



Eagle's Nest



HIGH POINT SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

FALL 2021

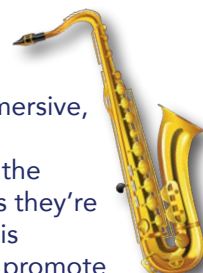


Art & Music Appreciation Is Flourishing All Across Campus!



This fall at High Point has been filled with an abundance of beauty, creativity, and artistry. Classrooms are lined with rotating displays of our students' artwork and the halls are alive with the sound of music! On the music side, HPS has partnered with OFF-C Music Academy—a music school based in White Plains, MD—to provide (properly socially distanced) online music lessons. Offered as an elective course for students interested in learning to play an instrument or enhance their current ability, the personalized video lessons are conducted in our dedicated Music Room, which has not only recently been painted with a fantastic, vibrant mural by Santiago Tobon, but which now houses our ever-expanding "orchestra," including: keyboard, saxophone, clarinet, guitar, flute, and full percussion set. Our students share a love of music, so this art form serves as a harmonious creative outlet and vehicle for self-expression.

The same can be said of our expanding art curriculum, which reaches and touches our students in a whole different way than our academic curriculum. Led by the devoted and imaginative efforts of Ms. Tineo, our full-time, on-staff Creative Arts Therapist, our art program features daily one-hour classes that create an immersive, hands-on experience, inspiring and encouraging our students to explore their own ingenuity and originality.



Art therapy is conducted both in group format and in one-on-one sessions, the latter concentrated on helping individual students with particular challenges they're facing. One student, for example, who suffered a significant physical injury, is working through the feelings and pain with Ms. Tineo, who uses her role to promote conversation, to release feelings, and to nurture optimism and hope in all her students.



One group project she led is the incredible wall mural everyone painted together in our Reflection Room, a safe and calming space the students can retreat to when they need some quiet alone time to relax and reset. Completing the project required learning

about planning and organizing steps, how to prepare spaces and gather the necessary materials and equipment, and how to adhere to a time schedule to meet a particular goal. The magnificent end product now perfectly sets the tone of the room and aptly reflects its purpose.



And take a look at another of Tobon's artistic additions on campus—the amazing High Point mural adorning an entire wall of our gym! Painted in our school colors and highlighting our Eagles mascot, the mural motivates our students to perform at their best and cheers them on to victory. Keep an eye out for

more art appreciation and beautification projects in our building—we have no plans to slow down anytime soon!



Happy Holidays,
Everybody!



Field Trip Fun!

When our students hit their academic targets and achieve their behavioral goals, we like to acknowledge the investment they've made in themselves and reward them for their focused hard work. They especially enjoy getting out and about in the community, visiting new places and trying new things. This semester saw no shortage of off-campus field trips that were both educational and entertaining, including visits to the Urban Air Trampoline and Adventure Park in Hackensack, the Sea Life Aquarium at the American Dream mall, and the Thomas Edison National Memorial Park in West Orange. Oh, and let's not forget delicious meals at local favorite spots like iHop! Keep hitting your on-campus goals, guys, and we'll keep planning off-campus adventures for you!



Anti-Bullying Is Alive & Well



Each and every year, High Point enthusiastically takes part in November's Anti-Bullying Week campaign because of the simple fact that bullying in schools all across America is still a prevalent issue, and as long as it is, our battle against it will continue. This year's theme, "Radiating Respect," was discussed in each classroom, where

our social workers talked with our students about what bullying is, what it looks like, and how to prevent it. Then we all pledged, school-wide, to radiate respect for ourselves and others—an eternal value that we'll remain forever committed to.



It's Time for Some B-Ball!

It's been almost two years since our student athletes have been able to show off their skills against the other teams in High Point's intramural basketball league, now consisting of over a dozen schools. But now that things are opening back up again, Mr. White has been busy holding tryouts in November for the upcoming December to March season. The Eagles are warmed up and raring to go—and they'll be looking pretty sharp in their new jerseys!



An Annual Tradition

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and High Point never fails to observe this important event not only because it's critical to the developing health of all women everywhere, but because the disease hits close to home for several members of our High Point team, like School Director Cindy Pulido, who shared her own family's experience with the pernicious disease, making it more "real" for our students. To commemorate the month-long effort this year, our students created a memorial replete with balloons, posters, hand-painted pumpkins, and messages of support and hope that they penned themselves and proudly hung.



A Sweet Treat

It's not all studying and completing assignments at High Point—we make sure, often and regularly, to flavor the school day with all kinds of pleasant diversions and appetizing activities. Recently, Dr. Malz, the director of our culinary program, passed on some holiday baking tricks to our students ... and we're very much looking forward to sampling what arises from that!

