



# ST. SERRA SPOTLIGHT

January 29, 2023

## STAFF SPOTLIGHT: Ms. Sheela Rao



Meet Ms. Sheela Rao, Lower School Art Teacher for Grades TK - 4 at St. Serra. As our art teacher, she helps our students find their creative and artistic side. "I love encouraging students to be creative," says Ms. Rao. "I want them to explore their own ideas and express themselves, in the form of art."

Ms. Rao received her Bachelors of Art from California State University - Fullerton. She

also has her multiple subject teaching credential and extra coursework, focusing on teaching art to elementary-aged students. This is her nineteenth year teaching art at St. Serra. Prior to joining St. Serra, Ms. Rao helped to organize, and volunteered in, the "Meet the Master's Art Program" for the Capistrano Unified School District.

When Ms. Rao is not working, she loves to spend time with her family, go on hikes, create her own art, work on home renovation, and take on fun projects. She has one daughter and has been blessed with two grandsons. Ms. Rao's oldest grandson is now a third-year Serra Bear, in our current Kindergarten class. "We really love our school," says Ms. Rao.

Currently, Ms. Rao's TK and Kindergarten classes are learning about perspective and the art concept known as a "[resist](#)" using pastels and watercolors to create a snowman. In first grade, students are focusing on still life art and creating a gumball machine using pastels. For our 2nd and 3rd grade students, they are learning about the French Expressionist Artist Georges Rouault and recreating his stained-glass themed portraits with pastels. And finally, our 4th grade students are currently creating a realistic depiction of their assigned California Mission, which will serve as the cover for their 4th grade written report. So much fun here in our St. Serra art classes, thanks to Ms. Rao!