



SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER Week of March 27, 2023

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Upcoming Events:

April 7th-14th - No School - Spring Recess



Mrs. Martinez



In Language Arts, we have reviewed research and note taking strategies. Students have begun to research an animal for their informational essay. They will use the facts they gather to write an informative essay.

In Social Studies, students will learn how Dutch life was maintained despite British rule of New Jersey. They will learn about the type of education, celebrations, and chores of the colonists. They will also learn about the types



of transportation and the various forms of entertainment in the early New Jersey colony.



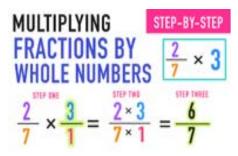


Mr. Rapp

Just like the weather in spring, things are starting to heat up in 4th Grade! As the NJSLA state test dates get closer, we are taking practice tests and refreshing our memory on skills that we learned throughout the school



year. In Math, we are working on multiplying fractions by whole numbers. This is an important skill for the aspiring chefs and bakers because of all the



fractions in recipes. As always, it is important for students to practice basic multiplication facts and memorize the times tables. Decimals are next!

In Science, the students just finished learning about the layers of Earth and how plate tectonics cause earthquakes and volcanoes. Some students made volcano models and we did the eruption experiments in class! We are now moving on to learn about the

layers of Earth's atmosphere, and how weather can be predicted. It's a little deeper than just saying April showers bring May flowers.

Mrs. Havel Smith

Nice weather brings fun things to do...like food truck festivals! The Fifth Graders completed their food trucks for the Food Truck Challenge two weeks ago, and we had a Food Truck Festival in



Room 214. The Fourth Graders came to visit each food truck and looked at their menu items, prices and locations. Once they checked out all of the trucks, they had to vote for their favorite one in each class, according to the best food items, prices, and truck design. The winners were, The Empanada Party by Alyson Saquic, Jiah Reyes, Amanda Millon, and Jasmine Flores from Mrs. Smith's class, No Regret Nachos by Daisy Quinche and Anaya Stephen from Mrs. Suarez's class, and Cuisine Française by

Claire Stevens from Ms. Jackson's class. All of the food trucks were amazing, and everyone did an awesome job with them! Congratulations to the winners!









Mrs. Suarez







The Fifth Graders are finishing up their independent Book Club reading. They are creating slideshows that will entice their peers to read their books! Mini lessons have focused on comprehending difficult texts as they begin to practice for the NJSLA testing in early May. This practice helps ease some test anxiety and make the students feel more confident. The students have shown so much growth this year and should be proud of their progress! In Writing, the students wrote very creative stories based on a picture. They read their peers' stories and gave positive and constructive comments. They are finishing a narrative written from a different character's point of view, after reading a short story titled "Michael and the Bully." They are also reviewing figurative language and "using the right word" with homophones.





















Mrs. Awadallah



In Math, the Sixth Graders just finished the unit on measures of variability and celebrated Pi Day! Students enjoyed glowing in the dark as

they solved for the circumference of a circle, measured different diameters, made bracelets, and ate their pie! Students are beginning test prep to prepare for the Math NJSLA exam. We will be

reviewing and practicing as much as possible so that the students are confident and ready to take the exam.



In Science, the students worked together to create the layers of the Earth. They also labeled and modeled diagrams of the inner core, outer



core, crust, and mantle. Students worked together to research facts about each layer. These were their findings:

• The inner core is like a huge metal ball of iron and nickel. It is over 9,000° F. and it is over 750 miles thick!

• The outer core is a liquid layer of iron, nickel, sulfur, and oxygen that is 8,000 - 10,000° F. It is over 1,300 miles thick!

• The crust is the solid outer layer and is made up of both oceanic and continental crust.

• The mantle is composed of the lithosphere,

asthenosphere, and mesosphere. Convection currents in the mantle cause the Earth's plates to move. It's 1,800 miles thick! Rocks are partially

mantle cause the Earth's plates to move. It's 1,800 miles thick! Rocks are partially melted and move very slowly.











Ms. Cioffi



Ms. Cioffi's class is so excited that SPRING is finally here! The class has been learning about the life cycle of a plant, spring weather, and bugs! In cooking class, we made Dirt Pudding Cups. The students worked on following picture directions, measuring ingredients, stirring, and trying new foods. It was a very yummy lesson. The class is also looking forward to warmer weather in order to start our outside vegetable garden. Stay tuned...









Ms. Jackson

Our Fifth Graders have been working hard on creating scales using only two cups, two binder clips, two pencils, and a string. This



STEM challenge was paired with a reading on Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. After creating our scales, the 5th Graders will write a letter to our local congressman about an injustice they would like to change. Here are some pictures from our building phase!









Mrs. Centrella



In Social Studies, the Sixth Graders just wrapped up a lesson on the Constitution. The students learned that the purpose of the Constitution was to set up our three branches of government and a system of checks and balances. We then moved on to the Bill of Rights. Students are learning that the purpose of the Bill of Rights is to protect our civil liberties, like freedom of speech,

religion, and the press.

There is some

cross-curricular work happening in Writing. We are working on a Document Based Question (DBQ) on the importance of freedom of the press in a democracy. This week, the students completed a hook exercise on what democracy is and analyzed a political cartoon, as well as quotes from Thomas Jefferson and Martin Luther King Jr., on the influence of the press on our





democracy. After examining these documents, the students will write a thesis statement, map their essays, and respond to the essential question, "Why Is Freedom of the Press Essential to a Democracy?".

In Reading, we are in full swing in our poetry unit. Some of our lessons include noticing structural elements of poetry, "reading with our ears," and focusing on sound devices and how they influence the mood and meaning of a poem. The five sound devices we focused on were rhyme, rhythm, repetition, onomatopoeia, and

alliteration. The students also worked on making inferences and using higher-order thinking skills to really dig deeper into poetry, to understand a poem's meaning. Continue reading for 30 minutes every evening!



