

Welcome Back! We sure have had a great first month in theater class. Here are some highlights of our experiences so far:

- Kindergarteners and 1st graders have begun to experiment with their tools as an actor: *body, face, voice and imagination*. They are beginning to create animal characters and act out stories using all of these things simultaneously. They are also learning and playing theater games like Magic Curtain to practice using their tools. Next, theater students will focus on expressing emotion with the help of the book “My Many Colored Days,” by Dr. Suess. Students will then chose an emotion from the story and make a mask inspired by it.
- These first few sessions, 2nd graders have been working on storytelling. Currently they are acting out silly Mad Lib stories, in small groups. These stories not only let students work on their acting chops, they also are practicing parts of speech! Next we will begin a unit on character and expressions. They will be writing short scripts based on characters inspired by photographs. 1st and 2nd graders will also be visited, during theater class, by an actor/teaching artist from the Atlantic Theatre who will lead them through a lesson to prepare them for their upcoming field trip to see “The True Story of the Three Little Pigs.”
- 3rd graders have already started learning their songs and reading for parts in the first show of PS 11’s musical theater season, “A Time To Give Thanks.” It’ll be here before we know it. Make sure your students are memorizing their songs and lines and practicing at home!!
- 4-409 and 4-406 will be focusing on Shakespeare this semester. Yes, I said Shakespeare. Each class will be focusing on a different play. First we are learning about the “story” of each play and getting to know the characters. Next we will read the play and start casting some of the parts. If all goes well, we hope to have a sharing for the parents in Jan.
- 5th graders don’t have theater this semester, but we are already gearing up to begin working on the 5th grade play. Yes, already!! “The Music Man, Jr.” will be performed in Jan., so we are beginning early again this year. We will be building a team of parents from all grades to volunteer to help with this production. Be one the look out for a parent volunteer meeting later this month.

We are off to a great start and I am looking forward to an amazing year!!

Ms. Sarah-Theater