



4/5-308 Newsletter

Important Dates

- February 2: Valentine candy gram money is due
- February 6: Grade 5 Bake Sale for Grades K-5
- February 7: World Read Aloud day & 6:00 pm parent workshop on Power of Gratitude
- February 8: ESL parent workshop & 5:00 Aladdin show
- February 9: 100th day of school & 5:00 Aladdin show
- February 12-16: Respect for All week
- February 27: Social Emotional parent workshop at 8:30 am
- February 29: Grades 3-5 Black History month speaking contest

Readers Workshop

Test Prep

In this unit, students will review skills learned in previous reading units by reading closely.

They will learn how to:

- Analyze parts of a story in relation to the whole text.
- Determine themes of various texts, as well as compare and contrast story elements and themes.
- Identify author's perspective/point of view
- Identify the main idea of nonfiction texts
- Determine the text structure and how to use that to learn more about a topic
- Determine the meaning of unknown words using context clues or root words

Leader in Me



This month we will be focusing on

Habit # 5

Seek First to Understand

We will read "Yertle the Turtle"-Dr. Seuss

And "The Other Side" by Jacqueline Woodson



Benchmark Phonics

Students will be focusing on compound words and contractions. We will explore r-controlled vowels (/är/, /ör/, /ür/) and closed syllables. Alongside this work we will be working on our spelling, vocabulary, and reading.

Writers Workshop

Test Prep

In this unit, students will review skills learned in previous writing units.

They will learn how to:

- Respond to prompts and questions about a text.
- Write about what they are reading.
- Write compare and contrast essays about story elements
- Clearly state their opinion
- Note-taking
- Support their thinking using text evidence

Math

In mathematics, we will continue to work on practicing our division strategies to help support our work when solving word problems. We will also be diving into the world of fractions. We will begin by exploring what a fraction is and why it is important to know that numbers exist between 0 and 1 but could also be represented as mixed numbers or as we used to call them improper fractions. Improper fractions will be referred to as fractions greater than 1. We will be understanding the basics of these fractions and then begin to move into adding and subtracting fractions with common denominators and explore when they differ.

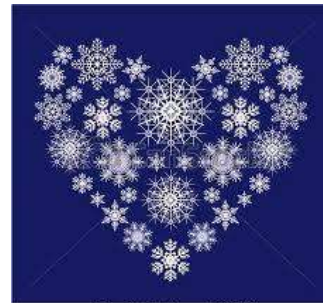
Social Studies

Students were asked to select an Influential Black American. They will do research and complete a banner on this person. They will then share what they learned in a restorative circle!



Science

How can a mother dolphin and her calf communicate underwater when they cannot see each other? How can humans use patterns to communicate? Working in their role as marine scientists, students figure out how mother dolphins communicate with their calves. They write a series of scientific explanations with diagrams to demonstrate their growing understanding of how sound waves travel. Then they apply what they've learned about waves, energy, and patterns in communication to figure out how to create patterns that can communicate information over distances, transferring data from one place to another.



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Home Connection

- **Help your child talk about the books they are reading and to give text evidence.**
 - Have your child pick a character in their books and talk to you about what they are like. Have them prove it to you by finding text evidence in their books!
- **Help your child explore fractions**
 - Have your child think about fractions while cooking! Make a cake together and talk about the different measurements. Order a pizza pie and talk about what fraction of the pizza is left over.
- **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.