

# THE EXPEDITION

Magellan Charter School

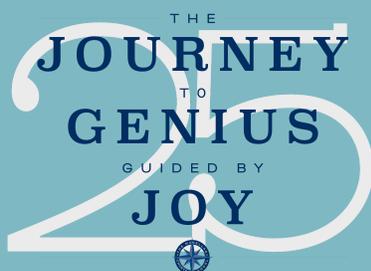
## IMPORTANT DATES

Early Release  
**DECEMBER 17**

Winter Break  
**DECEMBER 20-31**

Teacher Workday  
**JANUARY 3**

MLK Holiday  
**JANUARY 17**



## We Love Our Volunteers!

One vital way we achieve our strong sense of community here at Magellan is through our wonderful families. Parent support is fundamental to all that we do, and our strong parent/school partnership truly sets us apart.

Volunteering is a key aspect of being a member of the Magellan community, and we rely on parent volunteers for many aspects of our day-to-day operations. One of the most critical ways parents help our school is by assisting with lunch and recess. This important commitment allows teachers the time to collaborate and plan innovative lessons for our students. **Magellan parents are expected to volunteer at least monthly to cover lunch and recess.**

Please [click here](#) to access the required sign-ups and learn about other rewarding volunteer opportunities. As always, a big thank you to our amazing parents and volunteers – we appreciate you!

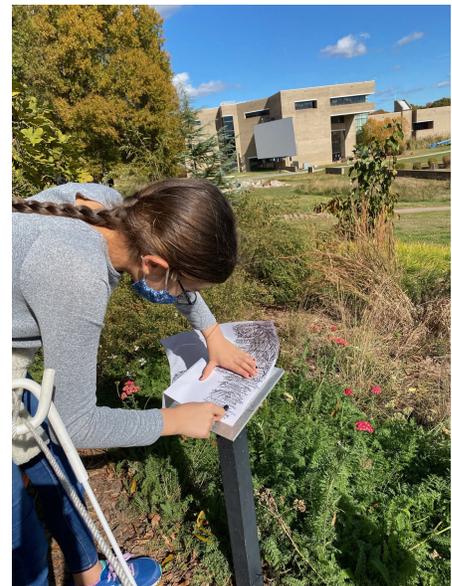
*"When you volunteer, you're supporting our staff and the entire Magellan community. When volunteers are invited in and involved in our children's school community, everyone thrives." -Jodie Hepp, MaP President*

# Voyages are an integral part of Magellan's innovative curriculum



## 5TH GRADE VOYAGE, N.C. MUSEUM OF ART

Fifth grade spent a beautiful fall day at the N.C. Museum of Art Park where they rotated through five different activities focusing on science and art. They learned how trees communicate and explored bioretention ponds. Students also practiced yoga and spent time sketching and reflecting. The voyage ended with a grade-wide lunch on the lawn, made possible by our wonderful volunteers.



# Voyages

bring joy to the journey of academic excellence



## 4TH GRADE VOYAGE, OLD SALEM

Fourth graders visited Old Salem, NC where they learned about the diverse cultural history of the early South, with emphasis on the Moravian community and enslaved people of African descent.

Students learned about the colonial way of life and how this community valued education for both boys and girls. Through preservation and live reenactments, students got a first hand glimpse at the specialized trades and craftsmanship that the Moravian community was known for. And of course, no voyage to Old Salem is complete without a stop at Winkler Bakery for delicious Moravian treats!



# Community Service

PROMOTING A CULTURE OF COMPASSION



## StepUp Ministry

For the 8th year in a row, Magellan was thrilled to partner with StepUp Ministry for our schoolwide holiday community service.

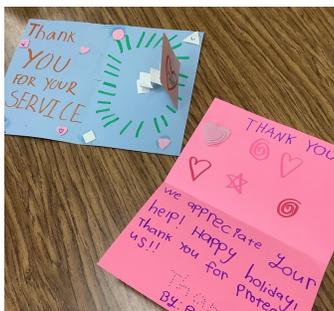
StepUp Ministry is a community of diverse faiths that partner with adults and children with the shared goal of creating stable lives through jobs and life skills training.

All grade levels joined together to collect items to create 300 kits to donate that included a mask, hand sanitizer and \$10 gift cards to Target.



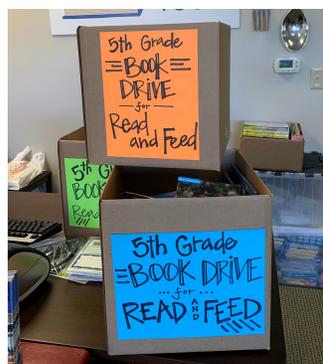
## Spread the Love

Third grade held their annual *Spread the Love* event where students rotate through stations and make dog toys for Saving Grace, cards to send to our troops, bookmarks to go inside donated children's books, and fleece blankets for The Linus Project.



## Read and Feed

Fifth grade held a book drive benefiting the Read and Feed program. Each student donated a gently used or new book for children in grades 1-5 and then made a bookmark and personal note to place in the books. 143 books were delivered!



## North Raleigh Ministies

Sixth graders visited North Raleigh Ministies where they packaged 2-week grocery supply bags for families and back-pack buddies bags for local students. We look forward to continuing this partnership throughout the year.





## United Slices of Pizza A Lesson in U.S. Government

At Magellan we strive to teach students through memorable, hands-on experiences. So to learn about our U.S. Government, third graders worked together in the United Slices of Pizza. This is a unit that students look forward to each year and look back on fondly as they sail on through their Magellan journey.

In the United Slices of Pizza government, each student plays an important role. First, they have to decide which political party they would like to be a part of: The Cheesocrats or The Pepperonicans. Next, students are assigned to work in either the legislative, judicial, or executive branch. The legislative branch is in charge of creating the laws, the judicial branch makes the Pizza Eaters' Bill of Rights, and the executive branch leads the class in planning an epic pizza party. In order to have a strong leadership to plan the perfect pizza party, students participate in a campaign and vote for a President and Vice President. Once all the roles are selected, the real work begins!

Students rely on collaboration and creativity to plan their class pizza parties. Each party is unique! This year one governing class had a piñata and brought cookies to decorate. There were laws about being respectful, giving free hugs, and wearing pajamas or costumes.

On the day of the party, students were able to appreciate all of the hard work they put in to making their pizza party exactly how they wanted it. And they were having so much fun that they barely realized how much they learned about the branches of the U.S. Government and how they each must work together for the benefit of all.

---

*"On the Legislative Branch, we made laws that you had to be kind and have fun. My favorite parts of the party were the ice cream and pinata!"*

-Walker

---

# Counselor

## CONNECTION

Melanie Biddell & Rebecca Wheeler

### *\*\* Holiday Spirit \*\**

## Character Awards

Congratulations to these Mariners on being chosen as recipients of the Magellan Respect Award. These standout students were chosen for their kind considerate demeanors, positive attitudes, strong work ethic, and for always helping and encouraging others. Thank you for demonstrating our core value of RESPECT!



Audrey  
5th grade



Millie  
4th grade



Alexis  
3rd grade

## Community Service

Volunteering as a family teaches students about empathy and the importance of helping others. Here's how to get started:

Help your child research community service opportunities for families. Make a list of ideas that match the ages of family members and jot down the time involved for each job. Visit websites such as [createthegood.org](http://createthegood.org) and [volunteermatch.org](http://volunteermatch.org) to get ideas.

It can also be a good idea to reach out to community centers, shelters, and places of worship to ask if they need help.

Review your child's list together and talk about possibilities that interest everyone. If your family loves animals, consider feeding and playing with dogs and cats in a shelter. Or if you like to cook together, think about volunteering at a soup kitchen or a fire station's spaghetti dinner.

*"The holiday season is a time to reflect on our blessings and seek out ways to make life better for those around us."*

-Terri Marshall

Talk about those you'll be helping, such as people who don't have enough to eat or animals who need attention and comfort. Considering how others feel helps students understand how important it is to help out—and it also makes your volunteer experience more meaningful.

In addition to teaching empathy, instilling a generous spirit brings with it numerous other benefits. [Click here](#) to read further about its importance.

## Wants vs. Needs

*"You can't always get what you want, but if you try sometime you'll find, you get what you need"*  
- Rolling Stones

The holiday season is an optimum time to talk to your children about the difference between *wants and needs*. Topics related to finances are often difficult and uncomfortable to talk about, but it's helpful to begin the conversation with a discussion of gratitude. [Click here](#) for tips on how to discuss wants vs needs with your family.