

Nickerson's News

UPPER ELEMENTARY
THREE

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Class News

The History of Law

by Annie, Liam, Rachel, and Sam

Last week on Thursday, May 22, Mr. Kinsella, Ethan's dad, came to our classroom to teach us about the history of Law. We were so excited to learn about this subject. He taught us that there are many different types of laws, such as the laws of physics, economics, moral laws, legal rules, and natural law.

Most people think of law as rules made by the government, but there are also moral laws like, "Always be polite to your grandmother!" Do you *have* to? No, but if you don't, over and over again, it will effect others respect for you.

He told us that the first simple laws people established were probably, "No stealing" and "No killing" and enforced, not by a central government, but with just common sense.

Some of the earliest law systems were the Babylonian Code of Hammurabi and The Ten Commandments. Later came the Twelve Tables of Roman Law, the Magna Carta, and finally the U.S. Constitution.



Lady Justice

Illustrated by James



Class News continued from page 1

Two of the most influential forms of law are the Roman and English Common Law.

In the very early 1800's, Napoleon created the Napoleonic Code during his reign of France and Europe. This code still heavily influences the laws in Louisiana and French-speaking Quebec in Canada.

In much of the southwestern United States many of our current laws are derived from early Spanish Law brought over during exploration and settlement of North and Central Americas.

Lady Justice can be found all around the world in courtrooms and other legal places. She carries a sword and weighing scales. She wears a blindfold. Her sword implies that justice can be swift and final. The scales she holds represent the weight of evidence in favor of innocence or guilt is found by reasonable thinking. The blindfold she wears, symbolizes the idea that justice should be rendered with fairness.

After Mr. Kinsella finished his speech, we asked him many questions about what happens when people break the law. He graciously answered each question. It was time for lunch, and we were lucky, because Mr. Kinsella agreed to have lunch with us, and continue sharing his knowledge of law for those of us who were still curious. We are very thankful that Mr. Kinsella took his time to share with us the vast history of law.



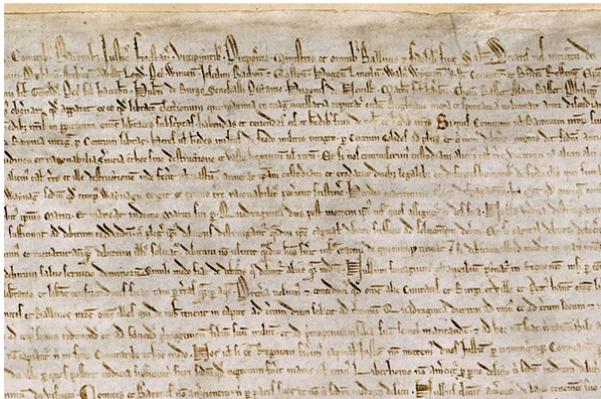
Code of Hammurabi



Ten Commandments



Twelve Tables of Roman Law



Magna Carta



United States Constitution

A Journey Through Time by Carly, Nathaniel, Sutton, and Taylor

"Be quite!" Kyle moaned. The scratching noise had been going on for hours. Emilie got up. Her long blond hair was in a knotted mess. She went to open the door... Emilie gasped when she saw her favorite tabby cat. "Kyle! Shimmer is glowing!"

In a flash, Kyle raced to the door, Shimmer was gone ... but so was Emilie. Kyle rushed outside; Emilie was chasing Shimmer across a sandy Californian beach. Emilie motioned for Kyle to follow. Kyle did. Then Shimmer jumped into the water. Without thinking, they jumped after her. Strange, no waves, they grabbed Shimmer and got out. "Emilie, Kyle gasped, I don't think we are in California anymore." Indeed, they were not.

There were dozens of pyramids scattered across the land. Shimmer took off again. "Shimmer! Stop! Wait!" Too late, they were surrounded by confused and slightly awestruck Egyptians. "Kyle, Emilie said, I want to go home." "Me too," Kyle whispered, and then they ran.

While they were running, they bumped into a man holding his cane up parting the waves." Come children," Moses said. "Let us be free." On the way through, the chariot of the Pharaoh was catching up and someone grabbed them, They realized they were not held by the Pharaoh any more... It was Julius Caesar!

They stopped and got off the chariot to look around and to eat. They realized Shimmer was gone again! They looked back and saw Julius Caesar had stolen their cat. "Follow that cat," yelled Kyle. They found a horse and raced after Julius Caesar. When they finally caught him, the last thing they saw was Shimmer holding Julius Caesar's crown...

"Kids, Wake up!" Emilie and Kyle woke up. "Aw man! Was it nothing but a dream?" Then Emilie looked up and saw Shimmer holding Julius Caesar's crown.



Illustrated by Kristin

Through the Eyes of Maize by Ella, Lydia and Nathan F.

Monday----

It's the beginning of a new school year and I'm looking forward to seeing all the new students. I was very lonely during summer break. Those colorful fish in the tank on the end of the shelf look delicious.

Tuesday----

Today, the students will get to hold me. I hope they let me slither on the lab table, so that I can make a successful dash for the fish tank.

Wednesday----

Today we have a full class. There are so many students, in fact, my brain is overloaded with all the activities going on around me. I hope Ms. De Leon will feed me a plump, juicy, tender rat.

Thursday----

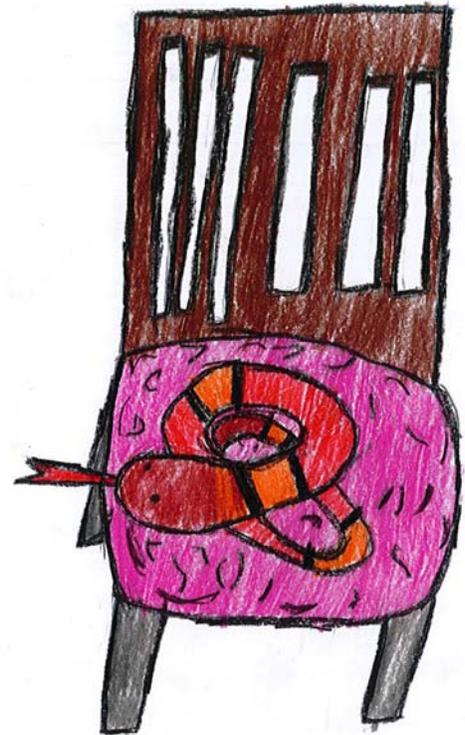
Today I slept all day, because I was digesting my food. I had a dream that I escaped from my cage and ate a boy's sushi who was sitting at table 4. Sadly, I woke up and before my very eyes there was a boy eating sushi Talk about torture!

Friday----

Today all the kids are making giant colorful 3-D objects. I think they are called dodecahedrons (not an icosidodecahedron) It looks creative and complex. After lunch it was silent reading time, I imagined myself sitting next to the other students and after a while, I dozed off.



Maize during silent reading time.....



Illustrated by Ethan



Bearkat Chat with Coach Trevino by Ashwin, Ayush, Emory, and Gerard

Q: What do you think about the Post Oak School so far?

A: It is a very special place, and I enjoy working here very much. A lot of good things happen here.

Q: When you were a student in school, what was your favorite subject and why?

A: I loved reading because it opens your mind. Reading takes you away for a while and makes you smarter.

Q: Why did you become interested in teaching sports?

A: I wasn't that great of an athlete, but I was interested in being involved in sports. I wanted to give kids a chance to develop a love of sports.

Q: What is your favorite sport to teach?

A: My favorite sport to teach is soccer.

Q: What sports did you play in High School?

A: I was a cross-country runner and ran the 100 meter hurdles. In cross-country, I ran two miles, and my best time was approximately 12 minutes.

Q: What impact would you like to make at The Post Oak School?

A: I would like PF to be an exciting, inviting, safe place.



Fun Times



Camp Champions trip



building our dodecahedrons



**Practicing with Ms. Dunn
for our class performance
of “The Adventures of
Lewis and Clark”**



6th grade Williamsburg trip



Farewell to Friends

Anna, Ayush, Carly, Connor, Ella, Erich, James, Nathan, and Rachel will be leaving our class and moving on to new adventures and experiences. We will think of them often and remember them always.



Interview with Anna

How long have you attended The Post Oak School?

I started when I was 2 years old, so that was 10 years ago.

What are your favorite academic areas of the classroom and why?

I like Geography, because I like learning about different countries.

What is something you will remember about your time in UE?

It was cool how when I was in 4th grade we didn't have a full class, and there was lots of space on the rug when we sat down.

What is something that your classmates might find surprising to learn about you?

That I have been dancing since I was three.

Where would you like to go to college and what do you hope to do?

I want to go to a small liberal arts school.



Interview with Ayush

How long have you attended The Post Oak School?

I have been going to Post Oak School for 6 years.

What are your favorite academic areas of the classroom and why?

I like the math and geometry shelves.

What is something you will remember about your time in UE?

I will remember designing and creating the quadrinomial cube with James, Liam, and Nathan.

What is something that your classmates might find surprising to learn about you?

I started playing tennis when I was six, and competitive tennis when I was 9.

Where would you like to go to college and what do you hope to do?

I would like to go to Stanford University, but I am not considering a job right now.



Interview with Carly

How long have you attended The Post Oak School?

I have been going to the Post Oak School for 9 years.

What are your favorite academic areas of the classroom and why?

I like science and geography, because we have so many fun materials to use.

What is something you will remember about your time in UE?

I will remember getting to use all the wonderful materials we have in our classroom.

What is something that your classmates might find surprising to learn about you?

I like to be in control of everything.

Where would you like to go to college and what do you hope to do?

I have not thought much about that, but I think I would like to go to University of Texas and study biology.

Farewell to Friends



Interview with Connor

How long have you attended The Post Oak School?

I started when I was 2, about 10 years ago.

What are your favorite academic areas of the classroom and why?

I like geometry, because I like to measure the volume, perimeter, and area of solids and shapes.

What is something you will remember about your time in UE?

I will remember the Camp Champions Rope Course - the tight rope walk.

What is something that your classmates might find surprising to learn about you?

I figure skate at the Galleria's ice rink.

Where would you like to go to college and what do you hope to do?

I would like to go to Texas Tech and study architecture.



Interview with Ella

How long have you attended The Post Oak School?

Nine years. I started in my second year of Primary.

What are your favorite academic areas of the classroom and why?

I like Geometry, because there are many different sections of learning materials.

What is something you will remember about your time in UE?

I will remember the freedom of the class and all of the great materials.

What is something that your classmates might find surprising to learn about you?

I like to knit.

Where would you like to go to college and what do you hope to do?

I have not thought that far ahead, but I might want to go to Brown University.



Interview with Erich

How long have you attended The Post Oak School?

I have been at the Post Oak School for 2 years.

What are your favorite academic areas of the classroom and why?

I like math and science, because they are both very practical, and I am good at them.

What is something you will remember about your time in UE?

I'll mostly remember my pleasurable experiences.

What is something that your classmates might find surprising to learn about you?

I make candles for a hobby.

Where would you like to go to college and what do you hope to do?

I would like to go to MIT and become an engineer.

Farewell to Friends



Interview with James

How long have you attended The Post Oak School?

I have been going to the Post Oak School since I was 2 years old, so I have been here for 10 years.

What are your favorite academic areas of the classroom and why?

I like Geometry, because of all the interesting work we have in our classroom.

What is something you will remember about your time in UE?

I will remember all the lovely days I spent working in this classroom.

What is something that your classmates might find surprising to learn about you?

I pitched a shutout game in 5th grade for my baseball team against the River Bandits.

Where would you like to go to college and what do you hope to do?

I am interested in a variety of subjects. Wherever I go, I hope it is a good place for me.



Interview with Nathan T.

How long have you attended The Post Oak School?

I believe I have been at the Post Oak School for 9 years.

What are your favorite academic areas of the classroom and why?

I enjoy science and math, because I can use a lot of Montessori materials, and because both are required for engineering.

What is something you will remember about your time in UE?

I will remember all of the friends that I made and things that I learned.

What is something that your classmates might find surprising to learn about you?

I fell in love with reading in 4th grade.

Where would you like to go to college and what do you hope to do?

I want to go to MIT, because I can become an engineer there.



Interview with Rachel

How long have you attended The Post Oak School?

I have been going to The Post Oak School for 10 years since Infant Community.

What are your favorite academic areas of the classroom and why?

I like math, because there are so many Montessori materials to choose from. My favorite material is the cubing material.

What is something you will remember about your time in UE?

I will remember the challenging work I did.

What is something that your classmates might find surprising to learn about you?

Once when I finished a swimming lesson, my swimming teacher taught me how to knit.

Where would you like to go to college and what do you hope to do?

I want to go to Rice University and become a veterinarian.

Historical Fun Facts by Anna, Michael and Pragma



Illustrated by Ella and Rachel

- Technically there are only 46 states; Massachusetts, Virginia, Kentucky, and Pennsylvania are all Commonwealths.
- Ulysses S. Grant was once fined twenty dollars for speeding with his horse and carriage.
- Presidents Thomas Jefferson and John Quincy Adams both died on the same day, July 4th, 1826, the fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.
- Massachusetts is home to the body of water with the longest name in the U.S., Lake Chargoggagogmanchauggauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg.
- If you turn your TV to a dead station 1% of the static is left over radiation from the big bang.
- There are whales alive today who were born before Moby Dick was written.
- There is more processing power in a TI-83 calculator than in the computer that landed Apollo 11 on the moon.

Dear Families,

What a wonderful year this has been for our class and The Post Oak School! This was a special year as the school celebrated it's 50th anniversary. I am so happy and proud to be a part of this community and a part of your children's lives.

The first three words that come to mind when I think of this group of students are: inclusive, industrious, and optimistic. Together, they collaborated in community looking for the best in each other and finding it. Curiously, they engaged in creative work. Without fail, they chose to look at the bright side of life. Friendly, hardworking, happy children.

There are some people that I need to thank: Ms. DeLeon for consistently being a support for the children and for me, Mrs. O'Neill for serving as our homeroom parent, Mr. and Mrs. Fraske for leading our class to 100% parent participation in the Annual Fund Drive, Mr. Gregg, Mr. Kinsella, and Ms. Coleman for chaperoning student trips, and Ms. Dunn for giving so much of her energy and time to make our class play a success. A huge thank you goes to all the parents for your support this year. Lastly, I am grateful to the 27 spectacular students that brought great joy to me each and every day! Thank you!

I look forward to next year.

Sincerely,
Debbie Nickerson