



# The Fantastic Fourth Grade

Ms. Dalton, Ms. Cicale, Ms. Hession,  
Ms. Meduri, Ms. A. Bollini, Ms. Occhipinti and Ms. Duffy



## Parent Newsletter – October 2019

### WHAT ARE WE STUDYING?

#### Literacy:

**Reading** – We will begin reading the book, *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio. Our reading will not only highlight the important message emphasized throughout the book, it will also be guided by our focus standards. Students will be reading and responding to specific literature standards throughout their reading. They will be completing standard based tasks in response to *Wonder*.

**Writing** – We will continue to construct literary essays in response to literature. Students will be working on identifying theme, traits, and character change throughout selected texts. Students will then respond to standard aligned tasks regarding their reading comprehension. Students will also be comparing common themes, trends, and characters across different texts through essay.

#### Math:

We'll be wrapping up Module 1 where students are working with whole numbers and applying them in single and multi step word problems. We have been developing our understanding up to millions by using the place value chart and recognizing the pattern of times ten. Students will continue writing digits in numerous forms, as well as rounding, comparing, adding and subtracting.

We will begin Module 2, which uses length, mass and capacity in the metric system to convert between units using place value. Conversions will be applied in single and multi step word problems.

#### Science:

Students will explore force and motion. They will use science tools to measure force, and discover how simple machines work by reducing the amount of force needed. They will crank gears, decrease friction and investigate tools to identify what makes them labor-saving devices.

#### Social Studies:

Students will be learning about the early colonists in the New York region and the reasoning behind the colonists' journey to the new land. Students will also be learning about the challenges the colonists faced. They will also explore the first governments that were created amongst the colonies.

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

**Mr. Cintula:** We are getting to know our Orff instrument collection consisting of: Soprano, Alto & Bass Xylophones and Metallophones, Frame drums, Suzuki Tympani, Tempo Blocks and other exciting accompaniment instruments. We are learning folk songs with Orff accompaniment from our World Music and Drumming leveled method book. The fourth grade pieces consist of slightly larger ensembles that will help them get ready for our performing arts classes in 5<sup>th</sup> grade. More method books with Orff arranged pop songs are on the way too!

**Ms. Eliot:** Students will learn about the different instruments in an orchestra and explore the elements of music.

**Ms. Granatelli:** During the month of October, students will learn how to draw and paint their self-portrait. All art materials are provided in class.

### \*IMPORTANT DATES

10/1 – Rosh Hashanah – No School

10/9 – Yom Kippur – No School

10/14 – Columbus Day – No School

10/16 – PTA Meeting, 6:30pm

10/27 – PTA hosts Trunk or Treat

10/31 – Halloween March of Dimes Wonder Walk on school track. Students may wear their Halloween attire. No face masks please. Parents are invited to come and watch their children walk.

### 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 currently researching and planning class trips aligned to our 4<sup>th</sup> Grade curriculum. We will keep you informed and send home any necessary permission slips.



#### PTA News

October 4 – Pretzels for Panthers  
October 11 – Movie night "The Sandlot"  
October 15 – Dine out @ Chili's 11am-11pm  
October 16 – PTA meeting @ 6:30pm  
October 27 – Trunk or Treat



World famous chocolate sales continues.

*"We hope you are all enjoying fourth grade so far!  
Stay tuned for more fun to come!"*

*-Ms. Dalton, Ms. Cicale, Ms. Hession, Ms. Meduri,  
Ms. A. Bollini, Ms. Occhipinti and Ms. Duffy*

### A Note From Ms. Ponzi

Dear Families,

We are off to a great start and I am super excited to begin this next month of school. We will be hosting a Walk-a-thon to support the March of Dimes on October 31<sup>st</sup> at 9:00am on the field. All students in grades Pre-K-4 are invited to walk in their Halloween costumes on our track. We ask that you refrain from dressing the students in costumes with masks and please do not send props into school. March of Dimes envelopes will be sent home this week and can be returned with donations on the day of the Wonder Walk. Parents are welcome to view our costume parade on the field (weather permitting). Looking forward to seeing you all there!

Sincerely,  
Ms. Ponzi

