



FEBRUARY 25, 2019

American Academy of Strategic Education



Academic Calendar

02/27 World-
Language
Immersion
Open House

03/01 Field
Trip

03/02 Brain
Break

03/22 Vendor
Fair (2 PM- 4 PM)

04/01-04/05
Spring Recess,
Closed



Brain Break *(Parent's Night Out)*

Glow in the Dark

Saturday, Mar. 02, 5:30 - 10:00 pm

\$20 1st kid, \$15 additional kid(s)

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DISCOURSES &
CLUBS

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NEW CLUBS, NEW
FALL ELECTIVES
SUMMER
PROGRAM!

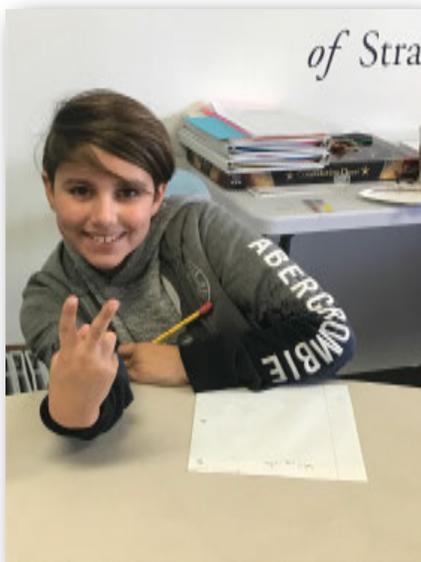
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KIDSPOT!
UPCOMING
FIELD TRIP!

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ARTICLE
OF THE
MONTH

Discourse and Clubs!



ELA - We are focusing on constructing complete and complex sentences. Soon, we will be incorporating literary analysis.

Social Studies - Our next two units will involve the Nation's beginning: The Revolutionary War, the founders and signers of the Constitution, and the Constitution itself, and Modern History's villains and the heroes who stopped them: Hitler, Stalin, etc.

Math - Our students have been learning about ratios and proportions, and how these concepts are applied to real life situations. During Math Discourses 1 and 2, we played a dice game to learn how to write ratios. In Math Discourse 3, we participated in a scavenger hunt that involved comparing ratios and see if they were proportional. Last week, all of us made yogurt parfaits using ratios! We are currently learning about number systems and ancient ways of depicting numerals and digits. For the older

students, they will be learning about rational and irrational numbers and will be working on projects.

Entrepreneur Club - The students are learning more about effective business prep and practices. They are observing entrepreneurs on shows such as the children's versions of "Shark Tank" and "The Profit" to see what does and does not work.



Music and Performance Club - Students are excited for an end of the year show! There is a lot of interest in playing instruments and singing, while others are focused on finding skits to perform at the show.

Fashion and Design Club - New members have joined! The girls are continuing to work on doll clothes and creating fashionable bags!

Mad Science Club - The students have been learning more about weather systems within the past few weeks due to the rain and storms in the area. Students have conducted a variety of experiments such as Cloud in a Jar, testing how water evaporates in soil and air, and making rain clouds. Next week, student will be making volcanoes and learning more about chemical reactions.



New Clubs Coming to the Academy!

Speech and Debate Club

Crafting Club

Forensic Science Club

Drawing Club

American History Club

World Mythology Club

Story Writing Club

Astronomy Club

For more information contact the Academy or check out our website.

New Friday Electives for Next Fall!

Website design

Journalism

General Science Lab

Biology Lab

Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Special Lesson in Music

Special Lessons in US History

Cooking and Culinary arts

Start Thinking About Summer Camp!



Classes begin July 8th, 2019

AGES 6 - 12

Week Long
9am - 3pm

Summer
Strategic Camp

Shark Week

Gross Science

STEAM Camp

Robotics

Digital Game Design

Early Bird
SPECIAL
SIGN UP TODAY!

*Charter funds accepted.

Pre-Registraton: <https://american-academy.org/contact/summer2019/>

Kidspot!

On February 11th, we celebrated our 100th day of school!

We have started our at home Bookworm Reading and already have children completing their reading cards! In class, we began reading Mr. Popper's Penguins and are enjoying Mr. Popper and his adventures with his new found friend, Captain Cook.



Next week, we will be diving into the world of Dr. Seuss! In the spirit of Dr. Seuss week, students will be encouraged to wear their craziest socks on Monday, February 25! On Wednesday, February 27, come dressed like a cat or in red and white stripes.

We started our Flat Student project to learn about our country! We have received our first response from students in South Carolina.

We changed some of our Friday Electives for this semester. We are incorporating STEAM challenges into some of our classes. We have seen a lot of creativity coming from our students. We are also learning about new artists each week, and recreating artwork similar to who we are studying. Last week, we learned about Andy Warhol and created handprint printing



UPCOMING FIELD TRIP!

PACIFIC MARINE MAMMAL CENTER & LAGUNA KOI PONDS

This Friday, March 1

12 PM - 2 PM

\$10 per person

*Please RSVP -- Limited Spots!
(For Friday & Inspire Specialty Programs students



* Carpooling is highly recommended

only)

*Some families are meeting at 11 AM at the Laguna Koi Ponds for a quick peek at their displays.

Sign up here: <https://american-academy.org/contact/ft-signup/>





Article of the Month

Bill Gates: Textbooks are 'becoming obsolete'— here's the best way to learn today

Kathleen Elkins, CNBC (2/13/2019)

Self-made billionaire Bill Gates is an avid reader. He's known to go through about 50 books a year and reads everything from memoirs and meditation guides to deep dives on autonomous weapons.

There's one kind of book that he thinks is going out of style, though: Textbooks, he writes in his and his wife Melinda's 2019 Annual Letter , "are becoming obsolete."

"I read more than my share of textbooks," Gates says. "But it's a pretty limited way to learn something. Even the best text can't figure out which concepts you understand and which ones you need more help with."

Software can be used to create a much more dynamic learning experience, he says.

Gates gives the example of learning algebra. "Instead of just reading a chapter on solving equations, you can look at the text online, watch a super-engaging video that shows you how it's done, and play a game that reinforces the concepts," he writes. "Then you solve a few problems online, and the software creates new quiz questions to zero in on the ideas you're not quite getting."

Exchanging textbooks for software can also lower the cost of education, Melinda notes in the same letter: "One study found that using open-courseware saved students an average of \$66 to \$121 per course. Over an academic year, that can add up to \$1,000, which can be the difference between staying in school or having to drop out."

Digital learning tools can make education more convenient and efficient. "Not having to show up to a physical classroom at a specific time makes a big difference to students who are balancing school with working and raising a family," writes Melinda.

That type of student is getting closer to becoming the norm, she adds: "Almost half of today's college students are 25 or older; well over half have a job; more than a quarter have kids of their own."

Free online tools and resources can also make education more available to a broader array of people. You don't have to be enrolled in a university to learn a new skill: You can simply take an online course or even watch videos on YouTube to educate yourself about any topic.

That said, there can be an overwhelming number of online classes and educational videos to choose from, and they're not all going to be worth your time. Gates' favorites , he wrote for Time in 2018 , include Khan Academy , [Code.org](#) , The Great Courses from The Teaching Company and Big History . "There's never been a better time to be alive if you're curious," he wrote. "When I wanted to learn something outside of school as a kid, cracking open my World Book encyclopedia was the best I could do. Today, all you have to do is go online."