

# Fine Arts and Electives

## NEWS

March 2019

Big Hollow Middle School

### 5th Grade Computer Science:

Our third and final trimester has started. We are learning about and using the Problem Solving Process. Next, we will be connecting the Problem Solving Process to how a computer works and learning what makes a computer a computer.

### 6th Grade Computer Science:

6th grade students have started to learn about physical computing and some of the planning stages that come before coding or programming happens. Next, we will be working through these planning stages to code our first program for the Micro:Bits.

### 7th Grade Computer Science:

We have changed things up this trimester in 7th grade. These students will be learning how to program Micro:Bits and then will have the opportunity to learn a second program called Scratch. Once the students have learned both programs we will be connecting the two to create and control a game.

### 8th Grade Computer Science:

These students have been learning basics in MIT App Inventor. We have started to learn about the planning process that goes into creating an app and will begin coding our first app very soon.

### 5th Grade Band:

**We are learning more notes to increase our ranges as well as performing more complex rhythmic patterns. Students are receiving new music this week and next as we look towards our final concert of the year.**

### 6th Grade Band:

**Students are sight reading new music and recognizing their newly learned musical concepts in their concert literature.**

### 7th & 8th Grade Bands:

**Students performed a great concert with other local schools this week. They will begin preparing for High Note Festival in the spring.**



5th Grade Art: Our third trimester classes have started talking about Line and creating using contour lines.

6th Grade Art: In 6th grade art we are going back to basics with value and shading pencils. Connecting to our artwork is the first standard and students will be drawing from still life objects.

7th Grade Art: Our 7th grade artists have begun doodling! Creating Zentangles are the craft of designing and patterning.

8th Grade Art: Identify is our first topic of creation in 8th grade art. We explore the things that make each of us unique and create a 2D or 3D work that describes us.



**5th & 6th Grade Choirs:** Students have been reflecting on their concert and are diving into rhythm patterns - creating and performing. We will start rehearsing our songs for our final concert of the year!

**7th-8th Grade Choir:** Students will begin to reflect on the MIOSM concert and prepare for their upcoming performances: High Note Festival, Pops Concert and Graduation (8th grade only).

**7th Grade Choir Lessons:** Students will begin working on a music history unit. Each lesson group will be assigned a specific genre and will share with entire class.

**8th Grade Choir Lessons:** Students will begin their final genius hour project!



# Fine Arts and Electives NEWS

## 5th and 6th Grade Graphic Arts

This week we have been focusing on adding text into our documents. We have created personalized Vanity license plates where we learned to create an embossed look to our text. We are moving on next week to creating movie posters. We have studied the styles and elements contained on movie posters from vintage monster movies to modern day blockbusters. Students will be choosing their favorite movie and creating a poster to advertise the film.

## 7th and 8th Grade Graphic Arts

We started off the week creating a cartoon mashup in which we combined characters from different cartoon series into one scene. This project focused on the selection tools as well as the copy and paste functions. Our next project is a word art silhouette. We will be choosing a silhouette and filling it with words describing the subject of the silhouette. During this project we are focusing on the text warping tools.

## STEM

**5th grade:** Each student has created their own zombie fighting skill, while learning about infectious/non-infectious disease. Don't be afraid to ask a 5th grader about the basics of their immune system.

**6th grade:** Who is your favorite superhero? 6th grade is learning about traits and characteristics of themselves, while designing their own imaginary superhero. Did you know that a strawberry has DNA? We will be experimenting with them in the next week.

**7th grade:** Students are creating a solution to a problem. Are you in need of a doorstop? We have designers/builders in our class.

**8th Grade:** Are robots replacing humans? Students are learning about different types of robots and their purpose. They will also create "something" using their creative side with random robotic parts.

Questions:

 [phaniecullotta@bighollow.us](mailto:phaniecullotta@bighollow.us)  
[@scullotta22](https://twitter.com/scullotta22)

