



Third Grade Thoughts

Ms. Udin, Ms. A. Bollini, Ms. Grissler, Ms. Granieri and Ms. Hession

Parent Newsletter – March 2017

WHAT ARE WE STUDYING?

Literacy:

Reading – Although all of our learning up until this point supports the Common Core, we are beginning our test preparation for the upcoming ELA statewide test. Using various materials, we will review all of the skills that the children will be exposed to on the upcoming exam. We will also continue our focus on reading complex texts.

Word Study – The students will continue to practice various spelling patterns each week in class.

Grammar – Daily Language – Variety of writing skills, mechanics, and conventions are practiced daily.

Writing – We will be expanding on our thoughts about the texts we have read to prepare the students to properly answer the short and extended response questions. The students need to use textual evidence to help them respond to both types of questions.

Math:

Although all of our learning up until this point has supported the Common Core, we are beginning our test preparation for the upcoming Math statewide test. Using various materials, we will review all of the skills that the children will be exposed to on the upcoming exam. We are also going to begin Chapter 9 (Compare Fractions) of our Go Math Program.

Social Studies:

The students will begin to study Brazil this month. We will study how culture, history, geography, people, and government affect communities in Brazil.

Science:

Through the Ready Gen Curriculum, the students will be exposed to various science related topics previously visited.

Technology:

During the month of March, your child will continue to focus on keyboarding and mouse skills, as well as proper use of the Internet. We will be using online tools to help maximize these skills. Along the way, we will work on integrating their literacy and mathematical skills, ensuring that all our students maximize their learning with hands on opportunities to succeed. We will also be continuing to learn about Microsoft Word and how to find information about a topic using online resources.

What's New in Music and Art?

Ms. Granatelli: Students will be exploring how to create a collage.

Mr. Cintula: Students are working on their repertoire of folk/world music in "The Music Connection" (Grade 3). They are also learning music staff decoding skills with both note names and rhythms. Ms. Hession's class is learning how to read the music staff through folk songs in their textbook "The Music Connection", as well as using interactive smart board note reading games. They are working on folk songs from around the world throughout the year.

Ms. LaMorte: Students will continue study of Soprano Recorder, learn proper hold, play, and tone production using notes B and A with proper fingering, learn 2nd piece of music, and possibly learn new note G and 3rd piece of music.

*IMPORTANT DATES

3/8 – Report Cards Distributed

3/8 – Parent Teacher Conferences, 5-8pm

3/9 – Parent Teacher Conferences, 12:20-2:20pm – Half day of school for students

3/10 – PTA Annual Basket Auction – You will have to be in it to win it!

3/15 – PTA Meeting, 7pm

3/16 – Jazz Night

3/17 – Happy St. Patrick's Day – Wear Green!

3/24 & 3/25 – Spring Musical, "When in Rome"

3/28, 3/29, & 3/30 – NYS ELA Exams

LOOKING AHEAD...

5/2, 5/3, & 5/4 – NYS Math Exams

News/Information/Tips/Reminders

- Continue to practice all multiplication facts 0-12.
- Review your content-based and math vocabulary daily.
- Be sure to use text-based evidence when answering all types of questions, such as multiple choice, short answers, and extended response questions.
- Work on using mathematical language in written mathematical explanations.



PTA News

Our Annual Night of Chances will be held on Friday, 3/10. Raffle ticket bundles are now on sale. We are still collecting \$5 donations from Petrides families to help purchase baskets.

Save the date for our Rock em Sock em fundraiser on 3/31.

Our next PTA meeting will be Wednesday, 3/15 at 7pm (meeting in B104).



"We are in the home stretch. Continue to work hard and maintain your focus this month as we prepare for the Common Core ELA and Math tests."

-Ms. Udin, Ms. A. Bollini, Ms. Grissler, Ms. Granieri and Ms. Hession

A Note From Ms. Caccese

Dear Families,

It's hard to believe we are already in March...time flies when you're having fun at Petrides and we sure have been having a lot of it!! 100th day activities brought lots of joy to lots of classrooms, we had a movie day experience right in our own auditorium and many thanks to the families who participated in the PTA's Thank Heaven for Little Girls Dance! These are the things that make Petrides such a special place.

Something else that should be highlighted are the many awesome events that took place during Respect For All Week here at Petrides. Students took an anti-bullying pledge, wrote out hearts of encouragement to classmates and spread happiness all around the building with our Share a Smile Campaign. We encourage our kiddies to spread the love all over the world too and that starts here at Petrides...let us all take time to share a smile in our communities, in our homes and in our school!!

Warm Wishes,
Ms. Caccese



Wellbeing of all students we are sending this important information about Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) to all parents this month.

Many parents are aware that ADHD is a common childhood mental health condition, and most parents recognize the importance of staying focused at home and at school. Parents should also understand that it is perfectly normal for children to show inattention, distractibility, impulsivity or hyperactivity at times, this is part of every child's healthy development. However, if you are concerned that these behaviors are impacting your child's performance at school or creating problems at home you should consider seeking professional help. Recent surveys show that approximately 11% of children have been diagnosed with ADHD and the average age of diagnosis is 7 years of age. Studies have also found that students with ADHD had persistent difficulties that resulted in lower average grades, more failed grades, more disciplinary problems, increased dropout rates, and a lower rate of college undergraduate completion. Several approaches have been shown to be effective for treating ADHD including behavior therapy and medication. Recent advancements in behavior therapy mean that many children, especially young children, can make significant improvements without medication.

Please see below for common signs and symptoms that can help you identify if your child is experiencing ADHD as well links to some additional online resources. As always parents are encouraged to speak with a trusted adult in the school with any concerns about their child's mental health. We are all here to help and we can connect you with local treatment providers when needed.

Common signs and symptoms of ADHD:

- Is easily distracted
- Doesn't seem to be listening when spoken to directly
- Has difficulty following instructions
- Has trouble organizing
- Avoids or dislikes sustained effort
- Is forgetful, always losing things
- Fidgeting or squirming, trouble staying in one place or waiting
- Trouble playing quietly
- Extreme impatience
- Always seems to be "on the go" or "driven by a motor"
- Excessive talking or interrupting, blurting out answers

Additional online resources:

- [Centers for Disease Control ADHD website:](#) Includes basic information about ADHD such as common symptoms, statistics and treatment recommendations
- [Mayo Clinic ADHD Health Information page:](#) Patient friendly information about ADHD including symptoms, diagnosis, treatment and Self-management
- [NYC Well:](#) Local resource where you can chat with a specialist and get a referral to a local specialist who can provide treatment