



# The Fabulous First Grade

Ms. Tantillo, Ms. Sims, Ms. Moore, Ms. R. Bollini and Mr. G



## Parent Newsletter – May 2018

### WHAT ARE WE STUDYING?

#### Literacy:

**Word Study** – In May, we will study vowel digraphs and suffixes.

*There is a spelling test at the end of each week. Students are responsible for knowing previous weeks and current week words. Parents are to sign and return test on Monday.*

**Reading Workshop**– May theme: Dig Deeply into Complex Text. Readers will understand that characters in stories can convey important life lessons. Learners will explore content to understand that America is a strong country because of the diversity of its people.

Writers will understand that valid opinions are supported by reasons.

\*Please continue to read daily with your child – encourage him/her to use print strategies to figure out difficult words, retell the story in sequence (beginning, middle, end). Encourage them to ask questions and then discuss possible responses to their questions.

Students should be reading **20-30 minutes** each night (even if not written in homework).

**Writing Workshop**– students will formulate an opinion and support it with good reasons and text evidence.

#### Math:

Unit 10 continued – Developing understanding of linear measurement and measuring lengths as iterating length units.

Domain: Measurement and Data, Represent Data

We will be working with analog clocks, please encourage your child to tell time using an analog clock.

Unit 11– Reasoning about attributes of, and composing and decomposing geometric shapes.

Domain: Geometry

#### Technology:

Your child will continue practicing their keyboarding and mouse skills, typing, resources used for research, and proper use of the Internet. 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. In the month of May we will be focusing primarily on mouse and keyboarding skills.

### What's New in Music and Art?

**Ms. LaMorte:** Students will learn 3 pieces with proper mallet techniques on Barred instruments (song and dance added), learn new piece, and work well with partners while singing properly.

**Ms. Eliot:** Students will revisit some favorite songs to review rhythms and movements with music.

### \*IMPORTANT DATES

5/14 – 5/23 – Our schools' **Annual Student Art Exhibition:** Students who participated in 2017-18 visual arts classes have their artwork exhibited in C-building hallways (i.e. hallways located closest to the auditorium entrance).

5/21 – Parents as Partners, 12:15pm – Spring Workshop

5/23 – Street Fair, 5-8pm – Parents are invited to meet the staff.

5/28 – Memorial Day – No School

### News/Information/Tips/Reminders

- Please check your child's red dot notebook for nightly homework. Remember to **sign their homework**.
- It is very important **not** to go ahead in workbooks as homework reflects work completed in class. Please check your child's homework.
- Students are responsible for any missed work/assignments that occur during their absence.
- Please remember to go through and empty your child's folder each night. **Red folders, red dot notebooks and math books should be returned to school everyday!**
- Please be aware that first grade students are responsible for unpacking/packing their supplies. Encourage the same at home.
- Please make every effort to get your child to school on time (8:00 start). Lateness interrupts lessons and causes disruptions in their learning.
- Please make sure your child has **3** sharpened pencils to use each day.
- As always, please label your child's clothing so it can be returned in case it gets misplaced.
- Please continue with donations of tissues and wipes for the classroom. They are appreciated.
- **\*\*\*Check our instagram and twitter pages:**  
Twitter – @PetridesSchool  
Instagram – mjpetrides school

**\*\*With the warm weather approaching, please have your child dress appropriately.**

### Our Social - Emotional Learning...

This month we will be focusing on Peer Relationships. This work will encourage supportive interactions and friendships among classmates. Our students will participate in activities to consider the qualities important to friendship, to develop strategies for minimizing the costs associated with cross-gender friendships, to learn effective responses for dealing with bullying situations, and to practice providing peers with support.

### A Note From Ms. Ponzi

Hello Petrides Families,

Spring has sprung-hopefully everyone can get outside and enjoy that sunshine!! The feeling of excitement is in the air as we near the end of our school year, let's make sure to stay focused and bright until then.

We would like to commend our dedicated 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders for their hard work and commitment with preparing for the NYS ELA test. We would like to wish them luck for this week's upcoming NYS Math test as well.

We look forward to all of the exciting culminating events that are quickly approaching. Please mark your calendars and save the dates accordingly. I can't wait to celebrate with you all.

Sincerely,  
Ms. Ponzi

