

Superintendent's Highlight of the Week January 27, 2017



I was recently drawn into Ms. Makuh's Art room at Pasadena with the beautiful display of dots created by the entire student body. She explained that they had read the book "The Dot" and had asked the children to artistically create how they will make their mark on the world. The talent and imagination of our Pasadena artists were amazing!!

As I ventured further, I noticed an equally impressive display of mosaic tiles created by first grade students who were working with Esther Tollen, a local artist who specializes in hand painted ceramic tiles. During Ms. Tollen's visit, she displayed pictures of architecture from places like Jordan, Italy, and Israel and shared stories of visits to Europe and the Middle East. The pictures of the elaborate mosaics served as an inspiration for their project.



Each student was given a blank ceramic tile and asked to create a geometric design using a variety of stones and colored tiles. They learned about symmetry and representation of objects in space such as the sun, earth and moon. As students layered their designs, they applied "mortar," to ensure their design would stick. They filled the entire space of the tile, carefully fitting each piece of their

design together like a puzzle. After each design was complete, grout was applied to each tile to fill in the negative space.

These students certainly are learning about making their mark on the world by displaying their artistic talents in a variety of ways.