

Hi Mom and Dad,

Today the Art Parent came into our class and showed us our **Masterpiece of the Month**. We learned about **Leonardo DaVinci and his most famous painting, Mona Lisa**. Leonardo lived during the **Renaissance** period and was the first known artist to **paint realistically in 3-dimensions**.

He didn't just paint. Leonardo made very beautiful sculptures and statues. He painted walls in churches and painted a famous masterpiece called the Last Supper. At first, he mostly created art from things he imagined or invented.

Leonardo had a special flare for doing things his own way...he wore clothes that were different from everyone else's. He would go to the market to buy birds, but instead of eating them (like everyone else), he would set them free. **He even wrote everything backwards!**

Leonardo painted a portrait of a mysterious woman with a very beautiful smile named Mona Lisa. **It is believed to be the most famous painting in the whole wide world. And it was the first time that Leonardo painted something that he actually saw.**

One of the most amazing things about DaVinci's Mona Lisa is that her eyes appear to be looking at you no matter where you view her portrait. We tried this at school by standing in three different places on the floor.

Some people in my class thought her eyes followed them and other people didn't. We voted and charted the results. Ask me who won!

The portrait of Mona Lisa is so famous that lots of famous musicians have written songs about it: musicians like Nat King Cole and even Britney Spears! We got to listen to a bunch of these songs while we did a fun activity. We partnered up with our buddies from another class and drew his/her portrait. We tried to work like DaVinci and drew just what we SAW.

Want to see the portrait that my partner drew of me?? Ask me about Mona Lisa by Leonardo DaVinci. I'll have lots of interesting information to share with you.