



NEWSLETTER

Week of February 6, 2023

Dr. Stephen Ferraro Principal

Phone: (201) 994-1830

Upcoming Events:

February 20th-21st - No School - Winter Recess



Mrs. Martinez



I am very proud of the hard work our students are demonstrating in writing their Fictional Narratives. We have moved on to our Opinion Writing unit. Students have chosen a topic and are in the beginning steps of writing an opinion piece. They will provide reasons with evidence to support their argument. In Reading, we have begun our Book Clubs. Students are

books with their classmates, and having interesting discussions about the books. Reminder: fiction book reports are due on February 24th. February is Black History Month, and we have spent some time researching influential black leaders. In addition to learning about black leaders, this project will help students with research skills such as finding, organizing, and presenting information.





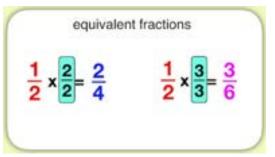
enjoying reading



Mr. Rapp

The Fourth Grade celebrated Global Play Day last week by playing fun board games and card games with their classmates. It was a throwback to times before technology, and the students loved it! We are looking forward to celebrating Valentine's Day and our dance on Friday night.

In Math, we are starting up our chapter on equivalent fractions and comparing fractions. After that, we will be moving forward to adding and subtracting fractions.



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!

Ms. Cioffi



Happy February! Ms. Cioffi's class celebrated Lunar New Year by having a parade around the school and learning about the year of the Rabbit, at the end of January. Now that February is here, the class has been learning about Groundhog Day, polar bears, Valentine's Day and Black History Month.

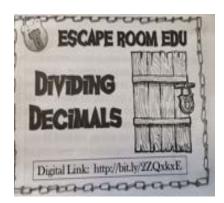




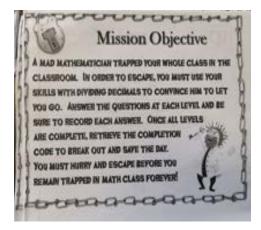


Mrs. Havel Smith

The 5th Graders are fine tuning their dividing whole numbers and decimals skills. This week they were trapped in the Math classroom until they could divide the problems and solve the puzzles to get out. Some



students are still in there, and hopefully can finish their work and be released by Friday! If they don't know their division skills...they will be trapped forever with Mrs. Smith! The students are working



hard to get out, even though they don't mind staying with Mrs. Smith!



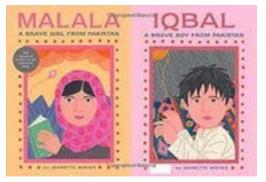


2



Mrs. Suarez

The Fifth Graders are enjoying a unit on the genre of nonfiction. Two recent read-alouds that have sparked lively discussions include *Malala A Brave Girl From Pakistan,* and *Iqbal A Brave Boy From Pakistan,* both by Jeannette Winter. Another book that brought across the themes of protecting the planet, and the impact of human interaction on animal extinction, *Can We Save the Tiger?* by Martin Jenkins, had strong reactions as well. The classes were also impressed by the gorgeous illustrations in the book. The theme of both fiction and nonfiction books has

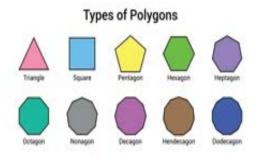




been the topic of mini lessons. In guided reading groups, students read biographies and nonfiction texts with the one purpose of taking notice of all the different text features. Students have been reading books of their choice independently and are working on a book review due at the end of the month. The second trimester closes on March 17th, so please help your child by reviewing grades and missing assignments. In Writing, the students completed their second Opinion Essay. They also made cards for senior citizens for Valentine's Day, and wrote a note to someone who has shown

them kindness, to give out on February 17th, which is when we celebrate Random Acts of Kindness Day!

Mrs. Awadallah



In Math, the Sixth Graders are learning how to find the areas 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. The students will represent these three-dimensional figures using nets, and then they will

use the nets to find surface areas. They will also find volumes 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 students are introduced to the study of weather. The students will come to understand how water cycles on Earth, how the Sun's energy affects Earth's atmosphere, and how these factors contribute to weather. Students will also learn how scientists predict weather changes to help people prepare for severe weather.







Mrs. Centrella

In Social Studies, the Sixth Graders wrapped up their unit on The Revolution. The students focused on



important battles of the American Revolution, and how, with the support of France, General Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown to end the Revolutionary War. This week the students chose names for their Black History



research. They also started each Social Studies lesson with a video

from Black History in Two Minutes. The videos are condensed to three minutes or less, but are engaging and highlight significant events and people who have shaped Black History.

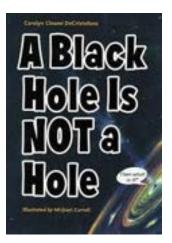


In Writing, the students have been working hard on their



Argumentative Essays. In groups, they brainstormed topics and found credible research and information. The students then planned their anecdotes to make their essays more personal, and finished the week outlining their body paragraphs with

strong topic sentences and supporting details. Next week, they will begin drafting their essays. I am incredibly proud to see the students working independently through the writing process.



In Reading, we are continuing our nonfiction unit. We noticed that authors also organize the text using nonfiction text structures like problem and solution, as well as description. We revisited the topic of the central idea and how using context clues can help us decipher unfamiliar words. The students worked in groups and tried to figure out word meanings from our read-aloud *A Black Hole is NOT a Hole*. Some of the words they focused on were



plasma, supernova, radio-energy, and quasar. Please remember 30 minutes of reading every day is essential for your child to grow as a reader!

