



The Fantastic Fourth Grade

Ms. Dalton, Ms. Meduri, Ms. Cicale, Ms. Walsh,
Ms. Komar and Ms. Hession



Parent Newsletter – November 2017

WHAT ARE WE STUDYING?

Literacy:

Reading – We are going to be continuing reading the book *Wonder* by RJ Palacio. The students are going to be working on identifying themes throughout the story. Students will also be analyzing the characters throughout the novel. They will be collecting text evidence to support their thesis claims.

Writing – Writers will be completing literary essays based on character traits and themes identified in *Wonder*. Students will be working within small groups to locate supportive evidence for their essays. The groups will be recording their evidence and focusing in on specific scenes and dialogue in the book.

Math:

Our current chapter focuses multiplying 2-digit numbers using different strategies. Students will work on using the four operations with whole numbers to solve problems. Students will also work using place value understanding and properties of operations to perform multi-digit arithmetic.

Social Studies:

Students will be learning about the early Native American settlements in New York. They will be learning about the different Native American groups that lived in different parts of New York and about the effects of the geography of New York on the first people who lived there.

Science

Students will be studying the following topics:
1. The processes that make up the water cycle.
2. Why soil is important, weathering, and erosion.

What's New in Music and Art?

Mr. Cintula: We are continuing our journey of folk music around the world through our textbook series "The Music Connection", grade 4. We will be singing together and solo as well as sample percussion instruments and techniques on various songs.

Ms. LaMorte: Students will continue study of soprano recorder, secure notes B, A, G, and E, learn new note D with new piece, learn piece for Thanksgiving using the Barred Instruments, and learn proper mallet technique.

Ms. Granatelli: During the month of November students will explore the art technique of "collage."

*IMPORTANT DATES

11/7 - Election Day - No school for students

11/15 - Report Cards Distributed

11/15 - Evening Parent Teacher Conferences, 5:30pm-8pm

11/16 - Afternoon Parent Teacher Conferences, 12:20pm-2:20pm

11/16 - Half Day - 11:20am dismissal time

11/17 - Trip to Staten Island Museum - 420 & 422

11/20 - Trip to Staten Island Museum - 421

11/21 - Parents as Partners Workshop: Complex Text, 2:30pm

11/21 - 4th Grade Thanksgiving Feast

11/23 & 11/24 - Thanksgiving Recess - No School

News/Information/Tips/Reminders

- Please continue to review your child's agenda book each night.
- Please continue to review multiplication and division tables daily.
- Students will be assessed on their times tables regularly.



"We are looking forward to celebrating with our students at the annual feast."

*-Ms. Dalton, Ms. Meduri, Ms. Cicale, Ms. Walsh,
Ms. Komar and Ms. Hession*

PTA News

PTA Meeting - 11/8

Save the Date - Holiday Fair 12/8

A Note From Ms. Ponzi



Dear Families,

November is a month to give thanks! I am so thankful for all of the parents who have supported our children so far this school year. We would like to say a big thank you to our PTA who organized this year's Halloween event "Boo at your School" for our Elementary School students.

This month we will be celebrating the importance of reading here at school, but reading at home is very important too. The benefits of independent reading include improved vocabulary, verbal fluency, and enhanced general academic achievement. This year, our school has partnered with MobyMax, a website that is designed to individualize student learning. This resource offers your child access to texts based on their reading level, practice with comprehension questions and tips and skills to master standards. This engaging website will motivate your child to read independently and build comprehension. Usernames and passwords have been sent home and teachers are monitoring students' usage at home and are encouraging it.

As Dr. Seuss says, "The more you read, the more things you will know. The more you learn, the more places you will go." I cannot wait to see all the places our children will go.

Sincerely,
Ms. Ponzi



