



MARCH EDITION, 2023

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Greetings From the Head of School

Dear Parents,

Happy March! This year's celebration was another wonderful International Day. I'm so grateful for our community. The kids worked very hard on their respective dances and they all looked great. I'd like to thank the wonderful parent volunteers who made the dances and costumes happen for their child(ren)'s classroom.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Motlagh

International Day 2023

International Day 2023 was an event to remember!

The celebration included an array of dances:
It's a Small World - Infant/Toddler Classes

A way to include the youngest members of our community and pay homage to many different countries.

Tarantella Dance (Italy) - Ms. Ali/Ms. Mishra's Primary Class

The Tarantella is a folk dance from Italy and is now often performed at weddings.

La Macarena Dance (Spain) - Ms. Huma's Primary Class

La Macarena is a social dance that many people can participate in. It is often modified between cultures but shares the same feeling of inclusivity and fun.

Ey Javidan Dance (Iran) - Ms. Kutz's Primary Class

The Ey Javidan Dance is of great importance in Persian culture. It is one of Iran's many dance styles.

Bollywood Mix Dance (India) - Ms. Singh/Ms. Mohebbi's Elementary Class

Bollywood features energetic and mesmerizing movements as a mix of many different dancing styles. It is often performed by a synchronized group adding to the excitement.

Polka Dance (Finland) - Ms. Vu/Mr. Azzano's Elementary Class

The Finnish polka is a tune for social dancing. It was initially intended to be an orchestra piece but became a lively tune played on an accordion.

Salsa Dance (Puerto Rico) - Erdkinder Class

Originating in the Caribbean Islands, Salsa is a fusion between Spanish and African dances and was first performed to Jazz music. The lively dance is now performed to upbeat music and incorporates a series of spins and turns.



Erdkinder Field Experiences!

Les Miserables

On Wednesday, February 22, the Erdkinder Intro to Theatre class went on a field experience to see *Les Miserables*. They took the train down to Chicago, enjoyed some delicious food at the French Market, and made their way to the Cadillac Palace Theater. The musical is set in the early 19th century, and follows several characters over multiple years as they seek redemption for their sins and escape from poverty. The students were amazed by the music, acting, and scenery.



Campus Corner: Monthly Paragraphs

Huntington Happenings

The Huntington Campus happily prepared for our International Day 2023. The Infant and Toddler Families started our celebration as they walked in carrying flags that represented our diverse world. It's a Small World is a song that we always listen to as we begin our time together for this much-anticipated celebration! The Huntington Primary students will perform an Iranian dance named Ey Javanan Iran (Young People of Iran). Dance types in Iran differ widely based on cultural differences and areas.

Fascinating Work at Freeman

West

The Erdkinder classroom worked very hard on their wonderful International Day dance. It is always an exciting time to prepare for this wonderful school event. Everyone was very excited to put on a great show!

Ms. Huma's primary class had also been working very hard on their dance. What an exciting time!

Fun Episodes of Freeman East

1) On Feb. 15, the Kindergarteners were treated to a field trip to PetCo of Schaumburg, where they interacted with dogs, cats, fish, reptiles, and a host of furry critters. Each student was then asked to write a short story about their favorite animal that they encountered. A great time was had by all, as seen by all the smiling faces!

2) Students in Mr. Azzano and Ms. Vu's Elementary classroom recently built a massive mock-up of an animal cell using found materials and school supplies. The interactive display provided an immersive educational experience as everybody learned the various parts of the cell, from the cytoplasm to the nucleus and everything in between!

International Day: Photo Album



Costa Rican Dance



Filipino Dance



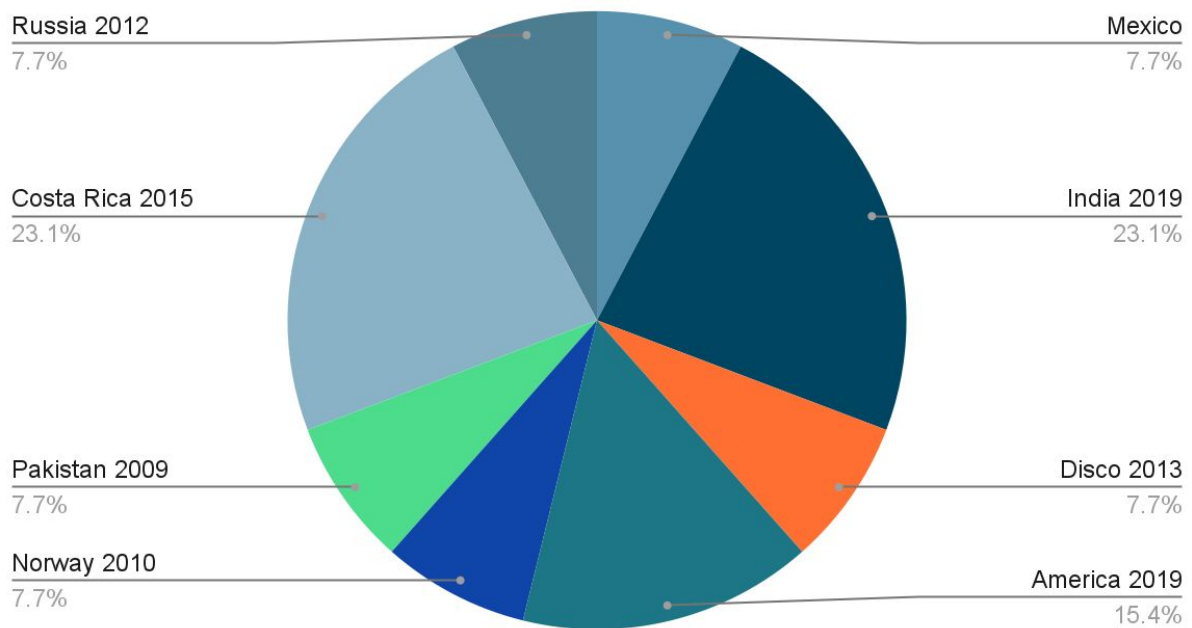
Indian Dance



Pakistani Dance

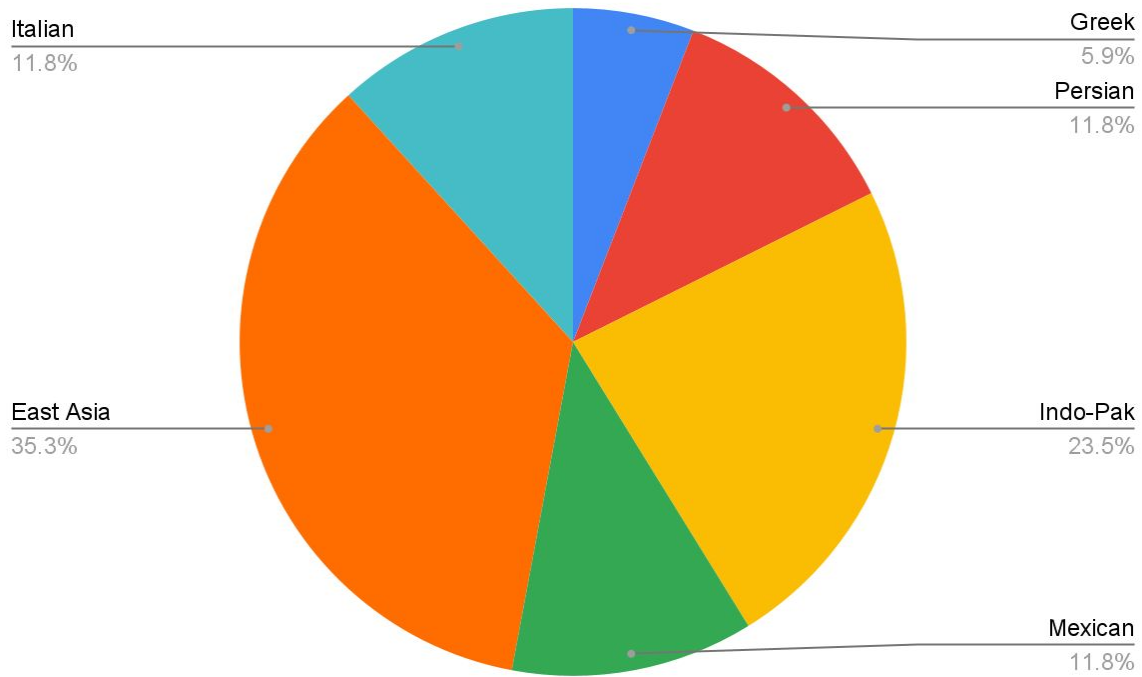
International Day Dance Survey

This survey shows the most popular International Day dances among Erdkinder students and teachers.



International Day Food Survey

This survey shows us many people's favorite International Day foods. This survey was asked to some members of the MANH community, specifically the Freeman West building.



Staff/Former Student Interview

Interview with Dr. N - by Kyle Riffner

Dr. Molood Naghibzadeh has created several traditions since founding MANH in 1989 including International Day, a day of dancing and food from around the world. She established the annual event out of a desire for unity within MANH's diverse student body. Because December is most closely associated with the celebration of Christmas, many who didn't celebrate the holiday felt a bit disconnected. Inspiration struck and Dr. N. decided to create a day which celebrated everyone not despite their differences but because of them. Year after year, she watched as her vision blossomed and grew.

While the dance performances were the main event, Dr. N. also had a lot of appreciation for the handmade food (specifically those from Japan, Korea, India, Pakistan, and Iran); over the years, she noted that these aspects from outside cultures became a part of her as she was eventually able to recognize them without even reading the label.

Teamwork encompassed the event as a whole. Teachers and parents worked together to both plan the event and organize nearly all aspects of the performances. In some cases, parents even sewed dresses and accessories for the students. Even after the food was eaten and the festivities came to a close, the collaboration among the community members continued in the form of cleanup. Dr. N. proudly mentioned that in thirty minutes, with the help of parents, children, and grandparents alike, the place would appear spotless.

The regularity of MANH's International Day strengthened the community for several reasons including the fact that alumni could attend each year to reunite with their friends and former teachers with their own appreciation for the work that goes into the performances on stage. This year, our first International Day since the pandemic was held in the spring. Regardless of the changed date, the excitement around the celebration has persisted.

Alumni Interview - Alayna Faiz

Zoya Haider is one of the seven MANH alumni. She attended MANH for 6 years and graduated from the Erdkinder program in 2021. Throughout her MANH experience, Zoya made many friends, one being Lily Azaran, another alumni. A specific memory Zoya recalls is when she had to work together with Lily to present an Alzheimer's presentation. Every time Zoya stuttered, Lily made her start over again. At the time, Zoya felt terrible, but looking back on it now, she realized that Lily made her a stronger person. Zoya described the MANH community as a big family. She liked to discuss her passion for film with her fellow classmates and teachers. The biggest event Zoya enjoyed during her time at MANH was International Day. Even though practicing was hard on everyone, she was always satisfied by the final product. Zoya is currently working towards a degree in digital marketing and plans to meet up with some of her friends over the summer.

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Participants/Invitees	Time	Location
3/8/23	Elementary Science Demonstrations (3rd Graders)	Whole School	8:30 - 9:15 am	Freeman East
3/8/23	Elementary Science Fair (4th-6th graders)	Whole School	4:30 - 6:00 pm	Freeman East
3/14/23	Early Dismissal	Elementary and Erdkinder	2:30 pm	Freeman East & West
3/14/23	Dine and Share: PTO Fundraiser	Whole School	4:00 pm	Cafe Zupas - 1422 E. Golf Rd. Schaumburg, IL 60173
3/17/23	Erdkinder Cafe	Whole School	8:00 - 8:30 am	Freeman West
3/21/23	Down Syndrome Awareness Day - Wear crazy socks to school	Whole School	N/A	N/A
3/27/23 - 3/31/23	Spring Break - No School	Whole School	N/A	N/A
4/4/23	Kindergarteners Visit Elementary Classrooms	Kindergarten		Freeman East
4/6/23	Elementary Presentation Night #3	Elementary	5:00 pm	Freeman East
4/7/23	No School	Whole School	N/A	N/A