



*Public School 3*  
*We fly We soar We achieve*  
*Elmer Myers, Principal*  
*Danielle Papa-McDonagh, Assistant Principal*  
*Danka Amtzis, Assistant Principal*

May 12, 2023

Dear Parents,

On behalf of the PS 3 staff, I would like to thank our parents and especially our PTA for all that you do on a regular basis; especially for Staff Appreciation Week. Each day this week our PTA has generously provided breakfasts, snacks, fruit, lunch, desserts, beverages and even a donut truck for all of the staff. I would also remind everyone to check the calendar on the website: [www.ps3blueherons.org](http://www.ps3blueherons.org) for all of the updated events that will be occurring during the remaining school days.

**NYC Reads**

This week the Chancellor and Mayor announced a new initiative that is named NYC Reads. Here is a link to a Chalkbeat story regarding the announcement: <https://ny.chalkbeat.org/2023/5/9/23717292/eric-adams-david-banks-nyc-school-reading-curriculum-mandate-literacy>

The following information will provide how PS 3 will be impacted. Next year there are 15 districts that will implement the reading curriculum. District 31, which includes PS 3, is not one of those districts included in the initiative (until September of 2024). The potential curriculum that will be required is HMH Into Reading, which is already being used and/or is expected to be used by 30+ District 31 schools.

Our current plan is to utilize time next year to learn and explore the Into Reading curriculum and determine if and how it would improve our current reading curriculum. The DOE announced that there will be an opportunity for schools to apply for an exemption to the program, but only if their reading rate is above 85% (only about 20 schools citywide). PS 3 currently has 75% of our students reading at or above grade level. Our goal continues to be to have 90%+ of our students reading at or above grade level. We are continuously reviewing our curriculum and pedagogy with that goal in mind.

**Summer Rising**

There is a website <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/enrollment/summer/grades-k-8> that contains information needed for summer school/summer rising. Information about acceptance for the program should be sent out this week. However, the Staten Island Advance is reporting [29K students could be denied a seat in free NYC Summer Rising program, data shows](#).

**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!** Have a wonderful weekend celebrating all the special MOMS out there.

If you have any additional questions, please reach out to the school.

Thank you,

Elmer Myers  
Principal