

FIFTH GRADE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are halfway through the year! You started receiving this monthly newsletter last month in February, which updates you about what we are learning about in each subject, as well as some important dates with upcoming events.

We are continuing to meet on Fridays as a grade to work cooperatively together and bond with one another.

Below you will find our contact information should you have any questions or concerns

Sincerely,
5th Grade Teachers

CONTACT INFO

You are always welcome to call the school at (718) 831-4016 to relay a message to us or send a note in with your child. If you prefer, here are our email addresses:

- Mrs. Apicello kapicello@schools.nyc.gov
- Mr. Barilla jbarilla2@schools.nyc.gov
- Mrs. Cardarelli ccardarelli@schools.nyc.gov
- Mrs. Diasparra ldiasparra@schools.nyc.gov
- Ms. Grubert mgrubert@schools.nyc.gov

IMPORTANT DATES

Tues. 3/2- Fri. 3/5 – Read Across America Week

Wed. 3/3 – Evening Parent Teacher Conferences
Times 4:30 – 7 PM

Thur. 3/4 – Afternoon Parent Teacher Conferences
Times 1 PM - 3 PM

Mon. 3/8 – Fri. 3/12: Civics4All Week (check Google Classroom for updates)

Fri. 3/26 – Last day before Spring Break

3/27- 4/4 – Spring Break

**Please consistently check email for updates!*

READING WORKSHOP:

ARGUMENT AND ADVOCACY

This month in we are continuing the Argument and Advocacy unit where we research debatable issues. Students will gather evidence for both sides of an issue, and make an informed, well-reasoned argument about the issue. They will also prepare an argument and participate in debates.

WRITING WORKSHOP:

ARGUMENT ESSAY

Aligned with the reading unit, our writing unit is the Research-Based Argument Essay. Students will choose an issue and continue to develop strong and powerful arguments to support their side of the issue. This writing unit will be celebrated with a presentation of students' topics.

MATHEMATICS:

DIGGING DEEPER INTO FRACTIONS

Students have begun their work around the addition and subtraction of fractions. They will now be deepening their understanding of mixed number and improper fraction addition and subtraction. They will also begin to understand using multiplication. Through inquiry-based lessons, students will build on their conceptual understanding of fractions in their math discussion groups.

SCIENCE:

MODELING MATTER

As the students are continuing their work as food scientists, they will develop a new salad dressing with a flavor, texture and appearance that appeals to consumers. They just figured out how to make a salad dressing without sediments. As they continue, they are challenged to use their understanding of the particulate nature of matter and of the properties of molecules to explain why some solids dissolve, and others do not. The class investigates dissolving by working to answer this question: *What happens to the molecules of a solid and a liquid when you mix them together?*

SOCIAL STUDIES:

EXPLORING WESTERN HEMISPHERE CULTURES

In social studies this unit, we will now be taking the next few months investigating and doing case studies on cultures in the Western Hemisphere (Canada, United States, Mexico, and Dominican Republic). The essential question we will be tackling will be: "How does WHERE you live effect HOW you live?"