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Medfield Afterschool Program Studies Different Cultures



Ming and Edward Fei pictured at a recent MAP event. (Photos courtesy of Stephanie Scangas)

BY JOSHUA PERRY • Wed, Apr 03, 2013

The Medfield Afterschool Program's (MAP) second and third graders have been involved in an initiative that seeks to raise awareness and understanding of cultures across the globe. The yearlong continental theme includes parents and family members to increase the students' understanding of the differences between cultures.

The family aspect of the program was highlighted during the study of Asian culture. Three parents visited MAP to explain what life was like growing up in China and Japan. The children learned about the differences in celebrations and festivals and the differences between schools in the United States and those in other countries.

But, it was not only a discussion of differences. As Stephanie Scangas, MAP Second and Third Grade Director, explained, there was also a lot of common traits that were shared by both cultures.

"Through this journey we found out that there were many similarities between our culture and the two Asian cultures, such as children go to school, play, and participate in sports," said Scangas.

MAP is hoping to spread the word about its afterschool activities and invited administrators and teachers from Wheelock School to attend a recent program and learn firsthand about the multicultural initiative. — *Hometown Weekly Staff*

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