

NEWSLETTER

Week of March 14, 2022

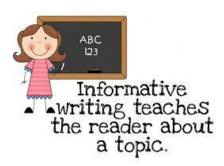
Dr. Stephen Ferraro Principal

UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 15th-22nd - No School - Spring Recess



Mrs. Martinez, Mr. Rapp, and Mr. Szabo



We recently wrapped up our unit on Informational Writing. I

am so proud of the effort our 4th Graders put forth on this latest writing piece. We are now beginning our unit on Opinion Writing. Students will soon begin drafting their opinion pieces, and learn how to support their point of view



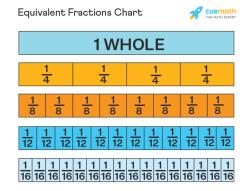
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with evidence and reasoning. In Reading, we will begin

studying Historical Fiction, and explore how Historical Fiction writers use the past to give a message that can be applied today. It is important that students read at least 20 minutes each night, and complete the reading logs.



Mrs. Martinez, Mr. Rapp, and Mr. Szabo - continued



In Math, we just finished our chapter on equivalent fractions and comparing fractions. We are now adding and subtracting fractions and mixed numbers. Multiplication and division will still be very important skills, as always, because we will need those operations to convert improper fractions to mixed numbers, and vice versa. So let's keep practicing those basic multiplication facts!

In Social Studies, we are learning about the impact of slavery in New Jersey, during

the late 1600's. Students are also learning about the evolution of money, and how early colonists would use shells, or wampum, as their form of currency in the 1600's. In Science, students are learning about Earth's features, and both continental and oceanic landforms. We are also learning about mountains, and how the movement of tectonic plates create different types of mountains. For STEM, our 4th Grade engineers constructed index card towers. Students were tasked to build the tallest tower using only index cards, and our classroom record stands tall at 3 feet 3 inches high!



Ms. Cioffi

Ms. Cioffi's class has had a very exciting couple of weeks. We had a great time on National Play Day, where we embraced the ongoing Olympics. The students participated in a Torch Walk

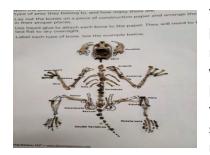


around the school, bobsledding, and curling. Everyone had such a great time. This past week, we have been getting ready for St. Patrick's Day. The class has completed numerous activities, such as working on following a picture recipe to make Shamrock Shakes, and going on a Leprechaun Scavenger Hunt. Happy St. Patrick's Day!





Mrs. Havel Smith



The 5th Graders had a blast learning about owls, and all of their unique adaptations, especially when obtaining food. Owls do not have teeth, so they use their sharp, thin beaks to tear larger prey into smaller pieces to swallow. They are unable to digest all parts of their



prey. The nutrients, from the parts of the animals that can be digested, will go to the intestines to be absorbed, and the other parts such as bones, teeth,



and fur go to the gizzard, where it is all compressed into a pellet, and it is then regurgitated. This regurgitated pellet is what our 5th Graders recently dissected. They had to separate the bones from the fur, and sort them according to the Owl's Prey chart. Once they sorted all of the bones, they were able to



glue most of the bones together to see what type of rodent their owl ate...or regurgitated! The students had so much fun, and can answer any question on owls...just ask them!















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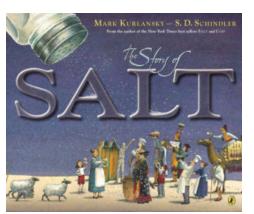
Mrs. Havel Smith - continued



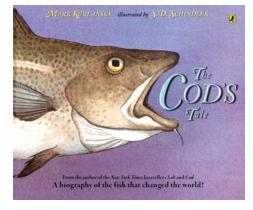
This week, the 5th Graders celebrated Pi Day with a couple of fun activities! They started their day by graphing the digits of Pi into a skyline, and painted colorful backgrounds to make beautiful cityscapes. They were also asked to study the digits of Pi over the weekend and see how many digits they can recite. In class, we had a contest to see who could recite the most digits of Pi without looking. The top winners from Mrs. Smith's homeroom were Shea DeJesus with 37 digits, Mukai Garcia with 22 digits, and Allan Abreu-Rosario with 19 digits. The top winners from Mrs. Suarez's homeroom were Olivia Cuervo with 31 digits, Aubrey Barrios with 27 digits, and Tiago Galarza with 26 digits. All of the students who participated, received a Pi Day pencil and tattoo. They all did a great job and had a very fun day!

Mrs. Suarez

Fifth Grade is currently studying the genre of Expository Nonfiction. Some reading selections were quite long, but jam packed with facts and information. Read alouds included: *Birds: Magnificent Flying Machine* by Caroline Arnold, and *The Cod's Tale* and *The Story of Salt,* both by Mark Kurlansky. Their next reading assignment is to



read an Expository Nonfiction book, and report on it to the class. In Writing, both classes completed



their Informational Essay, where they explained how to teach someone a task they know how to perform, or do, well. It's hard to believe the second trimester has just closed! Improvement is noted in both class' reading levels, and Link It scores. Please continue to help support your child's reading progress by having them read twenty minutes a night.

In Social Studies, the Fifth Graders are doing research about a woman, in honor of Women's History Month. They will then present their findings to their peers. Our geographical and historical studies also continue, as we are currently learning about South America, and the first people to live there.





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Mrs. Awadallah

In Math, the Sixth Graders just finished the unit on percents, and celebrated Pi Day! Students enjoyed completing a Pi maze, measuring different diameters, and eating their pie! In



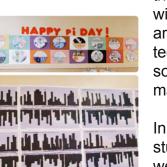
the next unit, students are learning how to find the area of triangles, quadrilaterals, and polygons. Students are learning that a shape can be composed or decomposed into familiar shapes. For example, a parallelogram is composed of a triangle and a trapezoid or two



identical triangles. Your child will find areas in real-world application problems. Your child is also learning about

three-dimensional figures, like prisms and pyramids. Students

will represent these three-dimensional figures using nets, and then use the nets to find surface area. Your child will also find



the volume of rectangular prisms with fractional edge lengths. We are working on applying these techniques in the context of solving real-world and mathematical problems.





In Science, the Sixth Grade students are learning about

weathering and erosion. Students observed how weathering agents break down materials on the Earth's surface into smaller pieces. Heat, wind, water, living

things, and other natural phenomena cause weathering. Students had the opportunity to simulate these weathering

processes, and observe the results of weathering.





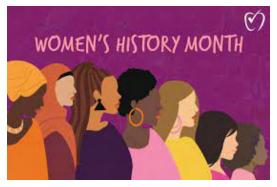








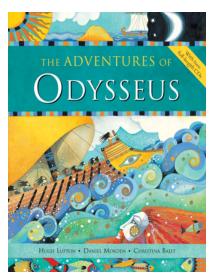
Mrs. Centrella



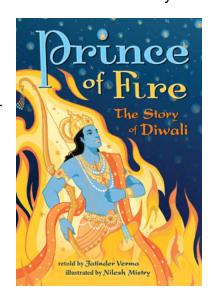
In Social Studies, for the past two weeks, we have been reading about the initial government of our country, and how the founding fathers did not give up on the country when the Articles of Confederation were not successful. Rather than having a power struggle, or engaging in another war, they did something that no country had done before, and changed the government "with the stroke of a pen." We also started research for Women's History

Month. Students are gathering information

from books and online databases, on women like Harriet Tubman, Malala Yousafzai, Wilma Rudolph, Belva Lockwood, Frida Kahlo, and Bessie Coleman. We are excited to learn more about these important figures, and their contributions and accomplishments.



After very careful planning and organizing of our ideas, the students finished drafting the body and counterargument of their essays. Sixth Graders learned what makes a strong conclusion, and will spend next week revising and editing their



work. In Reading, we finished up our theme unit on Epic Tales, and read stories of Gilgamesh, *The Story of Diwali*, and *The Adventures of Odysseus*. For our mini lessons this week, we have been focusing on biographies, and we created our own working definition of the genre. Keep those reading levels up by reading at least 30 minutes a day!

