



### Important Dates

- January 1: Happy new Year! School is closed
- January 2: Return to school after winter break
- January 9: Grade 5 picture day for senior pictures
- January 15: School closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- January 18: Parent Workshop 6:00 pm on zoom: Social Emotional support

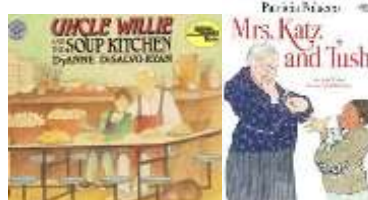
### Reading/Phonics

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 built 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. 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! Each group also gets practice with SPIRE which is another curriculum to support your students with phonics and phonemic awareness in their reading. As we head into the new year we will begin to build in more test prep strategies as well to begin to prepare them for the NYS ELA exam.

### Leader In Me



This month we will be focusing on  
Habit # 4 Think Win Win  
**Everyone Wins When You Think Win-Win**  
We will read  
*Uncle Willie and the Soup Kitchen*  
and  
*Ms. Katz and Tush*



### Writing

Students have been working on learning how to write essays through persuasive writing. We will continue to work on the structure of writing essays. 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 3: Addition and Subtraction of Fractions**

In this unit, students build on earlier work with fractions and decimals to:

- Add and subtract fractions with unlike denominators.
- Determine if fractions are equivalent

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.

*Please continue to have your child working on [www.zearn.org](http://www.zearn.org) for support in learning new math concepts. The Eureka Math Succeed book has a homework helper page for models on each lesson.*

Grade 4: Eureka Math Module 3: Students use place value understanding and visual representations to solve multiplication and division problems with multi-digit numbers. An important focus in Grade 4 is for students to develop the ability to reason about the methods and models chosen to solve problems with multi-digit factors and dividends. Students work on real life applications of how to use multiplication and division to solve problems.

### Social Studies

Using Passport to Social Studies, learners will learn about:

- What motivated European explorers to explore the Western Hemisphere,
- What role did geography play in exploration?

### Science

Engineers shift from thinking about daily patterns to yearly patterns. They investigate how Earth's yearly orbit around the sun affects what stars we see. They observe the position of constellations over time with the Simulation, and use the classroom walls to visualize what a person on Earth sees as a year goes by. Students also read *Dog Days of Summer*, which gives them an opportunity to think more about yearly star patterns and what these observations have meant to humans over the centuries. After identifying three constellations depicted on the artifact with the help of the Simulation and the reference book, *Handbook of Stars and Constellations*, students suggest which constellation might have appeared on the missing piece and what the artifact as a whole portrays.

### 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.