



The Super Second Grade

Ms. Magliocco, Ms. Ferrara, Ms. Doran, Ms. King, Ms. Sconzo and Mr. G

Parent Newsletter – March 2017



WHAT ARE WE STUDYING?

Literacy:

- Mentor Text: **1 - The Man Who Made Parks**
2 - Your Local Park
3 - Skateboard Parks
4 - Animal Parks

Students will:

R.I. 2.2 - Identify the main topic of a multiparagraph text

as well as the focus of specific paragraphs within the text.

R.I. 2.4 - Determine the meaning of words and phrases in a

text relevant to a grade 2 topic or subject area.

R.I. 2.6 - Identify the main purpose of a text, including

what the author wants to answer, explain, or describe.

R.I. 2.1 - Ask and answer such questions as who, what,

when, why, where and how, to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text

Phonics - This month we will be working with the following spelling patterns:

- Vowel digraphs *oo, ue, ew, ui*
- Suffixes *-ly, -ful, -er, -or, -ish*
- Prefixes *un-, re-, pre-, dis-*

Math:

This month students will:

- Identify the value of coins.
- Count on to find the total value of pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters.
- Show coin amounts in different ways.
- Group coins to show \$1.00.
- Problem solve using money.
- Tell time to the hour and half hour.
- Distinguish between A.M. and P.M. when telling time.

Science:

Students will be studying Earth materials and matter this month.

Some topics we will be learning about include the following:

- Matter and objects have properties.
- Matter and objects can be classified.
- Non-living things can be human created or naturally occurring.

Technology:

During the month of March, your child will continue to focus on 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.



Social Studies:

This month the Second Grade will learn about the following topics:

- The United States is founded on the principles of democracy, and these principles are reflected in all types of communities.
- The United States was founded on democratic principles (dignity for all, equality, fairness, respect for authority and rules).
- Government is established to protect the rights of citizens, promote fairness, and keep people safe.

What's New in Music and Art?

Mr. Cintula: Classes 220, 221, and 222 are working on their repertoire of folk/world music in "The Music Connection" (Grade 2).

They are beginning to learn music staff decoding skills and basic rhythm figure identification. Class 332 is reading through arts themed stories, analyzing vocabulary and viewing short films based on the books, followed with a discussion of the characters and the plot of the story.

Ms. Granatelli: During the month of March students will finish their bookmaking project.

Ms. LaMorte (Class 332): Students will learn names, meanings and proper hold/play of the Orff Barred Instruments, 3 friendship songs, harmonic concepts with partner songs, and analyze music.

Ms. Eliot: Students will identify and demonstrate movement elements and skills (such as bend, twist, slide, skip, hop) with music and dance.

*IMPORTANT DATES

3/8 - Report Cards Distributed

3/8 - Parent Teacher Conferences, 5-8pm

3/9 - Parent Teacher Conferences, 12:20-2:20pm - Half day of school for students

3/10 - PTA Annual Basket Auction - You will have to be in it to win it!

3/15 - PTA Meeting, 7pm

3/16 - Jazz Night

3/17 - Happy St. Patrick's Day - Wear Green!

3/24 & 3/25 - Spring Musical, "When in Rome"

News/Information/Tips/Reminders

- Students must come to school with sharpened pencils each day. Please replenish supplies as needed.
- Donations of sharpened pencils, facial tissues, and paper towels are always appreciated.

PTA News

Our Annual Night of Chances will be held on Friday, 3/10. Raffle ticket bundles are now on sale. We are still collecting \$5 donations from Petrides families to help purchase baskets.

Save the date for our Rock em Sock em fundraiser on 3/31.

Our next PTA meeting will be Wednesday, 3/15 at 7pm

"There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure."
 -----Colin Powell





A Note From Ms. Caccese

Dear Families,

It's hard to believe we are already in March...time flies when you're having fun at Petrides and we sure have been having a lot of it!! 100th day activities brought lots of joy to lots of classrooms, we had a movie day experience right in our own auditorium and many thanks to the families who participated in the PTA's Thank Heaven for Little Girls Dance! These are the things that make Petrides such a special place.

Something else that should be highlighted are the many awesome events that took place during Respect For All Week here at Petrides. Students took an anti-bullying pledge, wrote out hearts of encouragement to classmates and spread happiness all around the building with our Share a Smile Campaign. We encourage our kiddies to spread the love all over the world too and that starts here at Petrides...let us all take time to share a smile in our communities, in our homes and in our school!!

Warm Wishes,
Ms. Caccese

As part of our ongoing efforts to support the Mental Health and Wellbeing of all students we are sending this important information about Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) to all parents this month.

Many parents are aware that ADHD is a common childhood mental health condition, and most parents recognize the importance of staying focused at home and at school. Parents should also understand that it is perfectly normal for children to show inattention, distractibility, impulsivity or hyperactivity at times, this is part of every child's healthy development.

However, if you are concerned that these behaviors are impacting your child's performance at school or creating problems at home you should consider seeking professional help. Recent surveys show that approximately 11% of children have been diagnosed with ADHD and the average age of diagnosis is 7 years of age. Studies have also found that students with ADHD had persistent difficulties that resulted in lower average grades, more failed grades, more disciplinary problems, increased dropout rates, and a lower rate of college undergraduate completion. Several approaches have been shown to be effective for treating ADHD including behavior therapy and medication. Recent advancements in behavior therapy mean that many children, especially young children, can make significant improvements without medication.

Please see below for common signs and symptoms that can help you identify if your child is experiencing ADHD as well links to some additional online resources. As always parents are encouraged to speak with a trusted adult in the school with any concerns about their child's mental health. We are all here to help and we can connect you with local treatment providers when needed.

Common signs and symptoms of ADHD:

- Is easily distracted
- Doesn't seem to be listening when spoken to directly
- Has difficulty following instructions
- Has trouble organizing
- Avoids or dislikes sustained effort
- Is forgetful, always losing things
- Fidgeting or squirming, trouble staying in one place or waiting
- Trouble playing quietly
- Extreme impatience
- Always seems to be "on the go" or "driven by a motor"
- Excessive talking or interrupting, blurting out answers

Additional online resources:

- [Centers for Disease Control ADHD website](#): Includes basic information about ADHD such as common symptoms, statistics and treatment recommendations
- [Mayo Clinic ADHD Health Information page](#): Patient friendly information about ADHD including symptoms, diagnosis, treatment and Self-management
- [NYC Well](#): Local resource where you can chat with a specialist and get a referral to a local specialist who can provide treatment