



## **NEWSLETTER**

Week of February 5, 2024

Dr. Stephen Ferraro Principal

# **Upcoming Events:**

February 19th-20th - No School - Winter Recess



### Mr. Alkhazov



The boys were excited to watch Punxsutawney Phil report to us that we will have an early spring! In SEL, the class is learning all about the importance of always being honest. In Science, we are learning about waves, mainly

light and sound waves! In Reading, we are continuing our unit theme of understanding how things work.

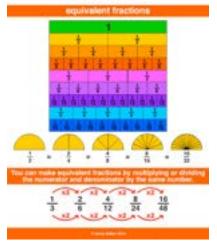
The new reading story is all about how a team of 400,000 people helped the Apollo 11 team land on the Moon in 1969!



Phone: (201) 994-1830



# Mr. Rapp and Ms. Schupak



In Math, the students just finished the 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 Science, we are finishing up our waves chapter. Students have conducted lab experiments throughout the chapter to create their own models of waves, and they also Wavelength Trough

Crests

Trough

Wavelength

manipulated light to observe how its reflection allows us to see colors. We will have our Vocabulary quiz and Topic 3 test within the next couple of weeks.

#### Mrs. Martinez

In Writing, we are making great progress on writing our opinion essays. Students have chosen their topics and have begun writing a rough draft of their essay. They will continue to write body paragraphs using details and examples to support their opinion. In Reading, we are focusing on the difference between theme and main idea. We have also reviewed structural elements of prose and poetry. In the next couple of weeks, we will be focusing on the author's purpose.

OPINION ESSAY STRUCTURE

In Social Studies, we have continued to talk about Native

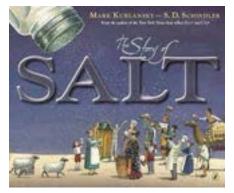


Americans. The class spent some time discussing and researching

the customs and traditions the Native Americans used or celebrated. The students had the opportunity to share their own customs and traditions they have with their family or community. Additionally, February is Black History Month. Each student was assigned a famous Black American leader to research. Then, the students completed a project about that leader and shared the information with the class. Now, their projects hang proudly in the hallway for the entire school to see!



### Mrs. Suarez



The Fifth Graders are continuing their study of the genre of nonfiction in Reading. Recent mini lessons included noticing how nonfiction authors choose to organize information. Two read aloud expository nonfiction books that sparked some discussion included *Birds: Nature's Magnificent Flying Machines* by Caroline Arnold and *The Story of Salt* by Mark Kurlansky. The students have chosen a book for independent reading by Dan Gutman to read for

the month of February, in order to prepare for his virtual author visit in March.

Please remind students to read for twenty minutes every night! In Writing, the students just completed their opinion essays. Some popular topics that evoked strong debate included: students should not have homework, students should have gym every day, school lunchtime should be longer, technology is ruining friendships, and dress codes or uniforms should not be required in school. It was very interesting and wonderful to see both classes express themselves with reasons to support their points of view. In Social Studies, the focus is on the countries on the continent of Europe and the first people who lived there. Ask a Fifth Grader where they would like to travel in Europe



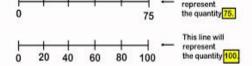
and they will be happy to tell you! The third trimester closes on March 15th, so please check Genesis for your child's current grade and work status.

# Mrs. Awadallah

In Math, the Sixth Graders are learning about percentages. The students will develop an understanding of the concept of percents as parts of 100, find percents of a number, and find the whole given a part and the percent. For example, if the

Use a double number line to find 20% of 75.

Because there are 5 equal parts, we can divide 75 by 5 to see what each part is equal to.



teacher states that 33% of the 24 students in her class are wearing green, a number

Peters	Fraction	Persent	Decimal
	$\frac{1}{2}$	50%	0.5
0	$\frac{1}{4}$	25%	0.25
•	$\frac{1}{5}$	20%	0.2

line could be used to help find the number of students wearing green. The equation  $0.33 \times 24 \approx 8$  could also be used to conclude that 8 students in the class are wearing green. You can help your child strengthen these skills by asking them percent questions when shopping with sales.

# 0

### Ms. Borrome





In Science, the 6th Grade recently completed a unit on

severe weather types and the formation of different storms. Each student selected a specific storm type to create an informative slideshow detailing its characteristics and offering safety tips for staying prepared during these storms.



In Social Studies, the 6th Grade is currently studying the beginning of the American Revolution. They were surprised to discover that the Boston Tea Party was a historical form of protest. They are analyzing how colonists began to break away from Britain and embrace their newfound American identity.

# Ms. Lax

Ms. Lax's class has been learning different ways to comprehend books in Reading. We learned about finding the main idea along with finding supporting details. We also went over the difference between fiction versus nonfiction books, comparing and contrasting, sequencing, and author's purpose. Our Math groups are all making great progress. We are currently working on factors and multiples, representing and interpreting data, place value, time, and money using multi sensory approaches to learning, as well as using independent problem solving.



Mixing it up with fun, we have our Social Skills class that includes fun games allowing our students to partake in how to deal with certain situations that can create kindness gestures, and



ways to be a better student that can make a difference throughout our school. Fun Fridays are always a hit in Ms. Lax's class with her wonderful Teacher Assistants, who plan crafts and fun games with them as long as all their work is done in the morning. Our class is thriving and it feels great to see our students always eager to learn, as well as being kind to each other throughout the day.

### Mrs. Centrella

The Sixth Grader's argumentative essays have come a very long way! With support from modeling, the students drafted, revised, and edited their first



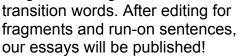
argumentative
essay. Their
introductions
include a lead and
three-pronged
thesis statement.
Their body
paragraphs consist



of strong topic sentences with research and statistics as supporting evidence, and their counter argument contains a strong

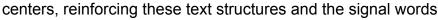
transition word as well as

a rebuttal. This week we finished our conclusion paragraph and revised our essays focusing on our target audience and





In Reading, we are continuing our nonfiction unit. We noticed that authors also organize the text using text structures like problem and solution, description, and chronology. All three classes have been spending A LOT of time in



that help us to identify the text structure. We revisited how using

context clues can help us decipher unfamiliar words. The students worked in groups and tried to determine 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 that 30 minutes of reading every day is essential for your child to grow as a reader!



