

A Note From the Art Department

September 1, 2022

Dear Parents,

Welcome to another art filled year! I hope that your students have had a great start to this year. It is exciting to anticipate all that the students will have an opportunity to explore in art classes this year.

While I will continue to teach 3rd through 8th grades, we are so happy to have a parent with a love for art teaching grades K-2. Mrs. Walker has graciously agreed to step into this position at least temporarily, and she is off to a great start!

If possible, please try to have your child wear their "less than best" clothes on art days. Although we usually use smocks when painting, it does not always completely protect the clothing.

So many of you have already connected with our After School Art program. We are really looking forward to having these groups this fall. We will have a winter session after Christmas break, and then another in the spring.

Most of you are familiar with our Artsonia program. For those of you who are new, Artsonia is an online art gallery where we exhibit our students' artwork online. For privacy, only first names are listed. It's wonderful to have a place where family members who are not local can view your child's artwork. Artsonia offers a variety of interesting items that can be personalized with your child's artwork. These items make wonderful gifts for kids and adults! A huge benefit of this program is that Artsonia donates 20% of all our sales back to our school art department! We average around \$500 per year from these sales. If you are new, or have never joined Artsonia, you should have received an email asking permission to display your child's artwork. You can access artwork from previous years as well the current school year. I encourage all of you to check out the website and the Artsonia gift shop. Here is a link:

<https://www.artsonia.com/gifts/products/>

As usual, there are some things that you might normally toss out or send to Goodwill that we can use in the art class. Some of these items we need only in the next week or so and others we can use all year. Here is our list:

Artificial flowers (immediate need only)

Solid color t-shirts with no logo or design (immediate need only)

Plastic (not styrofoam) egg cartons (these make the BEST paint trays! We always need these!)

16 oz. creamer bottles (through Christmas)

16 oz. short style sour cream, cottage cheese, or dip containers (all year)

Styrofoam meat trays (all year)

Thank you so much for your support of the art department here! It is such a joy to work with your children and see their creativity blossom. May you be filled with praise to the Lord, the Great Creator, when you see the artwork produced at Grace!

Blessings,
Kim Mancini