

Parent's Newsletter



January



Dear P.S. 220 Families,

We hope the winter break gave you the opportunity to relax, reflect and regenerate with family and friends. At P.S. 220 we are ready to continue our work and make 2020 a success by providing students with rigorous learning opportunities that reflect high expectations and ensure equity for all. Our curriculum presents opportunities for students to engage in rigorous learning in all subject areas and disciplines. Students are encouraged to evaluate and choose from an array of options when engaging in classwork.

Our goal at P.S. 220 is to ensure all students are provided opportunities and instruction needed to succeed. This includes a focus not only on academic areas such as reading, math, science and social studies but also a focus on the arts as well as character learning. We are proud of our arts programs, which include visual arts, theater and music. In addition, your children participate in physical education, technology, computer science for all and STEM. All of these areas foster the importance of our children developing the ability to work with others, leading to a love of learning. Additionally, our students are encouraged to apply skills previously learned as a foundation for deeper learning.

At P. S. 220 we believe that progress monitoring is a great way to identify the improvements your child has made since the start of the school year and allow for open dialogue with teachers regarding continued improvement and action plans that support learning. It is for this reason that January progress reports will be distributed on Friday, January 16, 2020. Please be sure to review this important document and contact your child's teacher to set up an appointment to discuss ways that we can support children at home and school. As a reminder Parent Time takes place every Tuesday afternoon between 2:40 p.m. and 3:20 p.m. Teachers are available during this time for face to face meetings, phone conferences and email communication.

As a reminder students go outside for recess every day unless it's raining or the temperature is below 32 therefore it is important that children come to school dressed appropriate for outdoor play. All clothing items should be labeled with your child's name. Many items are left behind and end up in the lost and found box unclaimed.

Last month we celebrated the opening of our outdoor reading garden in honor of Audrienne Ong. The reading garden includes a lending library which is a wonderful way for our school to share our love of reading with the community. The lending library is based on a "take a book, return a book" idea. Therefore, anyone in our school or neighborhood can take a book and/or leave a book to share. We encourage you and your family to visit the lending library and spread your love of books with others.

As the new year, and decade, begin I would like to remind everyone to reflect upon the beauty that each day has to offer and how fortunate we are to be able to start fresh. Each new year provides us with the opportunity to make this year even better than the last. On behalf of the entire P.S. 220 school community we would like to wish all of the P.S. 220 families a new year filled with hope, happiness, health and endless possibilities.

Educationally Yours,

Josette Pizarro

Principal P.S. 220



Pre-Kindergarten News

Our next unit of study for January is **Transportation**. Our goals are for students to understand that people use transportation to get from one place to another. Vehicles move in different ways and some are operated by community helpers. There are many ways we can stay safe when using transportation.

In Building Blocks, we will be counting, reading numerals, and connecting numerals to quantities, and comparing amounts and numbers. We will also count objects to ten, sort and classify, order numbers and lengths, work on patterns, shape identification, and match and recognize different shapes in the environment.

Standards: PK.AL.3, PK.AL.4, PK.PDH.5, PK.PDH.9, PK.SED.2, PK.CLL.1, PK.CLL.2, PK.CLL.4, PK.CKW.1, PK.CKW.2, PK.CKW.3, PK.CKW.4, PK.CKW.5, PK.CKW.6, PK.CKW.7, PK.CKW.8

Important Dates

January 2nd- Classes resume

January 14th- Parent Workshop 2:40 pm-3:20 pm; Kindergarten Admissions Process

January 20th- School Closed; Martin Luther King, Jr. day

January 21st- Last day to apply for Kindergarten

January 22nd-Magic Man visits Pre-K

We are available every Tuesday from 2:40 pm -3:20 pm for parent conferences.



Kindergarten
Registration

Workshop for parents

Helping parents with the Kindergarten Admissions Process

January 14 @2:40pm with classroom teachers



Kindergarten News

In reading this month we will be using our bigger reading muscles to help us read everything around us. This is aligned with the common core standard: R.1k.10- Actively engage in group reading activities with purpose and understanding. Please have your child continue to practice their sight words and read books in their baggie every night.

In writing we will finish up our Writing for Readers and then begin our How-To unit. This is a great unit. You can help your child get ready for this unit by talking about topics like how to get ready for bed or how to make a sandwich. This is aligned with the common core standard: W.K.2-Use a combination of drawing, dictating and writing to compose an informative/explanatory texts.

In math we will finish up our unit on addition facts through ten and then we will begin our subtraction unit of facts through ten. This will help us get ready for our math bee in February. You can practice these facts at home too. This is aligned to Common Core standard: K.OA-Understand addition as putting together and adding and subtraction is taking apart.

In science we will be working on a new unit called Pushes and Pulls. We will learn to predict and describe the effect of a specific type of push or pull which will give rise to a growing understanding of forces and motion.

In social studies we will begin a new unit about geography. In this unit we will learn about map skills and different places in the world.



Looking forward to: Our trip to Pizzeria Uno on Monday, **January 6th** to learn how to make a pizza. This is aligned to our How To unit in writing.

We will send home a permission slip with the dates.

Parent Communication: Every Tuesday from 2:40-3:20 is for parent involvement. If you would like to meet with your child's teacher, send a note or text her on REMIND.



FIRST GRADE

Highlights from December...

We are starting to read lots of nonfiction books and learning all about the world. Please have book talks at home on what they are learning, noticing, and wondering! In writing this month we started to write information books. It has been so much fun teaching our friends about the topics we are experts in.

In Social Studies, we will continue looking at families from the past and present. We will use books, conversations, and graphic organizers to compare and contrast them.

In Science, we are still investigating how Spruce the Sea Turtle and her offspring can survive in the ocean. Students will make physical models and write explanations to show what they learned about structure and function of animal defenses. We have learned how spikes, spines, armor and shell, and camouflage helps animals protect themselves from predators.

In math, we wrapped up all the different strategies we can use to solve addition and subtraction problems.

Upcoming Events...

Our goal during Reading Workshop in the second half of the month is for first graders to get to know their characters. When you read with your children, make sure to talk about their characters (what they do, how they feel...).

First graders are going to begin our unit on persuasive writing. Our goal is to learn different ways to persuade our audience.

In Social Studies, our goal is to take a close look at how families live now compared to how families lived long ago (imagine having no televisions or computers)

In Science, we are going to be wrapping up our investigation on how Spruce the Sea Turtle and her offspring can survive in the ocean. Students will make physical models and write explanations to show what they learned about structure and function of animal defenses.

In math, we will be learning about the relationship between addition and subtraction.

We are available to meet with you on Tuesdays from 2:45-3:15pm. Email, call or write a note to schedule an appointment.



Second Grade

Common Core State Standards: RL1.1,RL1.2,RL1.3,RL1.7,RL1.9,W1.1,W2.1,W1.5,W1.7,W1.3,W1.6,
Math:1.OA.1, 1.OA.6, 1.OA.7, 1.OA.8

HAPPY NEW YEAR!! Welcome back and Happy 2020. We are so excited to be back from our winter vacation and are ready to begin our new units.

Math Topic 6: Fluently Subtract Within 100

- Common Core Standards: 2.NBT.B.5, 2.NBT.B.6, 2.OA.b.2, 2.OA.a.1
- Goal: Students will be able to subtract within 100 using different strategies.

Topic 7: More Solving Problems Involving Addition and Subtraction

- Common Core 2.NBT.B.5, 2.NBT.B.6, 2.OA.b.2, 2.OA.a.1
- Goal: Students will be able to solve word involving addition and subtraction using different strategies.

Reading Unit 3 – Accelerating Readers’ Growth in Longer Fiction Books

- Common Core Standards: CC.RL 2.1,RL 2.2, RL2.3,RL 2.4 RL 2.5, RL 2.6, RL 2.7, RL 2.9, SL 2.1,SL 2.1, SL 2.4,
- Goal-Students will be able to read, think and talk about longer stories and their characters.

Writing Unit 3- Writing About Reading

- Common Core Standards: CCLS: L 2.1, L 2.2,L 2.3, W 2.1, W 2.5, W 2.6
- Goals: Students will be able to share his or her opinions about their books and the characters in their stories.

Science Unit 2 – Properties of Materials

- Common Core Standards- 2-PS1-1,1-2,1-3,1-4
- Goals: Students will design a glue mixture that is better than what the school uses now.

Social Studies Unit 2- New York City Over Time

- Common Core Standards: CC. 3.2a, 3.1d, 3.1e, 4.1e, 1.1, 1.1a, 1.2, 1.2a 1.3a, 1.3b, 1.4, 1.4b 2.2d, 3.1d
- Goal: Students will continue to look at how NYC has changed over time. We will be learning about many historical places in New York, such as central park, the Flat Iron Building, The Brooklyn Bridge, and The Empire State Building. Students will make observations about how these things have changed over time.

Parent Meetings: The 2nd Grade team will be available on Tuesdays from 2:40-3:20 if you would like to make an appointment to meet with one of us. We look forward to fostering a great relationship and keeping the lines of communication open!



3rd GRADE

Important Information Please ensures that your child is reading for **25 minutes every night** and logging, completing all reading and journal responses. All students should be logging on to MYON and Think Central. If you need to learn your child's password, contact his/her teacher.

Math: Topic 6 – Connect Area to Multiplication and Addition

- Topic 7 – Represent and Interpret Data
- Math Goal: In topic 6, students will learn about the concept of area and how it relates to multiplication and addition. In topic 7, students will learn to make scaled picture graphs and scaled bar graphs that represent a data set with several categories. They will also learn to solve problems involving the data represented in the graphs.
- Common Core Standards: CC 3 MD 5a, CC 3 MD 5b, CC 3.MD.6, CC 3.MD 7a, CC 3.MD 7b, CC 3.MD 7d

Writing: In December, students are writing literary essays.

- Writing Goal: Students will be writing essays that state a strong opinion about a piece of literature and support it clearly with text evidence.
- Writing Standards: RL 3.1, RL 3.4, RL 3.5, RL 4.1, RF 3.4a, SL 3.1d, W 3.4, W 3.5

Reading: In January, students return to fiction texts and will focus on studying characters.

- Reading Goal: Students will be studying characters in many different ways. Your child will be studying the experiences characters go through and how they react to such events, the way that main characters interact with secondary character, character choices, motivations, feelings, and personality traits.
- Reading Standards: RL.3.1, RL.3.2, RL.3.3, RL.3.4, RL.3.5, RL.3.6, RL.3.9, RL.3.10, RF.3.3, RF.3.4

Social Studies: In January, students will continue their study of China. They will study Chinese culture, cuisine, and inventions. They will be comparing Chinese culture to the American culture.

- Social Studies Goal: Our students will work in cooperative learning groups and use nonfiction reading skills to help them learn independently about China.
 - Social Studies Standards: 3.2a & b; 3.3a & b; 3.4a & b; 3.5a & b, 3.9a & b



Third Grade Extras:

Please make time to read with your child. The best gift that you can give to your child is to **read with them**. We are available on Tuesday afternoons. Let us know if you would like to set up a meeting to discuss your child.



4th GRADE

Math: January is a busy month in math! Students will be working with Fractions. Students will be introduced to fraction equivalence and comparisons. In addition, students will begin to add and subtract fractions. We are continuing to work on accuracy and speed for multiplying facts 1-12.

- Goals: By the end of the units, students will be able to understand fraction equivalents and fraction operations.
- Standards: 4.NF.1, 4.NF.1.4.NF.2, 4.NF.B.3D

Reading: In the beginning of January, students will begin researching the American Revolution focusing on skills of main idea, cross-text synthesis, analyzing perspective, and analyzing how part of a text connects to the whole text.

- Goals: By the end of the unit, students will practice their skills to synthesize, connect, analyze, compare and contrast, and evaluate their research topics of the American Revolution.
- Standards: RI.4.1, RI.4.2, RI.4.3, RI.4.4, RI.4.5, RI.4.6

Writing: In January, students will be writing informational pieces based on their research of the American Revolution while considering structure, organization, and reporting facts accurately.

- Goals: By the end of the unit, students will create a nonfiction piece on the American Revolution utilizing all sources of information through their research.
- Standards: W.4.2, W.4.4, W.4.5, W.4.8, RL.4.1.

Social Studies: Students will continue to focus on Colonial America with a focus of American Revolution, specifically the causes and effects of the American Revolution.

- Goals: By the end of the unit, students will be able to interpret information presented and analyze it. Students will understand cause and effect of the American Revolution.
- Standards: RI.4.1, RI.4.4, RI.4.7, RI.4.8, RI.4.9, RI.4.5, W.4.2a, W.4.2b, W.4.2c, W.4.2d, W.4.2e

Science: Students will investigate the role that animal senses, primarily vision play survival as they try to understand a realistic fictional problem with a real organism.

- Goals: By the end of unit, students will be able to understand how vision works. In addition, students will be able to understand how humans and animals adapt and get information through different phases of light and dark.
- Standards: RI.4.1, RI.4.2, RI.4.3, RI.4.4, RI.4.7, RI.4.9, W.4.2a, W.4.2b, W.4.2c, W.4.2d, W.4.2e LS1.A, LS1.D

Some Important Dates:

- Spelling Bee- 1/14/20
- Trip to Queens Museum- 1/22/20

Parent Communication: The 4th Grade Team will be available on Tuesday from 2:40pm-3:00pm. Teachers will be contacting parents for issues, concerns and praises via telephone, e-mails and in-person conferences.



5th Grade

Math: Topic 7: Use Equivalent Fractions to Add and Subtract Numbers & Topic 8: Apply Understanding of Multiplication to Multiply Fractions

- Goal: By the end of the unit students will deepen their understanding of using equivalent fractions to add and subtract numbers. Students will use models and strategies to add and subtract fractions. Standards: 5.NF.A.1 Add and subtract fractions with unlike denominators by replacing given fractions with equivalent fractions. Goal: By the end of the unit students will deepen their understanding of using multiplication to multiply fractions. Standards: 5.NF.B.4 Apply and extend previous understanding of multiplication to multiply a fraction and divide fractions.

Reading: Unit 4– Arguments and Advocacy: Researching Debatable Issues

- In this unit, students will read a variety of texts from different viewpoints. They will choose a side and engage in classroom debates on each topic. Reading Goal: Students will use mentor texts and discussion stems to explain how authors use reasons and evidence to support a claim which will in turn strengthen their opinion writing. Standards: RI.5.8 Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text, identifying which reasons and evidence support which points.

Writing: Unit 4: Research Based Argument Essay In this unit, students will be writing argumentative pieces based off of texts from different viewpoints. Topics will cover healthy food options at school, book choice, and environmental issues.

- Standards: W.5.1 Write opinion pieces on topics of texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.

Social Studies: Unit 3: Comparative Case Study of Western Hemisphere Cultures

- In this unit, students will explore countries of the Western Hemisphere including Mexico, the United States, the Dominican Republic, and Canada. Social Studies Goal: Students will be able to compare and contrast aspects of culture in countries located in the Western Hemisphere. Standards: RI.5.1–6

Science: Unit 2: Modeling Matter

- Students are then challenged to solve two problems: One problem requires them to separate a mixture, and the other problem requires them to make unmixable substances mix. Students are challenged to use the particulate model of matter to explain their work to the president of the company.

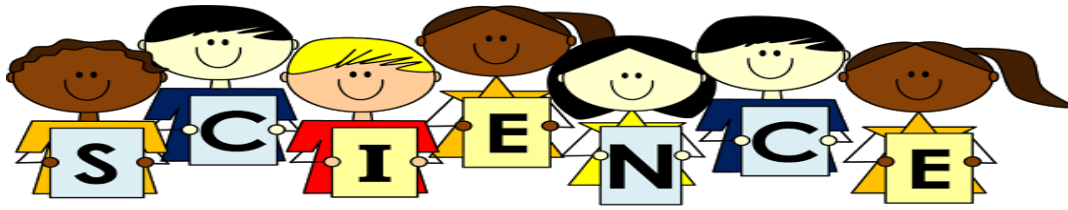
Science Goal: By the end of the unit, students will be able to apply the understanding to explain how the properties of materials are related to the properties of the nanoparticles that make up those materials.

Standards: 5.ESS1-1-2 and 5.PS2-1

Important Dates:

- Progress Reports – January 16th, Parent Communication: The 5th Grade Teachers are available every Tuesday from 2:40-3:10





Third Graders will continue Unit 2 Inheritance and Traits

Each Amplify unit begins with a Phenomenon

In this unit we are taking on the role of conservation biologist and we are investigating a variety of species that have a variation in traits. They will compare inherited and acquired traits to explain why variations exist.

Performance Expectation 3-LS3-1. Analyze and interpret data to provide evidence that plants and animals have traits inherited from parents and that variation of these traits exists in a group of similar organism

Fourth Graders will continue Unit 2 Vision and Light

In this unit we are taking on the role of conservation biologist investigating how living things use their senses to gather information from their environment.

Performance Expectation 4-LS1-2. Use a model to describe that animals receive different types of information through their senses, process the information in their brains, and respond to the information in different way.

Fifth Graders will continue Unit 2 Modeling Matter

In the role of food scientists working for Good Food Production, Inc., students create models to describe properties of substances within mixtures. They learn about chromatography which is a process that separates liquids and gases.

Performance Expectation 5-PS1-1. Develop a model to describe that matter is made of particles too small to be seen.

We will continue with our Healthy Eating Habits from Green Beetz by comparing modern methods and traditional methods of food production.

Have a Wonderful Winter Break

Health and Happiness into The New Year From Ms.Valerio



Family STEM Engagement

Saturday, January 18, 2020

Coming Soon!





Dear Families

I would like to start by wishing you all a happy New Year. I am excited about all that New Year has to offer and all of the art we will be making.

The lower grade students will be creating large winter group murals. Working collaboratively children begin to see just how when everyone plays a role in a group, they can come together to create something larger than life. Some lower grades will be studying the work of Keith Haring and creating a little pop art of their own.

The upper grade students will begin a unit on Op art. They will be creating a variety of different visual optical illusions. Students in fourth grade who study colonial times will be making toys from the period called Thaumatrope.

As always if you need to contact me I can be reached at DAronow@schools.nyc.gov



"TECHNOLOGY IS JUST A TOOL. IN TERMS OF GETTING THE KIDS WORKING TOGETHER AND MOTIVATING THEM, THE TEACHER IS MOST IMPORTANT." -Bill Gates founder of Microsoft.

The students in our PS 220 Technology program are doing some amazing work within our Mac Lab!!

Technology this month:

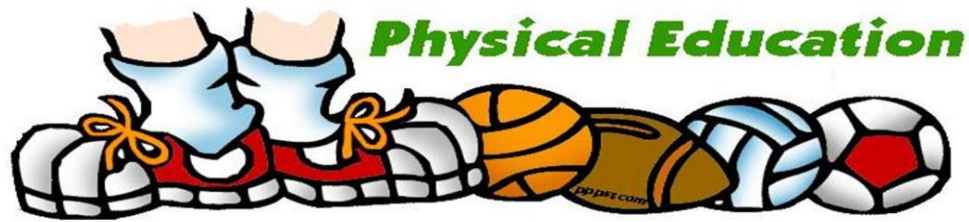
Our (PK-K) will continue to refine their mouse and keyboarding skills, while also working in Micro Soft word assignments

Our students in grades (1-2) are working on their graphic novels using Comic Life software, and continuing their work in basic coding (computer programming)

Our upper students in grades (3-5) will be working creating original graphic novels using Comic Life software and coding

Parent Communication:

Feel free to contact me via email at my email address at rgross3@school.nyc.gov by note or via the school phone at 718 592-3030. Tuesday afternoons from 2:40 until 3:20 are optimal.



Get ready for the PS 220 Jump Rope for Heart/ Hoops for Heart Fundraiser! Please look for the donation envelope sometime this month. Heart disease is a major problem. We will be learning all about how to keep our hearts healthy and hopefully be able to help others in need. Our school is a proud supporter of the American Heart Association and we have always been able to donate generously to this worthy cause. Let's make this the best year ever!

Save the Date!!!

Friday, February 14th, 2020 is our annual bring your parent to work-out event! Please look for the flyer announcing our "Healthy Breakfast/Morning Workout" for parent and child to attend together. Get your reservation in early!

Healthy Hint: Be a positive role model. If you are practicing heart-healthy habits, it is a lot easier to convince your children to do the same.

Kindergarten students will be learning how to jump rope and play games with rules. **Our first graders** will begin an introduction to simple yoga poses. **Second grade** students will be practicing throwing, catching and hitting a ball

Third graders begin learning basic skills to play kickball and practicing good sportsmanship. **The fourth grade and fifth** grade students are going to be fully engaged in their basketball unit. **The upper grade students** should be doing 15 - 20 minutes of push-ups and sit-ups at home, in preparation for the Fitnessgram Test. Practice makes progress!

Please remember to send your child to school with sneakers and sweatpants on their assigned gym day. Check with your child's teacher to find out what day the class has gym. Our PS 220 t-shirts and sweatpants are available year-round. Please see our Parent Coordinator, Ms. Torres if you would like to make a purchase.

If you would like to request a meeting, you can reach us every Tuesday between 2:40pm and 3:20 pm. Please contact us through Email: adewhirst2@schools.nyc.gov, Msavino@schools.nyc.gov Phone: 718-592-3030





Hello and Happy New Year from ENL!

Title III Afterschool Program



Grades 3, 4 & 5 program will begin on

Wednesday, January 8, 2020.

Letters describing dates and times will be sent home with your child. Sign the permission slip tear off and return it to your child's teacher.

Thank you to all parents and guardians who attended our ENL Family Fun Literacy Day. It was a great time of learning about different cultural holiday traditions, creating projects and learning new vocabulary! We look forward to seeing all of you at our future events.

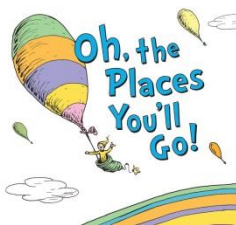


Helpful tip: Read with your child every day. Let your child tell you about the story. Using your home language for support is also a great way to encourage your child to continue to read.



Useful websites:

- starfall.com
- myon.com
- colorincolorado.org



The Museum of Modern Art is **free** from **4 to 8 p.m. on Fridays**

The Guggenheim Museum is **pay what you wish**, **Saturdays, from 5–8 p.m.**





Looking forward to a New Year and exciting things! playing more instruments, singing new songs. As we begin the New Year 2020.

Grades K thru 2nd, will sing about winter, and games we can play. Learn music to accompany them as they sing. Would like to thank and applaud the 1st graders and 2nd graders who performed so wonderfully at the Dedication of the New Learning Library. You performed wonderfully, we are all proud of you.

Grades 3rd thru 5th will return to the New Year, learning more about guitar. Learning to play and sing songs, and start to create and write our own songs.

I am very proud of the afterschool violin program. As we concluded 2019 with our Winter Concert performances by our upper grade students and we are looking forward to more shows and expanding our musical vocabulary and horizons.

Thank you for a great first half of the year and I am very proud of the work we have done. Here's to 2020.

oh, the
PLACES
you'll
go!

"Yeti, Set, Snow" Returns to the Swedish Cottage in Central Park

Address: W 79th St, New York City, NY 10023 Phone: (212) 639-1697

Tickets are a bargain \$8 for kids and \$12 for the adults

Make Music Winter Festival Celebrate the Winter Solstice

- Saturday, December 21, 2019 @ 11:30 AM 1:00 PM
- Brownsville, Brooklyn Meet at 11:30 AM at 400 Rockaway Avenue in Brownsville, Brooklyn,



January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 	2 	3	4
5	6 Trip Kindergarten Pizza Uno How to make Pizza?	7 Graduation Picture 8:30am  Picture Day!	8 Parent workshop The Perfect Child 8:30am	9 Parent Workshop Implicit Bias Session 1 8:30am	10 College Awareness Day Wear your College T- shirt Day	11 ENL Title III Hall of science 
12	13 Why is 4 th grade important for Middle school? 8:30am Green hallway	14 4 th Grade  Spelling Bee @9:10am	15	16 Parent Workshop Implicit Bias Session 2 8:30am  Given out	17	18 Family Engagement 
19	20 No school 	21 3 rd  Spelling Bee @8:45am	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 Parent Workshop Absences Add UP! @8:30am	30	31	



Every Tuesday you can meet with your child's teacher or cluster teacher 2:40pm-3:20pm. Make an appointment though remind, email, or send a note