

The Specials Team



We are so excited for the upcoming year at PSPA. This year Specials will be on a weekly rotation. Classrooms have a designated day of the week for each special. Go Pioneers!

PE with Coach Bruce

Hi! I'm Amy Bruce, otherwise known as "Coach Bruce" in the hallways of PSPA. This year, I will be teaching K-5 daily, but you may see me popping in to help out with the physical ed. electives for the middle school students from time to time. If you need to reach me, email is the best method and I will be sure to respond in a timely manner. My planning period is at the end of the day, but I will check my email at lunch. If you need to reach me sooner, please write a note and have your child bring it to me in the morning.

In all grades, my lessons will engage students in physical movement, with health lessons embedded within. Physical Activity will fall into these 4 domains: Motor

Skills, Movement Concepts, Health-Related Fitness, and Personal-Social Responsibility as outlined in the NC Healthful Living Standards.

Here are a few Grade-specific concepts that will be taught:

K- locomotor skills, balance, movement concepts such as spatial awareness and start/stop signals.

1 - movement patterns, sequences, rhythm differences/learn what exercises increase heart rate vs. muscle strength

2 - create smooth transition between sequential locomotor skills/ use equipment to perform movement skills/increase endurance and stamina while setting personal goals

3 - execute mature form when combining locomotor skills with change in direction/illustrate how practice, attention, and effort are required to improve a skill

4- apply movement skills to sports/implement changes in speed, direction, and pathways while handling equipment/ understand why and how to complete a pre- and post- fitness assessment, including self-monitoring of the heart

5 - execute complex locomotor skills specific to individual, dual, and team activities/offense and defensive strategies/use cooperation and communication to achieve common goals.

Some of the sport fundamentals all grades will learn: basketball, volleyball, track, soccer, speed stacking, and table ball.

Events:

- Health and Wellness Expo
- Fun Run
- Field Day
- Various family fitness events (such as family night at the park, etc...)

Global Ed with Mrs. Thompson

The Places We'll Go in 2019-20

When children learn about the world and global issues, they acquire critical thinking skills, knowledge and compassion. By participating in real world problem solving, global learners become more aware, more engaged and ultimately, more empowered to change the world. - KThompson

Kindergarten Pioneers - Discovering the World Around Us: Fiction, Non-Fiction and Fun

Through engaging literature, students will learn about various subjects and places. Each class is wrapped up with a fun Global Whiz Quiz. Be sure to ask your kindergartener what he or she learned today in GE and you are certain to learn something new yourself!

1st Grade World Travelers - Traveling the World, Learning All the Way!

Get their passport ready - your first grader is getting ready to take a trip around the world! We will visit at least one country per continent, listening to stories, watching videos, learning flags, visiting landmarks and having fun! You won't believe how many miles we'll travel. We might even send you a postcard from our favorite place!

2nd Grade World Investigators - Endangered Species Research & Study

Do you know how many species of rhinos there are? Do you know where they live and why they are endangered? These questions and many more will get answered while we search the world over for species in peril. Through mapping, research

and video investigation, your 2nd grader will become aware that there is much work to be done in the field of wildlife conservation.

3rd Grade World Changers - Conservation Crusaders: Learn, Care, Act

Can you imagine a world without pollinators? If we do not act soon, this problem could become a reality. We will learn what we can do to help and then we'll take action. Through a letter writing campaign, we will ask local mayors to help us with this initiative. Our voices have power and we can change the world. With "Learn, Care, Act" as our mantra, we will be investigating sharks as well, and discovering how their drastically diminishing numbers impact our oceans and ultimately, our planet.

4th Grade World Explorers - International Geography, Demographics and Culture

Armed with research, maps and in-depth reporting, your 4th graders will be learning about various countries, capitals and populations. Through independent study and small groups, your child will be reporting on the world stage and teaching his or her peers about interesting places all over the world.

5th Grade World Entrepreneur\$ - Financial Literacy: Budgets, Business and the Stock Market

Get ready - your child is about to be thrown into the real world, financially speaking! We will be learning about budgets, salaries, bills, taxes, credit cards, insurance, investing and international currency. Your student will be buying and selling stocks. They will be creating a product or service to sell. They will be marketing and advertising. By the end of the year, *you* may be asking your child for financial advice!

Art with Ms. Carter

Ms. Carter is returning to the world of art at PSPA!! We will be exploring various types of media throughout the grade levels and taking a trip around the world and beyond. Each grade level will be creating various types of artwork that will occasionally align with the classroom domains. Other projects will reinforce what has already happened in the classroom and have a stronger focus on art history or the artistic process.

Please remember that art is messy and students should dress appropriately throughout the year. It is strongly recommended that students do not wear white on their art days. Students may bring an old shirt to wear while in art class but it is their responsibility to bring it to and from their classroom.

Kindergarten will be honing in on their fine motor skills with step by step projects and a lot of creativity. This year has a strong focus on how color and lines are used in artwork and how to discuss artwork using basic art vocabulary.

1st Grade travels back in time learning about various civilizations and the art produced there. They will also dive further into the elements of art, discussing the use of color, line, shape and texture but also applying these elements to their own works of art.

2nd Grade will get to experience paper mache as they create their own large scale insects. With a little bit of sewing, painting, drawing and other forms of media they will further their artistic skills.

3rd Grade is rich in art history with various stops throughout the world. They will be creating landscapes, paper mache animals, some Navajo projects and Byzantine Mosaics to name a few.

4th Grade will be introduced to Illuminated Manuscripts, Gothic Architecture and then Islamic, African and Chinese art. They will be creating their own manuscript, a rose window and Islamic Tessellations among other projects throughout the year.

5th Grade will be completing various weaving projects, mayan codex, micrography portraits and they will close out the second half of the year with a strong focus on creating the decor for the Era Market.

Music with Mrs. Hash

Mrs. Hash is excited for new experiences this year while teaching music to your K-5th graders! She looks forward to introducing your pioneer to 6 major music periods and different composers in each! They will build on musical concepts like rhythm, melody, dynamics, tempo and pitch while learning about rhythmic staffs and their time signature, bar lines and other music symbols! Her goal is to allow the love of all things music to grow as well as encourage a confident, nurturing environment for students to thrive!

K-2nd graders will learn to play simple rhythms, melodies and a steady beat. We will work on moving responsively to music while walking, marching, swaying and scarves. They will learn how to identify notes and rests, time signatures and different parts of a rhythmic staff. They will be introduced to new musical terminology and some basic music symbols. Through participation, students will become familiar with some of the basic elements of music. Each student will be

expected to sing unaccompanied, accompanied and in unison while learning the C Major scale and using solfege hand signs.

3rd-5th graders will learn how to identify notes and rest, time signatures, different parts of a rhythmic staff and write compositions using each. Students will be able to recognize steady beat and play one, as well as simple rhythm patterns and syncopation patterns. They will be introduced to new musical terminology and more complex music symbols. Students will be taught how to discriminate between fast and slow and loud and soft and how to use the musical terminology for each. They will also become familiar with some of the basic elements of music through participation using body percussion, instruments and vocals. Each student will be expected to sing unaccompanied, accompanied and in unison with focus on proper technique while doing so. They will be introduced to the C Major scale and will be expected to sing it while using solfege hand signs.

Although this is a new special class for PSPA this year, Mrs. Hash has high expectations for her students and will keep you informed of possible performances or small instrument focused concerts. These will depend on the progress made throughout the school year. She looks forward to watching your child grow this year as they begin to experience life through the love of music!

Theatre with Ms. G

Ms. G will be teaching Theatre for grades K-3rd and 6th-8th.

For K-3rd grade I will be connecting theatre standards to students classroom CKLA domain units.

In Kindergarten we will be exploring dramatic play through feelings and emotions. The CKLA domain units we will be connecting to are:

- Nursery Rhymes and Fables
- Stories
- Kings and Queens

In First grade we will be explaining qualities of characters and sequence of events in formal and informal presentations. The CKLA domain units we will be connecting to are:

- Fables and Stories
- Fairy Tales
- Frontier Explorers

In Second grade we will use performance to communicate ideas and feelings from texts through improvisation and other theatre techniques. The CKLA domain units we we be connecting to are:

- Fairy Tales and Tall Tales
- Greek Myths
- Westward Expansion

In Third Grade we will understand how to transform stories into written dialogue including use of props, set pieces, costumes, and sound to support dramatic presentations. The CKLA domain units we we be connecting to are:

- Classic Tales
- The Ancient Roman Civilization
- The Viking Age



- Other Theatre components for K-3rd grade include: reader's theatre, scripts, adaptations, pantomiming, improvisation, and character analysis to costume, scenery, makeup, lighting and sound design.
- Skits, plays, performances, and productions will be designed throughout the year in the classroom or for a larger audience.