



The Fantastic Fourth Grade

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



Parent Newsletter – December 2018

WHAT ARE WE STUDYING?

Literacy:

Reading – We are going to be finishing the book Wonder by RJ Palacio. The students will continue to work on identifying themes and supportive evidence for their literacy essay. Students are gathering evidence by closely analyzing the characters and text. This evidence will be used to support the claim they select from their collection of themes throughout the text.

Writing – Writers will be completing their literary essays based on the themes they have identified in the novel Wonder. Students will be continuing their work within small teams to closely read and interpret specific moments in the text. Students will continue 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:

We will begin working on Chapter 5 of the Go Math curriculum this month. Students will be working on determining factors and multiples, and how to generate and describe number patterns. Students will use models and arrays to determine products.

Social Studies:

We are beginning the second unit of our Social Studies curriculum. Students will be studying how the exploration and settlement of the New York area led to interaction among diverse peoples. Students will learn how the arrival of Europeans in New York affected the ways of life of Native Americans there.

Science

Students will be:

1. Measuring forces using a spring scale.
2. Studying the kinds of forces, such as gravity and friction.
3. Experimenting with simple machines, such as the lever, pulley, inclined plane, screw and wheel and axle.

Technology:

During the month of December, 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 and a Typing Software Program 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. We will also be continuing to learn about Microsoft Word and how to find information about a topic using online resources.

What's New in Music and Art?

Mr. Cintula: We have ended our songs of thankfulness with a harvest folk song and are beginning our winter themed pieces in our Music Connection text. These pieces work on basic harmony singing and changes in meter.

Ms. LaMorte: Students will learn line dance and Heel and Toe Polka and discuss/apply "What Would the World Be Like Without Music?" in new piece. If time, students will also learn recorder piece with new note High D and familiar notes B, A, G, E, D and High C, learn 11 songs with motions, and self-evaluate.

Ms. Granatelli: During the month of December students will be exploring sculpturing with modeling clay.

*IMPORTANT DATES

12/7 – Holiday Fair

12/12 – Trip to Staten Island Museum (420 and 421)

12/13 – Trip to Staten Island Museum (422 and 333)

12/24-1/1/19 – Winter Recess – School closed. School will resume on 1/2/19.

News/Information/Tips/Reminders

- Students need to practice the times tables each night.
- Please check and sign your child's logs. Students need to read each night to help build and maintain their stamina.

"Have a Wonderful Holiday and a Happy and Healthy New Year!"

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

PTA News

12/7 – PTA hosts Holiday Fair

12/19 – PTA Meeting, 7:00pm



A Note From Ms. Ponzi

Dear Families,

It was so nice to see so many of you attend our Parent Teacher Conferences last month. Communication and collaboration between families and school is extremely beneficial for the success of our students, so we THANK YOU!

I encourage and appreciate your continued support at upcoming Parents as Partners events. Many parents were up at school this past month taking advantage of our workshops and assisting their child in the classroom, learning how to help their child at home and shopping at the book fair. I look forward to seeing you again soon!

Please continue to dress your child appropriately for the changing weather. We are continuing to send children outside for recess when the weather permits.

As we approach the holiday season, let us remember the importance of family, friends, and fun! I wish you and your families a very Happy and Healthy holiday season with your loved ones.

Sincerely,
Ms. Ponzi

