

## SEPTEMBER EDITION, 2022

Editor-in-Chief: Kyle Riffner

Layout, Design, and Coordinator: Nozomi Kato

Head Photographer: Kennett Andersen

Reporters: Samantha Adams, Alayna Faiz, Stella Frolick, David Azaran, Kyle Riffner

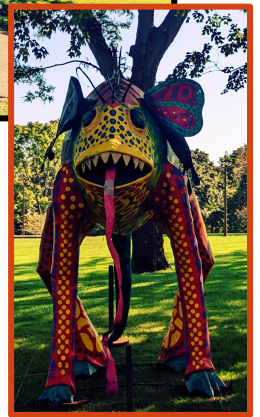
### Greetings From the Head of School

Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year! We have been together for a month of school now and the classrooms are all buzzing with the quiet hum of learning activities. Our newest friends are feeling more comfortable and settling into their routines. I enjoy peeking in through the observation windows to see all the beautiful work our children are engaged in. I look forward to my in-class observations beginning next month. Our back-to-school picnic was a huge success. I'd like to thank our fantastic PTO for all their hard work in creating opportunities for socialization for both students and parents. We look forward to seeing everyone at the Peace Day Celebration on Wednesday, September 21st from 5:00 PM- 7:00 PM. Don't forget to bring your MANH "be the change" t-shirt for tie dying fun! We will also have food available for purchase with a taco food truck. We end the celebration by singing Light a Candle for Peace as a school community. All Montessori schools around the world sing this song in celebration. If you would like to learn the lyrics to the song you can find them here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K9M8SmWh2Fo>

The Freeman East Playground is under construction and nearing completion. All children (and teachers 😊) have been watching the process and can't wait to use it! There is so much to be grateful for with a community like ours. We are great because of each and every one of you. It's going to be a wonderful year!

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Motlagh



### Alebrijes - by Stella Frolick

The Erdkinder Classroom went on their first field experience to the Alebrijes: Creatures of a Dream World exhibition at Cantigny Park in Wheaton. Alebrijes are incredibly colorful Mexican spirits, each one usually 2 or more animals smooshed together. They went on a 45-minute guided tour around the gardens, yet only saw a select number of the 40+ Alebrijes. The guide provided background about the origin of Alebrijes and the artists who made them. The Alebrijes came in all shapes and sizes, from a spider buried in the bushes to an octopus the size of an olympic-sized swimming pool! After the tour, the students broke into small groups and wrote observations in Spanish about their favorite Alebrije.

## Classroom Focus: Ms. Huma's Primary

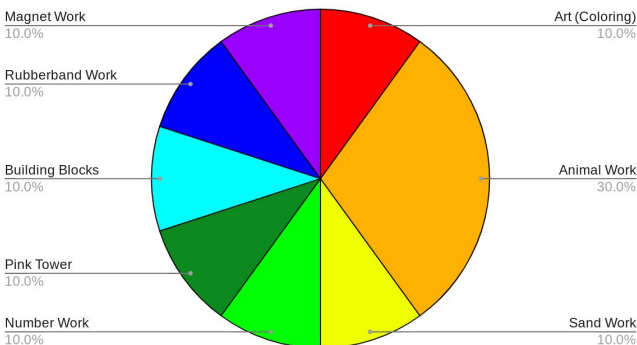
### Interview with Ms. Huma - by David

Azaran

Zille Huma is a lead teacher in one of our primary classes here at MANH. Ms. Huma has a degree in social work and education and in computer and information systems. She has over 20 years of teaching experience which began in Lahore, Pakistan, where she also competed at the national level in volleyball, hockey, and cricket. She left Pakistan at age 24 with the rest of her family. Ms. Huma has always loved helping others; that is why she wanted to become a teacher. She has been a teacher at MANH since 2019. Outside of school, she cares for her two daughters: 8-year-old Simra and 7-year-old Aroosh. Ms. Huma loves spending time and reliving her childhood with them. In the future both she and her daughters want to get a cat.



Primary Students' Favorite Works



### A Day in the Life - by Alayna Faiz & Kyle

Riffner

On Thursday, September 15, we visited Ms. Huma's class to catch a glimpse of their day-to-day life. Upon entering the miniaturized class, we were immediately surrounded by many students hard at work. They sat at rugs and low tables walking to and from the three-foot shelves to get their materials. One of the students, Claire, had just finished tracing a turtle puzzle and began painting it, bringing the reptile to life with each stroke of her brush. A few feet away, Ellie was busy constructing a flower with paper and glue. After adding a splash of red, she proudly paraded her finished work around the room before fastening it to the pinboard. Meanwhile, Layla and Alexis decided to work as a team to tackle the geometric puzzle (tangram). The two took turns as they placed the colorful blocks into the square tray. The teachers floated around the room checking the students' work and keeping them on task. As we neared the end of our visit, Ellie once again caught our attention. She sat down with a bowl filled with water and soap using a squirt bottle to create bubbles. Another student, Christian, enraptured by the iridescent orbs, got up, stuck his finger in Ellie's bowl, turned around, and looked up at us with a grin that reached his eyes as he held his bubble-covered finger proudly in the air. We laughed at the silly scene, while we said goodbye and concluded our morning as giants.

### Materials From the Classroom - by

Samantha Adams

The 100 board is a material that is used by children 4 ½ and up. To use this work, the children have to place small squares numbered 1- 100 on the board in the correct order.

## Meet the Erdkinder Students!

by Stella Frolick

- Meet Sebastian, a new 7th grader in the Erdkinder classroom. He has one dog and one cat.
- Outside of school, he does Shodokan, a form of Karate from the Okinawa island of Japan.
- His favorite movie is *The Empire Strikes Back*.
- When he grows up, he would like to be a lawyer.

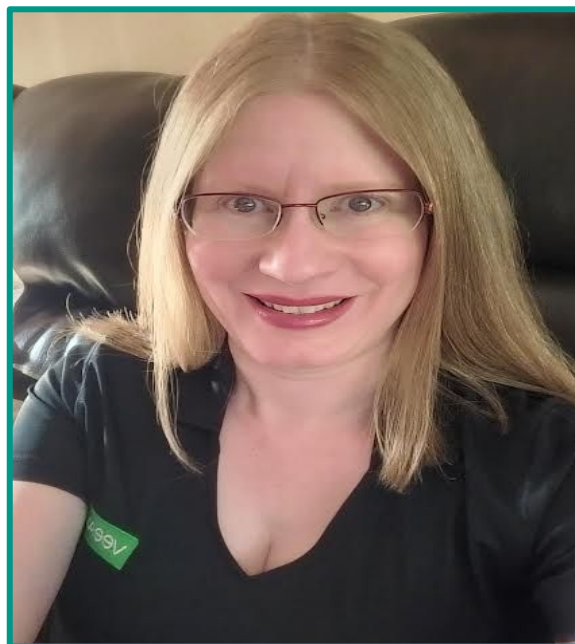


## Meet the Teachers + Staff!

by David Azaran

- Madeline Ortiz is MANH's new Spanish teacher. She teaches all the way from Kindergarten to 12th grade. She has a degree in social work and history, as well as an associate degree in early childhood education. Born and raised in Cayey, Puerto Rico, Señora Ortiz originally wanted to become a lawyer as a way to help people. This changed, however, when she came to the US at age 21. Since then, she has experienced a variety of teaching settings, private and public from Florida to Illinois. From Florida to Illinois, she has experience in both private and public schools. Señora Ortiz always tries her very hardest to be the best teacher she can be, and she takes her job very seriously, always keeping her student's best interest in mind. She has a 12-year-old son, Sebastian, who also attends MANH, and both a pet dog and cat.

- Eli is an 8th grader starting her second year at MANH in the Erdkinder program. She loves theatre; she has been in 7 community productions and is currently in the audition process for *The Lightning Thief*. She would like to be an actor but also wishes to pursue her love of ornithology (the study of birds). She is very passionate about mental health and the environment, but also Marvel and Star Wars.





## Upcoming Events

- Wednesday, 21 September 5-7pm Peace Day Picnic
- Thursday, 22 September 9:30am-11:30am Kindergarten Going Out Trip
- Friday, 23 September 7:30am-8:30am Donuts with Grownups: West Campus
- Monday, 26 September 5:30pm-6:30pm Infant Toddler Curriculum Night
- Thursday, 29 September 5pm-6:15pm Primary Curriculum Night Part 1
- Thurs & Fri, 29, 30 September Class Photos Huntington
- Saturday, 1 October 10am-12pm 5K Event
- Wednesday, 5 October Freeman East School Photos
- Thursday, 6 October Freeman West School Photos
- Monday, 10 October ALL DAY Indigenous Peoples' Day, NO CLASSES
- Tuesday, 11 October 2:30pm Early Dismissal Elementary and Erdkinder
- Wednesday, 12 October 9am-1:30pm Primary Field Trip - Johansen Farms
- Wednesday, 12 October 5:30-6:30pm Erdkinder Curriculum Night
- Friday, 14 October 7:30am-8:30am Donuts with Grownups: West Campus
- Saturday, 15 October All day Erdkinder Social Outing: Six Flags
- Tues & Wed, 18,19 October Hearing and Vision Screening
- 17-21, 24-26 October 3:35-4:00 Erdkinder New Family Check-in
- Thursday, 20 October 9am-2pm Elementary Field Trip to Naper Settlement
- Friday, 21 October 7:30am Erdkinder Cafe (cafe open 8-8:30am)
- Wednesday, 26 October 5pm-6:15pm Primary Curriculum Night Part 2
- Friday, 28 October 3:30pm Trunk-or-Treat - Rain or Shine



## Erdkinder Cafe Returns!

by Staff Writer

After a long two-and-a-half years, the Erdkinder Cafe, a microeconomics project that benefits the entire class while raising funds for field experiences, finally returned on Friday, 16 September! Fun and delicious food was enjoyed by all. The Erdkinder Cafe prepared and served Goopy Cinnamon Rolls, chocolate chip Muffins of the Month, the All-School Famous Erdkinder Turkey Bacon, Egg, and Cheese MacMuffin sandwiches, and beverages from 8-8:30 a.m. in the lunchroom at Freeman West. One young patron claimed that, "This is the best food I've ever eaten!" while munching on a muffin as another patron announced that his service was exceptional. After finishing their breakfasts, students from Freeman East were escorted back to their building by either their parents or friendly Erdkinder students to start their school day in high spirits.

The Erdkinder Cafe is a monthly breakfast cafe; the next seating will be on Friday, 21 October. Future cafes will be primarily run on a pre-order basis with limited quantities of day-of food available, so keep your eyes open for the online pre-order form on an email blast or the Erdkinder cafe blog at [erdcafe.manh.org](http://erdcafe.manh.org). Please join us for the fun and the yum!

