

FCS FRIENDS COMMUNITY SCHOOL *Summer Camp!*

Friends Community School Summer Camp Weekly Newsletter

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Friday, August 9, 2019

Another Wonderful Week at FCS!



This week, our time together included programming robots, practicing improv, playing with Piggie, and many other exciting adventures! Campers spent their time in Little Explorers: Under the Sea (Ages 3 ½-4), Elephant and Piggie (Grades K-1 and 1-2), Medieval Times (Grades K-1, 1-2, and 3-5), Junior Robotics (Grades 2-3), and Musical Theater Boot Camp: Movies Go to Broadway (Grades 5-8). Thank you for sending your children to FCS Summer Camp. We know that you have many options and appreciate your support!

Highlights from Session 9

Little Explorers: Under the Sea (Ages 3 ½ -4)

Teacher: Lois

This week our Little Explorers engaged in creative, explorative, and fun activities based on the theme “Under the Sea.” During Morning Meeting, campers sang songs related to different ocean animals, including “1,2,3,4,5 Once I Caught a Fish Alive,” “Five Little Octopus Jumping on the Bed,” and “Clackety, Clack, the Crab has Found Its Snack.” In Literacy, campers heard stories such as *The Rainbow Fish*, *Fish is Fish*, and *The Rainbow Fish and the Big Blue Whale*. The Little Explorers named and identified the different types of sea animals read in the different stories. Campers also answered questions about these stories. In Art, the Little Explorers made an ocean in a bottle, mixing blue food coloring, water, sequins, glitter, and ocean stickers to make an ocean scene. Campers also created themselves as divers using paper, which we added to our ocean mural. The Little Explorers were able to complete the writing prompt, “If I went scuba diving, I would see...” In the sensory table, campers had to dig for different types of ocean animals, and count and name the animals they found. In the water table, campers had the opportunity to sail the boats they created using wood and paper plates.



See more photos [here!](#)

Elephant and Piggie Come to Camp (Grades K-1)

Teacher: Patricia



In *Elephant and Piggie Come to Camp*, campers enjoyed reading, hearing, acting out, and creating books. Some of the books we focused on included *We are in a Book*, *Elephants Cannot Dance*, *There is a Bird on Your Head*, *I am Going!*, *Should I Share My Ice Cream?*, and *Are You Ready to Play Outside?* Campers made Piggie and Gerald headbands and puppets that they used when we acted out the stories. They also made crafts that correlated to the *Elephant and Piggie* books by

Mo Willems. Some of the art projects included the use of crayon and watercolor resist, paper mache, and puffy shaving cream paint. Campers were very creative, both as authors and artists.

See more photos [here!](#)

Elephant and Piggie Come to Camp (Grades 1-2)

Teacher: Malik



This week during Elephant and Piggie, we read a variety of books by author Mo Willems. In order to fully appreciate his craft, we learned words like illustration and details. Each camper made their own Elephant and Piggie masks, which we used to act-out scenes from our favorite Elephant and Piggie stories. In addition to the masks, campers worked very hard on writing and illustrating our very own Elephant and Piggie books, with our own original characters and storylines. We've had a blast using our

imagination to come up with brand new ideas, just like Mo Willems!

See more photos [here!](#)

Medieval Times (Grades K-1)

Teacher: Eshe

This week our Medieval Court relished the days of yore when knights roamed and dragons flew. Kings and Queens were adorned in jewel crowns as they played popular dice games with a jumbo die and rolled their bets on the royal pieces. Dragon tails complemented dragon wings, while blackbird puppets accompanied songs of Old Italy. We read books each day as we made our way back in time. We practiced our cutting, tracing, painting, glueing, drawing, writing and weaving like true Medieval artisans. Building castles, retrieving dragon parts from moats, and calling a blind man's bluff are some of the exciting ways we passed the middle ages.



See more photos [here!](#)

Medieval Times (Grades 1-2)



Teacher: Sandra

This week in Medieval Times, campers enjoyed creating shields, gargoyles, and castles. First, we discussed life during Medieval times. We looked at several books and learned about armor, parts of a castle, and stained glass windows. Our art projects included creating our own gargoyles, illuminated letters, stained glass windows (which we put on the windows to turn our classroom into a castle!), and shields using

pictures that we chose to represent our family. On the last day of camp we made medieval people using clothespins. Very cute!

See more photos [here!](#)

Medieval Times (Grades 3-5)

Teacher: Donna

This week in Medieval Times, campers explored castles, cathedrals, and communities of the Middle Ages. We began the week wondering why fantastical creatures are so common in medieval legends. After looking closely at two paintings of St. George and the Dragon (by Rogier van der Weyden (1435) and Raphael (1506), both at The National Gallery of Art), we created a chimera, a composite animal made of many different animals. We identified the characteristics that we



admired in this creature and sketched an environment for it. Next we studied gargoyles, discovering their symbolic as well as practical functions. Dav Pilkey's book *God Bless the Gargoyle* helped us sympathize with these oft-misunderstood beasts. We researched, sketched, printed, and constructed concentric castles. Using creativity and engineering skills, campers made moveable drawbridges, portcullises, parapets, ramparts, turrets, towers, and moats with cardboard boxes and other recycled materials. We folded and cut one piece of paper into a castle book, ready to be filled with stories of fantastical chimeras, chivalrous knights, brave damsels, kind Kings, and resourceful Queens. Leaving the castle, we visited cathedrals to admire the stained-glass windows, particularly the Rose windows of Notre Dame. Each day we read a contemporary, humorous picture book, helping us see the pervasive influence of medieval tropes. We enjoyed Babette Cole's *Princess Smartypants*, Susan Meddaugh's *Cinderella's Rat*, Robert Munsch's *Paper Bag Princess*, Tomie

dePaola's *The Knight and the Dragon*, Anne Tyler's *Tumble Tower*, and Christopher Wormell's *George and the Dragon*.

See more photos [here!](#)

Junior Robotics (Grades 2-3)

Teacher: Keely



Have you ever wanted your very own pet otter? This week we learned how to connect sensors, motors, and lights to our Hummingbird Duo controllers and made our very own robots, including a pet otter! Campers learned about coding through games and lots of practice in Scratch Jr. They coded with Code and Go mice, Ozobot Bit and Evo robots, and Dash. They explored simple and series circuits. They experimented with using sensors to activate lights, buzzers, and motors. They explored

conductivity with Makey Makey. On Friday, students presented a robot that they designed, built, and coded on their own. They also shared a story they created in Scratch Jr. Students used a lot of creativity to create a hamster running in a wheel, a hungry bunny robot, a super cool car, and dogs that can walk and wag their tails.

See more photos [here!](#)

Musical Theater Boot Camp: Movies Go to Broadway (Grades 5-8)

Teacher: Kiersten

This week in Musical Theatre, we learned that an actor's job is to tell a story, and used our actor's "tools" to explore this concept. We warmed up our tools every day with games such as Machines, Sticky Floor, Mill, and Seethe. Each day, our assistant teacher Langston lead us through improvisation games and activities. We learned about the rules of Improv (Yes, and..., Don't overthink, and Listen). Our favorite improv games included "Park Bench," "Freeze," and "Hitchhiker." On Monday, our musical was *Matilda*. This was the only musical that was based on a movie that was based on a book (by Roald Dahl). The story is very dark, and the actors had many conversations about the characters and storyline. We learned three songs; "Naughty," "When I Grow Up," and "Revolting Children," and played different characters in scenes. On Tuesday, we explored *Newsies*, learning three songs and acting out several



scenes. We also learned about the 1899 Newsies strike in New York. We sang "Seize the Day," "Carrying the Banner," and "King of New York." Wednesday took us into the world of *Anastasia* with music and lyrics by Ahrens and Flaherty (some of Kiersten's favorites). Our songs included "Journey to the Past," "Once Upon a December," and "Learn to Do It." Actors also explored accents when performing scenes set in Russia. On Thursday, we got up and danced as we learned about *Footloose*, which tells the story of a high school aged boy from Chicago who moves to a midwest town where dancing is forbidden - to his horror. We sang the theme song "Footloose," "I Can't Stand Still," and "Mama Says." Friday, we ended our week with *Shrek*, which we watched during lunch this week (as the musical can be found on Netflix). We sang through the afternoon with "Welcome to Duloc," "Who I'd Be," "Freak Flag," and "Believer."

See more photos [here!](#)

Next Week We are Looking Forward to...

- ❖ Little Explorers: Out of This World (Ages 3 ½ -4)
- ❖ Building and Patterning (Grades K and 1-2)
- ❖ Magic School Bus (Grades K and 1-2)
- ❖ Math Games (Grades 1-2)
- ❖ Old School Games (Grades 3-5)
- ❖ Musical Theater Boot Camp: Disney (Grades 3-5)
- ❖ Archery and Strategy Games (Grades 3-5 and 6-8)

Sign up for upcoming sessions [here!](#)