

Hi Mom and Dad,

Today the Art Parent came into our class and showed us our **Masterpiece of the Month**.

Before we got to learn about our Masterpiece of the Month, we read a book called The Dot by Peter Reynolds. It was about a girl named Vashti who painted these great dots. At first she didn't think she was very good at art. But by the end of the book she was practically famous. We got to paint our very own dot masterpieces just like Vashti. Check mine out.

Then we learned about a famous painter named **George Seurat** (his name sounds like "Hoorah!"). His most famous picture is a **HUGE** painting (7' x 10') that lives at the Art Institute of Chicago. It's called **A Sunday Afternoon on La Grande Jatte**. He painted it when he was only 27 years old and it took him over 2 whole years to paint.

If you look really, really closely at this painting, you will see that *George Seurat* painted with millions and millions of teeny tiny dots. You can't even see the dots from far away. The dots seem to make the colors dance. It's amazing!

George Seurat's unique technique of using dots to paint is called Pointillism...and he influenced many other great painters with this technique (like *Vincent Van Gogh*, *Paul Gauguin* and *Henri Matisse*)

This famous painting did a great job of telling a story of what life was like in a park on a Sunday afternoon a long time ago.

Then we played I Spy with *La Grande Jatte* and found lots of wacky and interesting things hiding in this picture, like a monkey on a leash!

We got a chance to create our own pieces of artwork using Seurat's Pointillism technique. Check it out.

Ask me about *A Sunday Afternoon on La Grande Jatte* by *George Seurat*. I will have a lot to share!