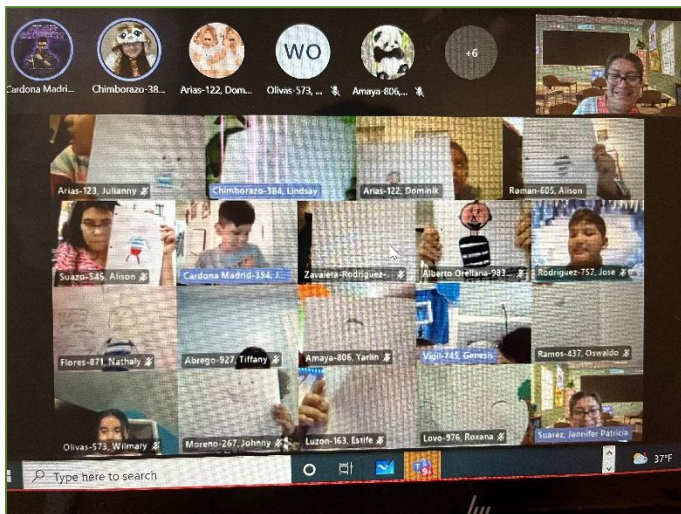


## Vocab Fun!

Miss Banks' sophomores at **Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy** are mastering new vocabulary for their reading of Julius Caesar! Students played "Vocabulary Hot Seat" (a spin-off of Taboo) where students gave clues to the "Hot Seat Student" as to which vocabulary word was on the board.



"Hot Seat Students" used white boards to chime in their guesses! The class then transitioned into vocabulary charades! These fun Friday activities were a fabulous way to end the week with some learning excitement and friendly competition!



## Rising to the Challenge

Mrs. Suarez's 4<sup>th</sup> grade bilingual students at **Sonia Sotomayor School No. 25** kept the learning going while on remote!

During the LAL class, students learned about characterization and used some of their best skills to represent one of the characters described in the *Core Novel*.

## Weaving at School No. 23

Students from Mrs. Garcias kindergarten bilingual class at **Nicholas Murray Butler School No. 23** demonstrated their knowledge of weaving a mat after learning the properties that make some papers difficult.





## Traveling the Virtual Highway



A return to virtual instruction gave students in Mrs. Phyllis Taub's fifth grade class at **Madison - Monroe School No. 16** an opportunity to visit the fifty states from the comfort of their own homes. Each day, a new state was chosen by the class. Routes for travel there were also discussed. The Lincoln Highway (also known as U.S. 30) was most popular and became a well-traveled road for class explorations from Pennsylvania to California. Students also liked learning about Seward's Folly, which our modern readers know as Alaska. Students drew maps and also explored products, major cities, and state capitals. Souvenirs from class travels include wonderfully designed maps and an enriched knowledge of our country.

## Symmetry

In Science, students in first grade from **Benjamin Franklin School No. 13** are working on reflections caused by light. The activity includes a cross curricular lesson with math using symmetry to understand reflections. Students are learning how a reflection is the same as the object, unless disturbed. Students used mathematical language while learning about reflections, using the word symmetry. Symmetry means that it is the same on both sides.



## Great Kindness Challenge



**William F. Halloran School No. 22** community celebrated the *Great Kindness Challenge* with a variety of activities. Students participated in playing a kindness Bingo game as well as a kindness quote challenge. Each day during morning announcements a kindness quote was read and students had to guess who wrote the quote. Fun was had by all and remember; if you can be anything, so be kind!

## Growth Mindset 2022 Resolutions Activity



Ms. Rodriguez's 5<sup>th</sup> Grade ABL students at **Sonia Sotomayor School No. 25** completed a Growth Mindset activity upon coming back from holiday break. They discussed goals and resolutions during their Health period as part of a SEL lesson. Then they created their individual flap book with goals for the New Year!

## Jar Full of Thankfulness

Ms. Jackson, school social worker and her Kean Intern, Ms. Wolfe visited kindergarten through fourth grade, from **Nicholas Murray Butler School No. 23**, to discuss the importance of always being grateful and ways to demonstrate acts of kindness. Students shared some of the things that they are grateful for through various arts and crafts activities. As shown in the picture, Grades 3 and 4 expressed their gratitude via a *Jar Full of Thankfulness*. After completing their respective activity, students had the opportunity to share their work with their peers.



## A Escola Ideal (The Ideal School)

During Virtual Learning, Mr. Araujo's Portuguese II students at **Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy** completed a project called *A Escola Ideal*. In this project, students were able to use computer programs to create their ideal school. Along with the model of the school, students also needed to write a description of their ideal school. Many students decided to use Minecraft to create their school. The results were *muito fixe* (very cool)!





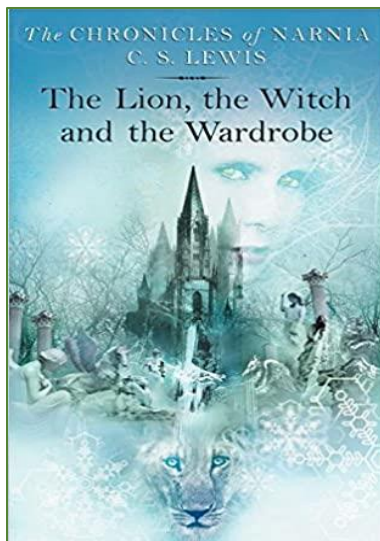
## Poetry at School No. 26

The seventh graders at **Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy School No. 26 @ 31** have been practicing the use of figurative language in *Interpretive Poetry*. Students were given a photo and the instructions to create poems by interpreting the contents of the pictures. The poems were inventive and full of smartly crafted imagination.



### ***Finally, Home***

I am being liberated by this lovely human who has  
rescued me  
He rescued me from the trap because I was stuck  
I lost a leg and now I'm being reunited  
with my family  
In the depths, I see my home  
"AAAAAAAH!!" My sister screams in shock.  
"What happened?"  
-Ana Robles-



### ***Fulfill the Prophecy***

Going into Narnia is a crazy experience  
The witch is so dangerous  
When she walks past even the trees scream  
Being there is very fun and nerve-wracking  
We must fulfill the prophecy  
-Rachael Adzakro-



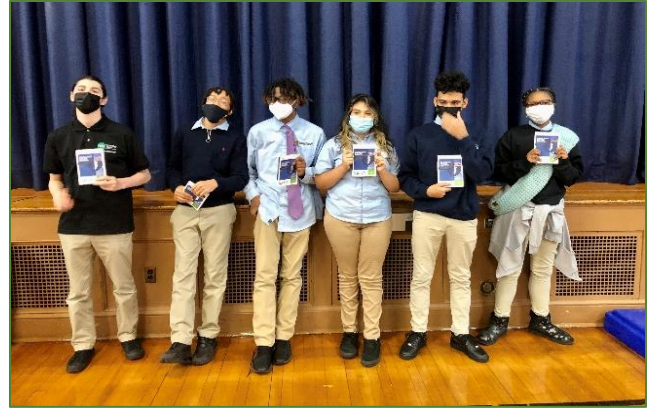
### ***Some Privacy, Please***

The cat looks as feral as a caveman  
The dog looks as pleased as a student that has  
the day off school  
The two seem to enjoy one another's company  
when they're alone together  
But they would enjoy some privacy  
-Phoenix Mcallister-

## Teen Driving Awareness Month

Mrs. Ulic's driver's education class at **J. Christian Bollwage Finance Academy** discussed the potentially devastating effects of texting while driving. She asked the question, "Is a text message ever worth a life?" The students learned that texting while driving makes a crash 23x more likely.

Students are encouraged to sign a "Parent-Teen Driving Agreement" to help them have accountability behind the wheel.



## Hamiltonian Scholars with a Global Reach



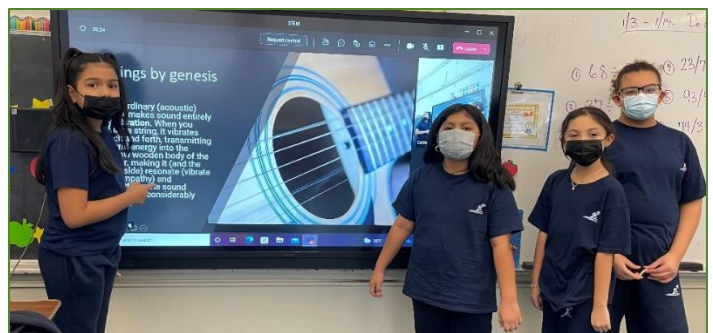
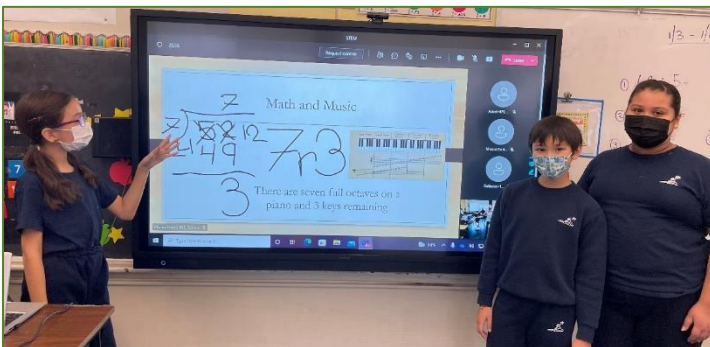
The Hamiltonian Scholars have been preparing for this year's STAMP World Languages exam. The STAMP (Standards-based Measurement of Proficiency) is an online exam which assesses proficiency levels on the four domains of language literacy: reading, writing, speaking and listening.

At **Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy**, the exam is offered to seniors who are demonstrating high proficiency levels in their Spanish, Portuguese and Italian courses. Hundreds of districts use the exam to qualify students for the NJ State Seal of Biliteracy on their diploma.

## 4<sup>th</sup> Grade STEM Project

Mrs. Duda's 4<sup>th</sup> grade students at **Elmora School No. 12** participated in the Envision math topic 5 STEM project combining both the Science unit of sound energy and topic 5 Math Division Skills.

During virtual learning, students were assigned to groups and worked in breakout rooms on TEAMS to do their research and formulate their final projects on Power Points. Students researched four different instruments from four of the instrument categories – woodwind, brass, string, and percussion. The math component had students calculate how many full octaves are on a piano with 52 white keys by having students divide with a remainder. Coming back to in person teaching and learning the week of January 18<sup>th</sup>, students were so excited to present their projects to the class on the interactive starboard.





ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Every Child, Achieving Excellence

celebrate

2022

Feb 2

Groundhog Day

Feb 7-11

National School Counseling Week

Feb 14

Valentine's Day

Feb 21

President's Day

Whole Month

Black History Month

Whole Month

National Children's Dental Health Month

in the month of

February



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