



Ice Skating Trip

In February Gillen Brewer took a whole school trip to the City Ice Pavilion skating rink in Queens. The Asteroids had a fabulous time! Everybody made it out onto the ice, including Jackie, Sarah and Tom, as well as many Asteroid parents. A few of the Asteroids had never been on the ice before, but were very brave and took the plunge. There were some falls, but that didn't stop anyone from having a good time! It was so much fun to watch their confidence and comfort levels grow. A few of the Asteroids started out by hugging the



Tom and Jaquan do their best to stay on their feet!



Nichelle gaining confidence and speed out on the ice.

wall, but ended up hands-free out in the middle of the rink having a blast! The Asteroids had a delicious lunch of hot dogs, pizza and hot chocolate before getting back on the ice for more skating.



Jackie, Jaquan, Val and Nichelle.

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MoMA Trip

In March the Asteroids and the Quasars took their second trip to the Museum of Modern Art. The Asteroids got a chance to check out the bizarre creativity of Tim Burton. The kids were excited to see the sketches of

some of their favorite characters from movies such as *Willie Wonka* and *Coraline*. The Asteroids also looked at Tom Wesselmann's *Still Life #30*, which is part of The MoMA's permanent collection.



Still Life #30 by Tom Wesselmann.

VIP Day



The Asteroids and the Quasars at the MoMA.

In March Gillen Brewer celebrated its annual VIP Day. The Asteroids were excited to welcome aunts, uncles, cousins, parents and friends to their classroom. When the VIPs arrived, the Asteroids had a showing of a film they made of a re-enactment of the Battle of Bunker Hill. The Asteroids explained to the VIPs that even though the British won the battle, they real-

ized that the patriots were tough and that fighting the Revolutionary War was going to be tougher than they thought!

After the film, students and their VIPs wrote poems about each other. Then they shared a lovely lunch of bagels, cream cheese, fruit salad and cake. Thanks to all who helped make VIP Day a success!



Nichelle with her cousin and cousin's baby.



The Redcoats fighting the Patriots in the Battle of Bunker Hill.

Social Studies

The Asteroids have been very busy learning about the history of the United States. Over the past two months the Asteroids have been discussing the Revolutionary War and the reasons it started. The students have talked about the Boston Massacre and Boston Tea Party.

After the Asteroids learned that the colonists were fed up with having to pay taxes to England without being asked about it and without getting anything in return, the class marched through the halls of Gillen Brewer shouting : No taxes!". Ask your child about "No taxation without representa-

tion!" The Asteroids have discussed key battles such as Lexington and Concord and the Battle of Bunker Hill, which the class reenacted. The Asteroids also talked about the Midnight Ride of Paul Revere. Ask your child about the phrase "One if by land, two if by sea".

Photo Gallery



Jonathan and his Aunt Ronni on VIP Day.



The Asteroids protesting taxes and the King of England.



Kristin and her VIP Shannie.