

# Kite and Leaf...

The good news  
email from TCS!

## Expression, Creativity, Play, & More! Art Classes at TCS

Our "all-school " classes and teachers bring so many extra dimensions to the learning experience here at TCS. One of those all-school classes is Art with Ms. Naomi Martinez. Students enjoy art class each week all year long in grades K-5. In grades 6-8, students have art for one semester and meet with Ms. Naomi for one hour two times per week. Our art room is a huge space on the third floor in the garret, shared with newly created tinker space - which can sometimes come in handy!



"This is my first year as art teacher for all the grade levels and the first time since the pandemic began that I'm meeting many of the students at TCS in person. I really missed getting to know my students during virtual classes. Those little conversations that can come about organically while making art in person were not as easy in the virtual setting."

Below are some of the projects and class topics our students covered in art class this year:

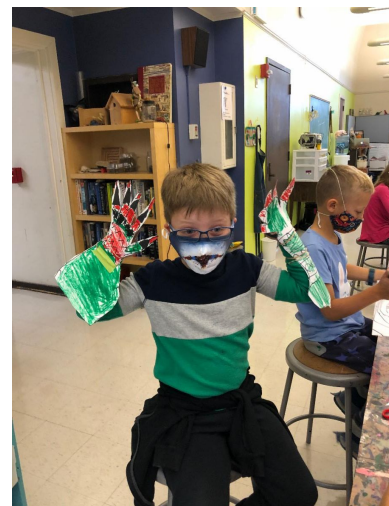
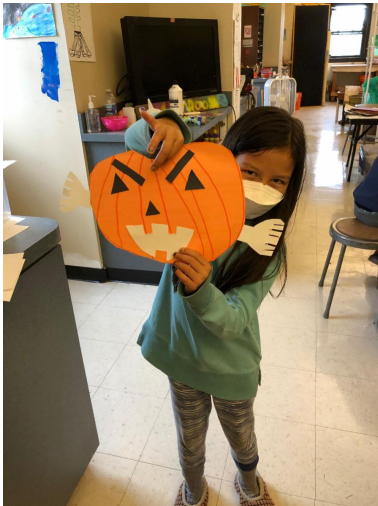
### Pond (Grades K-2)

"In Pond we began with all the ways of mark-making. A fun project was how to create patterns and motifs for our magical mandalas," says Ms. Naomi. "All of the children were excited to draw,



paint, anything really and would really throw themselves into their art, sometimes quite literally ha!"

"We have these amazing draw along together sessions where the children will take off into their beautiful joy of imagination. We explore the many materials from paper to clay as well as recycled materials when creating works of art. For example we used foam pieces that would have been discarded from other projects as material for our handmade stamps."



## Lake (Grades 3-5)

"In Lake we focused on process as students were introduced to the various



materials available in the art room and some of the unexpected ways to use them," says Ms. Naomi. "We made room for collective art making days as well as days where students choose what materials they want to work with. Sometimes we worked through fears such as 'not being good at art' by allowing room for creative freedom and just a lot of time for exploring different techniques, getting messy, and making mistakes."



## Ocean (Grades 6-8)

"In Ocean we illustrated many things and talked about the 'artistic voice' as well as the how and why of making art. We asked ourselves, 'How does an artist find inspiration and make their decision on the mediums to use?' We explored the many things that can become a canvas, from sketchbooks to murals," explains Ms. Naomi.

"We explored using spray paint and made art works on empty spray cans. In a group project, students collaborated on a painting, with each student contributing a favorite or original character to the piece."





## Art: A Community Affair

"Some art projects can be for all ages. My path into teaching started in community spaces where art making is for everyone. These are my favorite works showing what everyone creates across different age groups as we did with our beautiful winter landscapes."

At TCS, making and appreciating art



weaves in and through the day, in every corner of our building, whether it's part of project work, play, or on field trips. We're grateful to have an artist like Ms. Naomi to share her enthusiasm and talent to inspire our children and keep their love of art burning brightly!

