



P.S. 133Q

"Lights Up Your Mind"



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P.S. 133 Students and Families,

Spring 2023

Thank you so much for the kind words of support and encouragement as a result of yesterday's announcement, confirming my appointment as Principal of P.S. 133Q. To say I am anything short of elated, would be an understatement.

As a result of that announcement, I didn't want to wait until April to formally reach out for my next Community Letter, therefore here is our **Spring** Community Letter, as we continue through the month of March and approach the upcoming Spring Recess (April 6 – April 16).

Thank you to the entire P.S. 133 school community for making me feel extremely welcome from the moment I arrived, when I joined this beautiful school community last July. Once I began to meet students, staff and families, I knew that this was a special place, and one that I never wanted to leave. I am grateful and thankful that for the foreseeable future, that will be the case. From the beginning, my main objective was to ensure the school culture, climate and environment resembled what we all believe an elementary school setting should look like and feel like, and I believe we are on the appropriate pathway to doing just that. It has been delightful seeing the collaboration between students, staff and families in a variety of ways throughout the school year, working together, just like a TEAM should.

Thank you to our Parent Teacher Association, especially our Co-Presidents Kameka Wittal and Dipshikha Yaroshevsky for their partnership, working collaboratively to ensure we are doing whatever is necessary for all constituents of P.S. 133. Our staff is special. None of the work conducted to this point would be remotely possible without each and everyone of them, and a special thanks goes out to Ms. Santo (UFT Chapter Leader and SLT Co-Chair) for demonstrating high levels of communication, ensuring we are all working continuously together as effectively and efficiently as possible. Lastly, our school would not be where it is today without my partner in this work, our fantastic Assistant Principal, Ms. Andujar. Barbara is present, responsive, caring, willing and able to support any student, staff or family member in need, no matter what else is on her plate at that moment in time. This dedication and commitment replicates what is demonstrated on a daily basis by all staff, that Together Everyone Achieves More, allowing P.S. 133 to be the special place that it is.

As we are halfway through March, a lot has taken place, and we still have numerous activities and events planned leading up to spring break and throughout the month of April. Our teachers and staff continue to support student achievement with our MTSS structure, as we focus on our Mathematics, Reading and Writing instruction, differentiating based on individual student needs, allowing each student to achieve to their greatest potential. Through conversations, we are ensuring students know what they are working on, why they are working on those particular skills, as well as the strategies they can utilize to achieve their goals, as they take ownership over their learning.

Two major areas that we continue to stress the importance of are Traffic/Safety and Attendance. In regard to **Traffic/Safety**, please do not double park, illegally park, U-turn or conduct any other activity that may impact the safety of our children during arrival or dismissal. The 105pct will continue to have an enhanced presence at our school to ensure student safety throughout the spring. If you have any suggestions about how to improve the traffic around our building, please reach out to me directly. **Attendance** continues to be critical to the academic, social and emotional success of all students in the educational setting. While we want to ensure those students who are sick stay home, students need to be in school on as a consistent basis as possible to

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achieve at their highest potential possible. There is a direct correlation between student attendance and student achievement, both positively and negatively. Please ensure you are making doctors/dentist appointments for your child outside the school day, traveling during the holiday breaks, ensuring your child is in school as much as possible. Again, if you have any questions about your child's attendance, please feel free to reach out to me directly.

As always, March and April have some exciting events and activities planned at P.S. 133:

- 3/21 – 3K/PreK Family Engagement "Let's Get Talking" – 2:30pm
- 3/21 – Family Fitness Night – All Grades (3:00pm-5:00pm)
- 3/23 – Marking Period 2 Report Cards – Available Digitally
- 3/28 – CS "Lucky Coders" Family Engagement – 2:30pm
- 3/31 – A Night of Music and Dance – 5:00pm
- 4/4 – PreK Badge book Family Engagement – 2:30pm
- 4/4 – Internet Safety and State Testing Mindset Workshop – 2:30PM
- 4/6 – 4/16 – Spring Recess
- 4/18 – Student Social and Emotional Mindset Assembly (Grades 3-5)
- 4/19 – 4/20 – NYS ELA Testing (Grades 3-5)
- 4/24 – Autism Awareness Walk
- 4/25 – Eid Celebration – 2:30pm
- 4/26, 4/27 – 4th Grade Trip to the Museum of the Moving Image

April's **SLT** meeting will be held on Monday, April 17th at 5:30pm in our Library, while our **PTA** meeting will be held virtually on Tuesday, April 18th at 6:00pm on Zoom.

I will be hosting a Virtual **Coffee and Conversation** on Friday, March 17th at 9:00am, and all are welcome to join by clicking the following link: <https://zoom.us/j/97268059767?pwd=SzRteVN5bWszSGpNV2lnZXBLUEUwZz09>

If this time does not work for your schedule, but you would still like to meet in person, please reach out so we can schedule an alternative time to meet.

Thank you again to all who reached out with the kind words of support and encouragement. It is appreciated and welcomed. I couldn't be happier to be continuing with each and every one of you at P.S. 133 for the foreseeable future.

Thank you for your continued support of our entire school community.

Sincerely,
Matthew Paolano
Principal