



Messenger



Photo by Eera

Phase one almost complete, let's finish the semester strong!

Almost there!! We can do it, finish up all those assignments and details to get this phase of the 2021-2022 school year done. (Then we'll move on to Phase II, but let's take a well deserved break first!)

December means finals/projects for Middle School and High School, and semester wrap up for Elementary students. We are excited to see all of our students finish strong. For some, this will be the end of their public school journey, as we have a number who are working to graduate at semester and take the next steps for building their future. For the rest of us, a new semester brings challenges and new opportunities to build and create.

We want to document all of these challenges, experiences and successes. Start gathering pictures for our digital yearbook to tell the MVA building story.

We also love to have pictures of students doing the things they love, to share in the yearbook, this newsletter and on FaceBook with your permission.

Most of all, we want to encourage our students and families to take a wellness break. The end of the semester can be stressful and we all need to make time to reflect on what we have learned and on what we want to build next. Enjoy the chance to get away from being online and connect with your friends and families. Then we'll restart and gear back up on January 3rd!

Happy holidays from all the teachers and staff at Manhattan Virtual Academy!



How are you building the future?

From MVA Electives and SPED Teacher, Mrs. Tracy Ridey: My past shows me I have 100% success rate in getting through hard things, therefore I can do hard things in the future.

DECEMBER	
Dec. 1:	K-5 School Assembly
Dec. 2:	6-12 School Assembly
Dec. 12:	PZ weeks 14-16
Dec. 13-17:	High School Finals
Dec. 16:	K-5 Holiday Party
Dec. 19:	PZ week 17
Dec. 20-31:	Winter Break
Jan. 3:	First day of Spring Semester

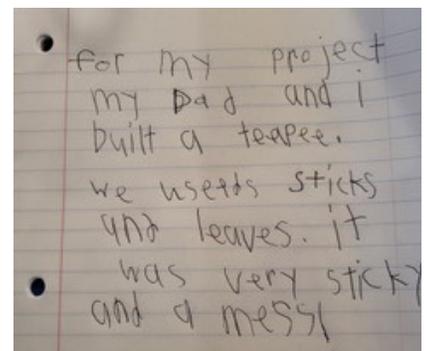
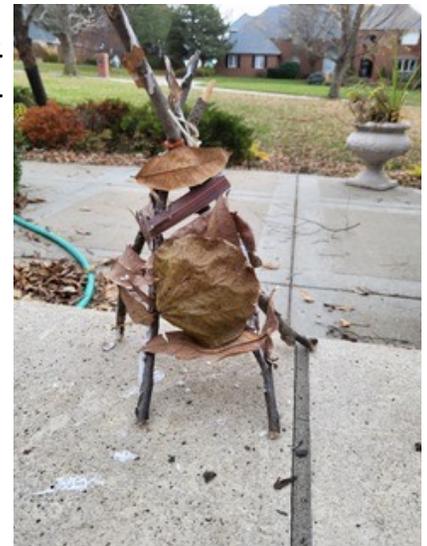
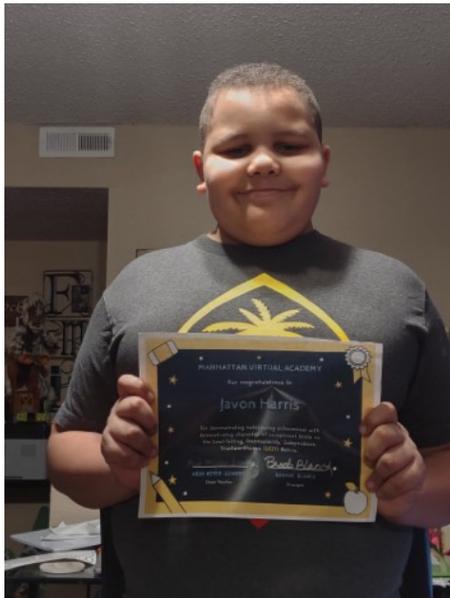
Elementary - Finishing touches to Phase I!

Our K-2 and our 3-5 classes have been busy this month. Some highlights include creating maps, studying



The Flint Hills Volunteer Center and the Veteran Coalition in Manhattan hosted a poster contest and several MVA students participated. Diya Imhoff won 1st Place in the fifth grade section and her sister, Andrea Imhoff won 3rd Place in fourth grade. Eleanor Welder entered the contest and then she, her sister Janie, and their whole family came and walked in the parade!

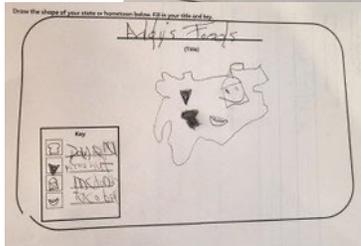
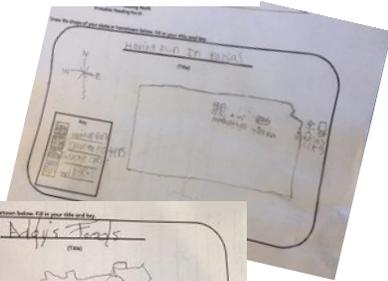
Check out the creativity of Addy, second grader. The class learned about Wampanoag Tribe and Thanksgiving.



Javon Harris and Addalyn Hieger sent pictures of themselves with their November GRIT awards. Thank you for sharing! Other GRIT awards this month included Jeremiah and Jailah Blount, Kaitlyn Piper and Summer Zentz.



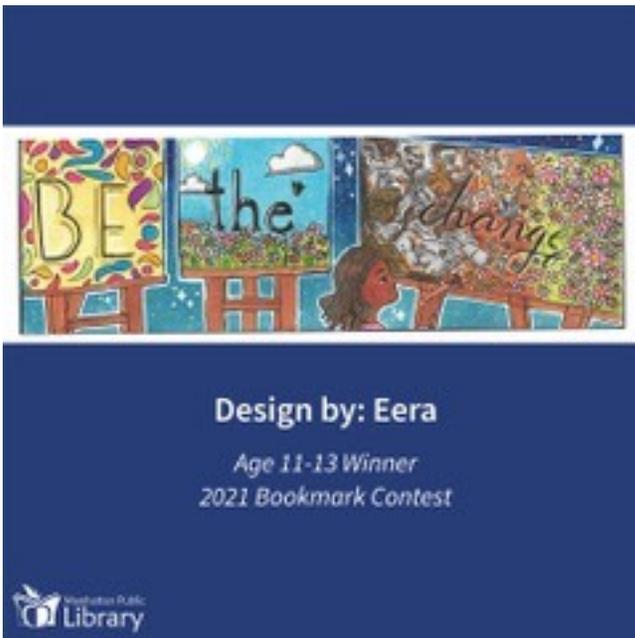
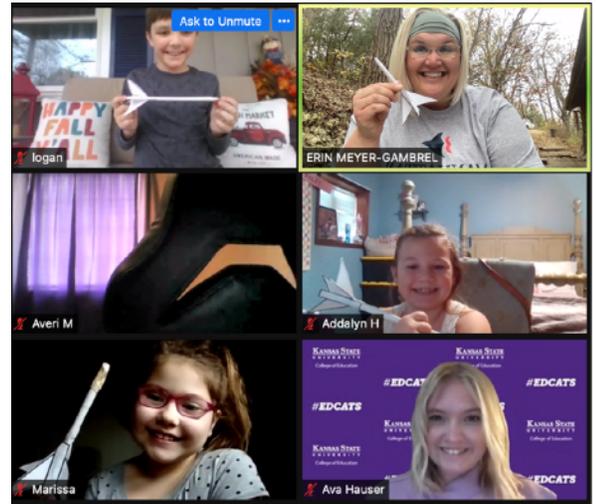
A special thank you to Mrs. Rice for creating our MVA Fall Family Cookbook with recipes from students, families and staff. These look so tasty!



Congratulations!! Mrs. Lori Rice is one of the 7 Kansas educators awarded a Fall, 2021, \$500 KANAAE Teacher Scholarship through their Scholarships and Grants program. Mrs. Rice is our MVA K-2 teacher and our Gifted Teacher, and is working on her Master's Degree in Gifted Education. We are so proud of her and her hard work!

This month, third grade made rockets and tested how a force of thrust can change how far a rocket can fly.

K-2 students have been traveling the virtual globe to explore and learn about geography. Students have been learning to locate different cities, states, and continents on a map as well as understanding the seasons and clothing appropriate for places and seasons. Students searched Google Maps for their homes as well as places in their community and the seven continents to learn map skills. Second graders created a map of their own community. This unit has been full of fun projects and has helped the students learn their home addresses and place on the globe.



MVA Middle School students have some talent!! Eera was the age 11-13 Winner in the Manhattan Public Library Bookmark Contest. Carlo Poggi-Corradini performed at the Manhattan Art Center production of Transly-Mania. He played the character of Humphrey, the son of the bogeyman, who hides behind his security door until he gains confidence in himself and stands up for his friends. The cast did an excellent job! Also pictured, Cameryn Aggson.



Finish strong - finals and Winter Break!

WHAT TO TELL MYSELF WHEN I'M FEELING DISCOURAGED

1. This is **tough**. But so am I.
2. I may not be able to control this situation. But I am **in charge** of how I respond.
3. I haven't figured this out...yet.
4. This challenge is here to teach me something.
5. All I need to do is take it one step at a time. **Breathe.** And **do the next right thing.**

Counselor's Corner

If you need to make a change in your spring semester schedule, please contact Mrs. Simkins to make an appointment.

Seniors --- > Review your iPlan, College/ Career planning or need support in other areas. Make an Appointment:

<https://calendly.com/mvacounselor>

Virtual Vibes Website:

<https://tscounseling.weebly.com>

ACT tests are scheduled throughout the year. Go to act.org to sign up at a location near you. Use CEEB code 170013.



MVA Clubs schedule for December



Club Name	Meeting Day	Meeting Time
Astronomy - We will talk about our solar system, the galaxy, and the universe!	2nd Wednesday	2:00 - 2:30 pm
Culture Club - Explore different cultures, their customs, practices and beliefs.	2nd Wednesday	11:00 - 11:30 pm
Harry Potter - Everything Harry Potter!	2nd Wednesday	2:30 - 3:00 pm
Lunch Bunch - An opportunity for students to virtually get together to talk.	Every Monday, Wednesday	12:00 (noon)
Photography - Share your interest in photography and learn new photo techniques.	2nd Thursday	12:00 - 12:30 pm
Science Olympiad - Explore STEM topics and videos	1st Tuesday	11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Yearbook - Join us to plan and design the 2021-22 MVA Digital Yearbook.	2nd Thursday	12:30 - 1:00 pm

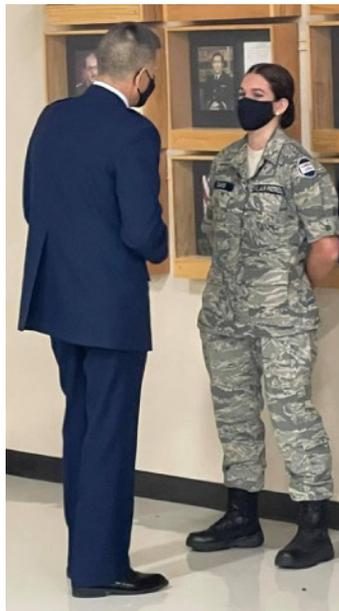
We love to recognize our students and the amazing things they do both in school and out in their communities, so **feel free to send your student's information to us to share**. Thank you to all the students who let us share their stories!



Mrs. Blanck with Eleanor and Janie Welder before the Veteran's Day parade, above left. **Josepha Inlow** volunteered at the Miss Amazing pageant. She is pictured with the girl she was a buddy with. Her buddy won her division! Miss Amazing provides opportunities for girls and women with disabilities across Kansas to build self-esteem.



Student Spotlight



Paige Davis travels the country to compete in barrel racing, is a volunteer firefighter, 2nd Lieutenant in the Civil Air Patrol (aka US Air Force Auxiliary), and a SCUBA diver. Last year she was awarded a lifesaving award for her actions that saved the life a toddler in May 2020. Wow!



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