

GILLEN BREWER  
SCHOOL



Julian sets out onto the ice.

**Gillen  
Brewer  
Auction**

**Starry Night**  
May 20, 2010

**Phillips de  
Pury & Com-  
pany**

**450 West 15th  
Street**



Langston writes realistic fiction.

# Supernova Scoop

NUMBER 4

FEBRUARY 2010



## Ice Skating

Fun! Fun! Fun! The Supernovas loved our school trip to the Ice Pavilion. Many of our students, some who have never been ice skating, strapped on their skates and bravely took to the ice. We had some small falls here and there, but no one seemed to care as they quickly got up and skated again, and again, and again. We were wowed by their tenacity and skating tricks.

Thank you very much to Rosa, Nadia, and Trish for accompanying the Supernovas on this fun-filled trip.



Jack and Julian skating at the Ice Pavilion.



The Supernovas getting ready for their ice skating adventure!

## Realistic Fiction

In February, Supernovas began learning a new genre of writing, realistic fiction. They have been creating their own realistic, fictional characters, who will eventually be featured in their stories. Supernovas have brainstormed ideas for the problems and possible solutions their characters will encounter in their stories. To help brainstorm ideas, Supernovas created lists of their characters' likes and dislikes. They then made lists of their characters' family members, friends, and pets.

Next, students will use their lists to help create realistic fiction stories. In collaboration with Kate G., the art teacher, students will be making their characters into 3-D puppets!

**Realistic Fiction:** a fake story that can actually happen.



Patrick writes about his character's problem.



Supernovas doing whole body listening

## Whole Body Listening

Supernovas are improving their listening skills during lessons. Whole Body Listening is a curriculum that teaches kids that we listen using our whole body. Not only do our ears have to be listening, but our mouths have to be quiet, our eyes have to be looking at the teacher, our hands have to be in our laps, our feet are on the floor, our backs are against the chair and our brains are focused. After breaking down and teaching all the steps required for listening, teachers have seen a great improvement in the Supernovas' focus and attention during lessons.



Supernovas using foot stops.

## SOCCER

Check out the Supernovas' sweet soccer skills! On Wednesdays, Asphalt Green coaches use fun games and drills to teach the Supernovas to dribble the soccer ball with their feet and kick into the goal. Practicing these skills gets the Supernovas ready for their soccer games every Friday. The Supernovas are getting very good at defending their goal and at scoring.



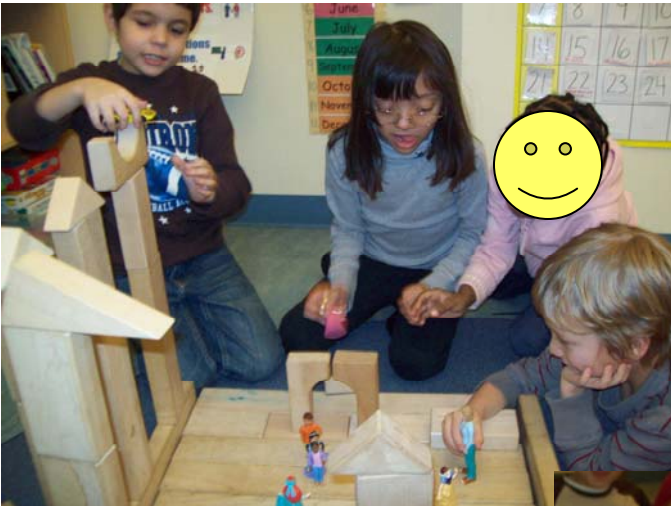
Charlotte and Jack dribbling soccer balls.

Supernovas are also learning about sportsmanship. Sometimes playing games can be a challenge when students don't win. With patience and practice students are learning to keep playing even after something is frustrating. After every game, we say "Good game" to the other team and focus on the importance of having fun while playing.

**Plan-Do-Review:** A time when students first express their choice of materials and create a plan for their play. Then students have the opportunity to execute their plan, often using problem solving skills as they create. Students also relate to other children in their play, helping to develop social skills. At the end of Plan-Do-Review students recall their ideas and use language skills to describe what their ideas and actions accomplished.



Supernovas making silly faces.



Supernovas building a castle and playing with toy people.



Niko makes a robot with Tionkertoys.



Charlotte makes a dog collage.



Jack being cool.



Langston and his amazing tower!



Happy birthday Seamus!