



"On the Road Again!" Field Trips are BACK at TCS

It sure is great to see our classes out and about the Chicago metro area on field trips once again. With the reduction of Covid risk and risk mitigations, we're donning our masks and heading out in busses, carpools, and trains, doing what TCS is famous for: fun, learning-packed field trips.

Where We've Been so Far:

- **The Field Museum** (1st/2nd Grade)
- **"Matilda: The Musical"** (4th/5th Grade)
- **The Happy Apple Pie Shop** (4th/5th Grade)
- **Chicago Museum of Contemporary Art** (6th/7th Grade)
- **Dusable Museum** (6th/7th Grade)
- **Chinatown** (6th/7th Grade)
- **Pilsen** (6th/7th Grade)
- **Museum of Science and Industry** (8th Grade)
- **Illinois Holocaust Museum** (5th-7th Graders)

For our younger students, many of them have *never* been on a school field trip due to Covid mitigations. Some may have never ridden on a school bus or on the El. They may have last been to a museum when they were much younger. Visiting a museum now, when they are in 1st, 2nd, or 3rd grade, may offer a completely different experience.

This also gives younger students a chance to



learn through the etiquette and safety rules we use when we travel together to another site, and how we incorporate field trips into what we're learning in class.

Visiting Local Treasures for Project Research

Field trips are often part of project research. For example, the 4th/5th-grade Sugar Glider class is studying food. They recently took a field trip to The Happy Apple Pie Shop. There, students enjoyed an opportunity to help bake and ask questions about the business, and they even brought home a mini pie of their own.

In addition to whipping up delicious pies, The Happy Apple Pie Shop provides a workspace for people with developmental or intellectual disabilities. Students were able to observe this progressive business model and how it contributes in multiple ways to our community.



A Live Theater Experience!

How wonderful it is to have a live theater experience once again! Our 4th and 5th graders enjoyed a performance of "Matilda: The Musical" at Dominican University. Trips like this that we took for granted before Covid, are just that much more magical now.

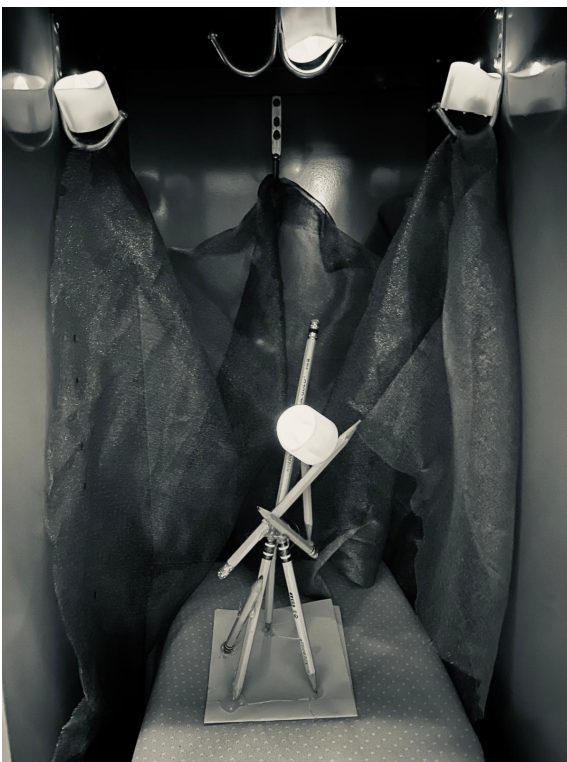


Art Museum Trip Inspires Creativity

"It's been amazing going on field trips! After our trip to the Museum of Contemporary Art, we had an open studio as a reflection activity," says Ms. Mika Yamamoto, TCS teacher for the 6th/7th-grade Butterfree class. "The students made some amazing art of their own, inspired by the trip."



(See photos below of student art. Left is "the Pixar Lamp When You Have No Money." Right is "Modern Art Adaptation of the Montero Tree." Both of these are by TCS student Dakota McGoniagle who installed them in a locker.)



Exploring the Rich and Diverse

Neighborhoods of Chicago

TCS students in our middle-level are experiencing firsthand how fortunate we are to live in a metropolitan area offering the arts, foods, and history of so many different cultural heritages.

In addition to the art museum, our 6th and 7th grades also went to the DuSable Museum. "We have been using public transportation because we have a student who is very knowledgeable about the CTA. We all feel our field trips have been richer for it," says Ms. Yamamoto.



As this newsletter goes out, Mr. Kertgen's 6th/7th-grade class is heading for Chinatown as part of their project on street culture. "The main purpose of this trip is field research. This is an opportunity for students to explore a neighborhood that is different from the other neighborhoods we have explored thus far," says Mr. Kertgen. "It is a space that is blossoming with street art, food, fashion, and culture. It will serve as a site for field research as the students will be collecting survey data from questions they developed to help move our project forward."





We hope your TCS student is bringing home great stories and memories from their field trips, and that we will be able to have many more before year's end.

