



# The Fabulous First Grade

Ms. Tantillo, Ms. Reardon, Ms. Moore, Ms. King and Mr. G



## Parent Newsletter – February 2019

### WHAT ARE WE STUDYING?

#### Literacy:

**Word Study** - In February, students will be introduced to consonant blends and the sounds of y as a vowel. They will begin to understand and learn to apply the concept that when two or more consonants come together in a word, the sounds of each consonant is usually heard and that the letter y can represent a vowel sound. They will continue to learn and read high-frequency words in context.

**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** - February theme: Character Traits  
Students will read fiction texts focusing on character traits. Students will focus on what a character looks like, what the character is doing (how they are acting), what a character says, and how the character is feeling.

**This can also be practiced at home while reading with your child.**

\*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) using temporal words (first, next, then and last) and ask questions about the text.

**Writing Workshop** - Writers will use what they learn in literary text to create a narrative (include letter writing). Writers will use time order to sequence events.

#### Math:

**Unit 7** - Developing understanding of whole number relationships and place value, including grouping in tens and ones.

Domain: Number and Operations in Base Ten: understand place value.

*Much of the new Common Core Math Curriculum focuses on math talk. When doing math homework have your child explain his steps and give reasons for what he does to solve the problem using the math vocabulary for the unit.*

\*\* Think Central has resources for your child. This is especially useful when your child is absent from school.

#### Technology:

During the month of February, your child will be focusing on both 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.

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

**Ms. LaMorte:** Students will analyze music for tonality, meter and form, secure songs regarding unit about Reading with Motions and Stage Presence, work well on quarter note beat and with partners well, and learn new song about Valentine and many speeds. Mr. G's class will also secure songs for Friendship/Valentine.

**Ms. Granatelli:** During the month of February, art students will continue drawing and painting. Class 332 continues to explore drawing, painting and collage.

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

### \*IMPORTANT DATES

2/5 - Lunar New Year - No School

2/10 - Sweetheart Dance, 2 to 5pm - Tickets on sale now

2/13 - PTA Meeting, 7:00pm

2/14 - 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School

2/15 - SIX FLAGS READ TO SUCCEED reading logs due

2/18-2/22 - Midwinter Recess - No School

### News/Information/Tips/Reminders

- **Please check your child's red dot notebook for nightly homework and notices.**
- *Please sign your child's homework.*
- It is very important **not** to go ahead in workbooks as homework reflects work completed in class.
- **When your child is absent, he/she is responsible for work missed and homework assigned. Please check the weekly homework handout in their red dot notebook. This includes the four (4) math pages before the assigned homework pages.**
- Red folders, red dot notebooks and math books should be returned to school everyday.
- Any notes/letters to your child's teacher should **not** be written in their red dot notebooks. Please write on a separate paper.
- Please be aware that first grade students are responsible for unpacking/packing their supplies. Encourage the same at home.
- Students should be reading 20 minutes each night.
- Please make sure your child has **3** sharpened pencils to use each day.
- Dress your child appropriately for the weather. Keep in mind that our classrooms get warm, but it is getting cooler outside, so layering works best.
- As always, please label your child's clothing and lunch boxes so they can be returned in case they get misplaced.
- Remember to complete "Six Flags Read to Succeed" reading log. These are due **February 15, 2019.**

*"All of the top achievers I know are life-long learners. Looking for new skills, insights, and ideas. If they're not learning, they're not growing and not moving toward excellence."*

---Denis Wartley

### PTA News

Thank you to all our Kindergarten cuties who showed us their favorite season's fashions in our Four Season Fashion Show! These kids owned the stage and put on a great show! On Sunday, February 10th the PTA will be hosting a "Sweetheart Dance" from 2-5pm. So be sure to invite your favorite sweetheart and come ready to party! Our next PTA meeting will be February 13<sup>th</sup>, at 7pm, we hope to see you there! Thank you for supporting our school.

### A Note From Ms. Ponzi

Dear Families,

February certainly brings about thoughts of love and happiness--and I truly LOVE Petrides and all of our families. Thank you for your continued support and for volunteering your time in our school, it really makes our school such a special place. This month, our Kindergarten cuties walked the runway at the Fashion Show modeling their most adorable outfits. Thank you to the PTA for coordinating this awesome event. Please take note of all of the upcoming events planned for this month. We look forward to seeing you there.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to email me at [JCaputo9@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:JCaputo9@schools.nyc.gov).

Sincerely,  
Ms. Ponzi

