



## **NEWSLETTER**

Week of December 12, 2022

Dr. Stephen Ferraro Principal

### **Upcoming Events:**

December 23rd - 1:00 Dismissal
December 24th - January 2nd - No School - Winter
Recess



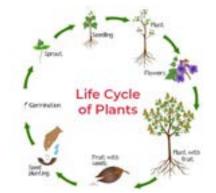
## Mr. Rapp



In Math, the Fourth Graders are now learning how to divide by one digit numbers. It is important for students to continue practicing their basic multiplication facts, and memorizing the multiplication times table, because division is just reverse-multiplication. We will be developing our understanding

of finding quotients and remainders, with dividends up to four-digits. Knowing and understanding partial quotients, and the steps of division, DMSB (Divide, Multiply, Subtract, Bring

Down), will be important over these next few weeks. Please make sure the students are completing their homework assignments. In Science, students are learning about the parts of plants, and plant life cycles. December is a big month for conifers (conifers are Christmas trees)!



Phone: (201) 994-1830



## Mrs. Martinez

In Writing, the students have begun the writing process for their fictional narratives. They have begun brainstorming ideas, and will soon start planning their plots using rising action, climax, falling action, etc. In Reading, the students have been practicing how to find the main idea of a text, and supporting details. We will be reading books illustrated by Floyd Cooper. Students will use the illustrations to help them understand the

MD

Nya Sverige
(New Sweden)

characters, setting, and events of the stories.



In Social Studies, we will learn about Swedish influence on the early settlements of New Jersey. Students will learn about the role of Johan Printz in establishing the colony of New Sweden. They will learn about the conflicts between Printz and Queen Christina of Sweden, which made life in the new settlement difficult.

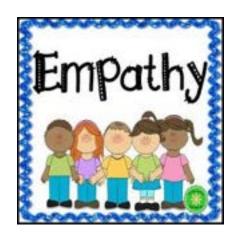
We are looking forward to the many holiday activities happening next week. We wish you all Happy Holidays, and a Happy New Year!

## Mr. Alkhazov



The students have been working hard sharpening up their math and reading skills, these past few weeks. In the mornings, the boys have been practicing their holiday songs for the concert. They are ready to take center stage and perform soon!





## Ms. Cioffi



Happy December! This month, Ms. Cioffi's class has been learning all about December holidays. We started off the month by going on the Santa Train Ride, which was a wonderful experience! The class also learned how to use a list to purchase holiday presents for family and friends, at the local Target. This week, we have been focusing on Hanukkah. The class has learned about menorahs, getting to sample different foods that can be seen during a Hanukkah celebration, and



playing with a dreidel. To finish off the month, we will also be learning about Kwanzaa, and experiencing more Christmas traditions. Happy Holidays!







## Mrs. Havel Smith

The Fifth Graders are presently working on multiplying decimals several different ways. They learned how to use base ten blocks, area models, and the algorithm. Every



student prefers their own way of doing it. This week, the students took a "trip" to fast food restaurants, placed big orders with multiples of different items, and they had to find the totals. They really enjoyed doing this despite the fact that it made them hungry! They did a great job with the activity!

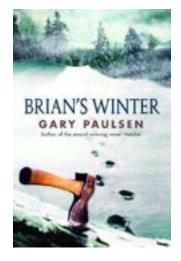






## Mrs. Suarez

The Fifth Graders are currently enjoying the read aloud *Brian's Winter,* by Gary Paulsen. It is part of the text set on Grit and Perseverance. Mini lessons have focused on writing summaries of reading selections. Students will focus on main events for their December book review, by completing a timeline of the most important events in their independent reading book. In Writing, the students are beginning a unit on Opinion/Argument Writing. Their first task will be to read three articles that give facts about





eating organic food. They will use that information to write an essay giving their opinion on whether people should or should not support eating organic foods. Giving opinions is

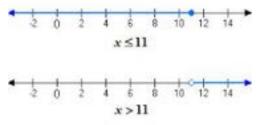
always fun for students, and they often become passionate about many topics. As one part of this unit, the students have been talking about writing to the Jolly Rancher company to tell them how much they enjoy the blue raspberry flavor. They would like to ask why it is so hard to find it in multi-flavored packages,

or even a package of all blue raspberry Jolly Ranchers! It will be interesting to see how the students can persuade the company to produce more of their favorite flavor, and possibly take their suggestions for new flavors.



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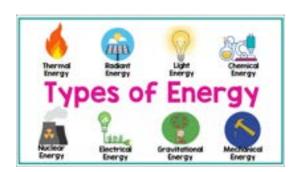
## Mrs. Awadallah



In Math, we finished learning how to write and solve algebraic equations involving addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. We also learned how to write and solve one-step inequalities. Students looked for and used patterns to write rules and equations with these variables, to describe and extend the patterns. In the upcoming weeks, the Sixth Graders will be learning about ratios, and how to use ratio language to describe

the relationship between two quantities. We will be solving real-world problems by making tables of equivalent ratios, finding missing values in the tables, and plotting pairs of values on the coordinate plane. Your child will also use ratio reasoning to convert customary and metric units of measurement. For example, if there are two different sizes of oatmeal, you find the unit rate by dividing each price by the number of ounces, to determine which costs less per ounce, and is the better buy.

In Science, we have been practicing making claims, backing up our claims, and explaining our thinking. I would like students to get into the habit of citing evidence from a reliable source, and providing additional information on their points of view. As students learn about forms of energy, and how they are used in our everyday interactions, they will be researching types of energy from different sources.



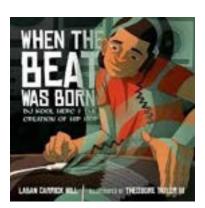


### Mrs. Centrella

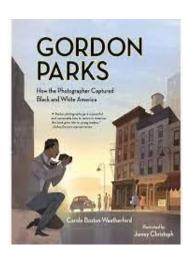
In Social Studies, the students just wrapped up a unit on the Road to Revolution. They reviewed the events of the Second Continental Congress, by sequencing the major events that took place. They also learned about Thomas Paine, and how *Common Sense* helped sway many colonists to side with "the cause." Moving forward, the students will be focusing on the Revolution, as well as how our government was formed.



The Sixth Graders are hitting the ground running,

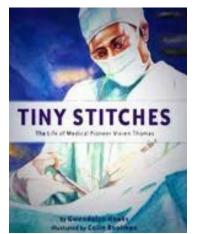


learning all about argumentative writing. We have read interesting mentor texts, on different argumentative writing topics, and focused on finding authors' thesis statements, and how authors support these claims using specific techniques. This week, we are studying how to grab a reader's attention with our introduction, and how to craft a debatable thesis statement.



We recently finished up Interactive Read-Alouds on the theme

of pioneers. We read about inspiring Black Americans like DJ



Kool Herc, Gordon Parks, Vivien
Thomas, and Bessie Coleman. For
our Reading mini-lessons, we are
taking a close look at characters from
previous Interactive Read-Alouds,
and what they say, think, and do. We
are noticing how their actions and
dialogue can tell us more about
them, and their relationships with
other characters. We are also
focusing on how characters change.
Don't forget to read for 30 minutes
every evening!



