

WHAT IS ART?

Art is an appreciation of beauty, a mode of self-expression, a means to explore other cultures and viewpoints.

Through the arts, students learn to think creatively and gain a better understanding of the world and cultures around them.

Arts education helps students develop critical thinking skills, problem-solving techniques, and a drive for excellence.

Arts education can enhance a child's personal, social and intellectual development.

Here at St. Joseph School, I try to "fit it all in."

- We explore Art styles and artists, past and present
- We learn to use different art materials and techniques
- We learn the basics of drawing and painting and develop these skills from Grades 1 - 8. I believe that "If you can see, you can draw". I believe drawing is a teachable skill not a gene that you are born with.
- We draw, paint, sculpt, make pop-ups, collage, print, weave, make colorful art books, transform ordinary things into extraordinary art.

(We recycle!!)

Using the concepts of the Elements of art and the Principles of Design, I teach students to learn from the past (artists and art styles), become comfortable with the art materials and processes and encourage them to create their art with personal expression and what they are feeling.

At times, I emphasize process over product so students will not always come home with a "perfect picture" but a record of exploration.

Art is a journey. We do not all take the same path. I help each student find theirs. Everyone is at different levels so each student is guided individually. In addition to teaching my students how to draw and paint, my goal is to help them build self-confidence and to pass on an attitude of fun and love through creativity.

Students have art on display throughout the year. We hope you enjoy it.

Mrs. Maria Errichiello