



Third Grade Thoughts

Ms. Udin, Ms. A. Bollini, Ms. Grissler, Ms. Granieri and Ms. Hession



Parent Newsletter – April 2017

WHAT ARE WE STUDYING?

Literacy:

Reading – Readers will account stories including character actions and how they contribute to the sequence. They will also recount stories using text-based details to understand the central message, lesson, or theme.

Word Study – The students will continue to practice various spelling patterns each week in class.

Grammar – Daily Language – Variety of writing skills, mechanics, and conventions are practiced daily.

Writing – Writers will support a point of view with reasons and evidence.

Math:

We will continue to prepare the students for the Math Statewide Assessment. Using various materials, we will review all of the skills that the children will be exposed to on the exam.

Social Studies:

The students will continue to study Brazil. We will study how culture, history, geography, people, and government affect communities in Brazil.

Science:

Through the Ready Gen Curriculum, the students will be learning about weather and the atmosphere.

Technology:

During the month of April, 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. 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?

Ms. Granatelli: Students in Class 322 will be ending the visual arts component with exploring how to render a still life. After the spring recess, Class 320 will begin the visual arts component, and their first project will be learning how to draw and paint their self-portrait.

Mr. Cintula: Students are working on their repertoire of folk/world music in "The Music Connection" (Grade 3). They are also learning music staff decoding skills with both note names and rhythms. Ms. Hession's class is learning how to read the music staff through folk songs in their textbook "The Music Connection", as well as using interactive smart board note reading games. They are working on folk songs from around the world throughout the year.

Ms. LaMorte: Ms. Udin's class will learn line dance and dance in "reel" formation, and self-evaluate. Ms. Grissler's class will complete new trimester assessment.

*IMPORTANT DATES

4/7 – Elementary Spirit Week t-shirt forms due

4/10-4/18 – Spring Recess – No School

4/26 – PAWS Awards, 6:30pm

4/27 – PTA General Membership Meeting

LOOKING AHEAD...

5/2, 5/3, & 5/4 – NYS Math Exams



PTA News

We are looking for parents to run for positions on the 2017/18 PTA board and also for the SLT (school leadership team). Please let us know if you are interested. New people are welcome and appreciated. Rock em not Sock em event has been postponed.

Our April PTA meeting is Thursday, April 27th at 1:00pm.

Save the date:

We are having a Mother Son bowling event May 7th from 1:00-3:00pm at Showplace Bowling. Please look for an updated flyer in your children's folders.

The Kindergarten Fashion Show is Thursday, May 11th.

Our annual Spring Fair will be held Friday, May 12th. We are looking for volunteers to help as always. Contact the PTA if you are interested in helping us.

News/Information/Tips/Reminders

- Use EngageNY.org as a tool to help prepare your child for the Math statewides. Use the rubrics provided to have the students assess themselves upon completion of complex text and problem of the day homework.
- Continue to practice all multiplication facts 0-12.
- Review your content-based and math vocabulary daily.
- Work on using mathematical language in written mathematical explanations.

"The surest way not to fail is to be determined to succeed."

---Richard Brinsley Sheridan

"Testing time is here! Continue to stay focused and show all that you know!"

*-Ms. Udin, Ms. A. Bollini, Ms. Grissler,
Ms. Granieri and Ms. Hession*

A Note From Ms. Caccese

Dear Families,

Spring is finally here and we are heading into the last third of our school year. Our children have grown in so many ways and they continue to make us proud each day. Our upper elementary students had a chance to "SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW" on the New York State ELA exams last month and our younger students continue to practice becoming better readers, writers and math problem solvers...everyone keep up the amazing work!

We will continue to host opportunities to engage with our parents and work together to ensure the success of our children. We encourage you to volunteer your time at The Petrides School during upcoming special events!

Sending happy wishes for the upcoming Spring Recess...enjoy the ones you love!

Sincerely,
Ms. Caccese



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