



4308 Newsletter

Important Reminders

December 5: PTA meeting at 6:00 pm

December 7: Student leaders - visit at assisted living for caroling

December 13: PS 377 Concert

Grade 3-5 5:00pm

December 20: Peer Mediators - visit at assisted living for caroling

December 21: Trip

December 25 - January 1: School is closed for Winter Recess

Reading & Phonics

During our reading/phonics block we rotate between 3 different rotations. The students have become extremely independent and once the slides go up they know exactly where and what they need to be doing. It has been incredible to see the independence build within each child. Again, each group has their own objectives. One group is focusing on short vowel sounds, while another group is working on all the patterns of long vowel sounds and reading comprehension. Another group of students is focused on learning how to read short texts, retelling what they are reading in a way that others can understand, and answering questions based on that text using RADDs. Restate, answer, detail, detail, and sum it up! Some groups also get practice with SPIRE which is another curriculum to support your students with phonics and phonemic awareness in their reading.

Writing

Students have been working on learning how to write essays through persuasive writing. We will continue to work on structure in writing. This month we will focus on writing essays through literary essays. The kids will come up with ideas about their characters and support their thinking with text evidence.

We are also focusing on using what we are learning in phonics to help us with our spelling in writing. They should be tapping out the words and listening to the sounds they hear to help them write!

Math

Grade 5: Unit 3: Eureka Math

Module 2:

Topic C: Decimal multi-digit multiplication

Students learn how to multiply decimal fractions with tenths by multi-digit whole numbers using :

- place value understanding to record partial products.
- conversion to a whole number problem and reasoning

Social Studies

This month using Passport to Social Studies, learners will explore a variety of digital and print resources to understand the Geography of New York State.

about the placement of the decimal.

- Place value understanding and estimation.

Topic G: Decimal multi-digit division

Students learn how to divide decimals by whole numbers

- Basic facts to approximate decimal quotients with two-digit divisors, reasoning about the placement of the decimal
- Estimating quotients, reasoning about the placement of the decimal point making connections to a written method.

Module 3: Addition and Subtraction of Fractions

In this unit, students build on earlier work with equivalent fractions and decimals to add and subtract fractions with unlike denominators. They will move from concrete examples (paper strips and number lines) to abstract skills (writing their own math sentences). By the end of the module, students will fluently work through multi-step word problems that contextualize their learning.

Grade 4: Unit 3: Eureka Math

Module 3: Multi-Digit Multiplication and Division

In this unit students will be learning how to multiply multi-digit multiplication problems. We will also focus on Dividing multi-digit numbers.

Science

Scientists all over the world seek to explain the patterns that different animals use to communicate. Within the animal kingdom, bottlenose dolphins are a particularly intriguing example of animals who use patterns in communication. Recent research has revealed that bottlenose dolphins use signature whistles—whistles with patterns of pitch changes that are unique to each dolphin.

These serve as a form of identification for individual dolphins, and dolphins learn to recognize these whistles at a young age. In this unit, students take on the role of marine scientists investigating how bottlenose dolphin mothers and their calves in the fictional Blue Bay National Park use patterns of sound to communicate across distances, which serves as the anchor phenomenon for this unit.

Leader in Me

This month we will be reading, "The Great Kapok Tree" by Lynn Cherry and "The Emperor and the Kite" by Jane Yolen. We will be practicing **Habit 3: Put First Things First**



Putting first things first means organizing and executing around your most important priorities. It is living and being driven by the principles you value most, not by the agendas and forces surrounding you."

Home Connection

Help your child in math!

- ★ Have your child continue to practice their math multiplication flash cards!

Build literacy skills through simple activities at home and in the car.

- ★ Read every night!
- ★ Practice sight words each night by creating fun and interactive games. (look for words in the newspaper/magazines; matching game, etc.)
- ★ Ask your child about books they are reading at home. Ask them about the characters, problem, and solution.
- ★ Have your child build their reading stamina by building on time spent reading.

