



# The Fantastic Four

Mrs. Cicale , Ms. Komar, Ms. Dalton , and Mr. G



Parent Newsletter – Issue 3 – November 2012

## WHAT ARE WE STUDYING?

### Literacy:

**Reading** – We will begin our Nonfiction Workshop. The skills addressed for the unit will focus on determining importance, questioning and synthesis. In this workshop, students will be reading a variety of factual texts, including articles and informational texts.

**\*Please note the format of our reading response homework will change to responding to nonfiction texts. You may want to visit your local library or bookstore to ensure your child has plenty of nonfiction resources to read at home.**

**Word Study** – We are continuing to work with Words Their Way differentiated weekly spelling lists. We are also continuing to use our Word a Day Program and weekly content specific vocabulary list.

### Math:

This month students will study concepts in Unit Four, which focuses on decimals and their uses, as well as metric units of length. Some of the skills we will address are decimal place value, comparing and ordering decimals, estimating with decimals, decimal addition and subtraction, and using decimals to convert metric units of length.

**\*Tip: Although Unit Three is complete, please continue to study the multiplication times tables nightly with your child, as students will need instant recall of these facts for future units.**

### Social Studies:

We will begin Unit 2: Three Worlds Meet. Chapter 3 will be covered this month. The main focuses of Chapter 3 are the first explorers and the development of colonies. We will take a close look at life in the Dutch colony of New Amsterdam. We will also examine life in New York colony under English rule.

### Science:

This month Mrs. Ferrezza's students will be learning about the water cycle, evaporation, condensation, and water tension. They will also learn how water reacts on different surfaces.

## What's New in the Arts?

**Mr. Cintula's** general music classes are working on basic music theory from our Theory Time for Fourth Grade books. They will also learn how water reacts on different surfaces.

**Ms. LaMorte's** classes have been working to learn and apply note "Low-D" and "High-C" on the recorder. They will also be learning how to coordinate fingers on recorder with the notes "B", "A", "G", "Low-E", "Low-D", and "High-C". Students will learn two pieces using quarter, half, dotted half and whole notes.

**Ms. Granatelli's** classes are working on their self-portraits this month.

## \*IMPORTANT DATES

11/12 – Veteran's Day – School closed.

11/16 – PBIS Assembly – wear a white shirt.

11/19 – Parents as Partners – Reading Nonfiction – 8:15 a.m.

Week of 11/19 – Thanksgiving Feast – Details to follow.

11/22 & 11/23 – Thanksgiving Recess – School closed.

## News/Information/Tips/Reminders

- Students should be reading every night and logging their reading progress on their reading logs on Tuesday and Thursday nights. A reading response entry should be written every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.
- Please note the format of our reading response homework will be changing at the start of our nonfiction reading and writing units of study.
- If possible, please visit the library to borrow some nonfiction resources for your child to read nightly for homework during our nonfiction units of study.

### Message from Teachers

**"Have a Wonderful Thanksgiving!"**

-Mrs. Cicale , Ms. Komar, Ms. Dalton, and Mr. G



### A Note From Ms. O'Donnell

*"Our new website is up and running. Check out [petridesschool.com](http://petridesschool.com) for up to date information regarding dates, special events, and our curriculum."*

