ADMINISTRATORS’ ANNOUNCEMENT

It is hard to believe that we are halfway through the school year. February is a short and also, a busy month.

The Test Prep programs for all students in Grades 3-5 have been scheduled from the week of February 25th to the week of April 15th. Each program has been planned to provide additional support to groups of students according to their performance level. The teachers will be working closely with the students as they continue to practice and enhance their ELA and Math skills. With additional differentiated support, the students will be better prepared for the State Exams scheduled this Spring.

We had a wonderful start to the Saturday Academy for English Language Learners. The Academy supports our English Language Learners in Grades 1-5 and continues to facilitate their English Language Acquisition while they continue to prepare for the New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT) which requires proficiency in Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing.

During the month of February, it is Black History Month. The school community celebrates, acknowledges, and teaches the students about the contributions of African Americans in American history. This month we will also celebrate Lunar New Year and look forward to the Lunar New Year Celebration and a special performance by our Chinese bilingual classes.

During this month, we also celebrate “Respect for All”. During “Respect for All” week, it is a time to reflect on the many important social and emotional attributes we foster in each of our children in order to help build a strong community. Each day, students and staff are asked to wear different colors to represent the importance of good citizenship, friendship, love, and respect!

Lastly, we want to inform you that District 20 Superintendent Karina Costantino visited our school on January 15th and she was delighted to see the footprints of learning taking place, along with the remarkable culmination of STEAM projects. She was very happy with the positive culture of the school building. We thank all the members of our school community who work their hardest to make P.S. 127 so remarkable.

On behalf of our staff, we would like to thank you for your continuous collaboration and commitment to our school! Enjoy the Mid-winter Recess which is scheduled for February 18th – February 22nd. During this week, we will celebrate Presidents’ Day, an American holiday commemorated to honor all U.S. presidents, past and present. School will resume on Monday, February 25, 2019.

PARENT COORDINATOR

In the month of February, our school will be participating in RESPECT FOR ALL WEEK. During this week, the children will wear a different color everyday symbolizing a special meaning. They will also be doing lessons in their classrooms on how to be respectful of their fellow classmates. Please reinforce these lessons at home. Please remember to check the monthly calendar for all our activities planned for this month.
**GRADE NEWS**

**Kindergarten**
This coming month, Kindergarten will learn about the things that scientists study, and focus on the growth process of animals, insects, and plants. In writing, we have been using sequencing words to describe events. Come and check out our excellent work in the hallway. In math, we will be learning the numbers that are greater than 20. 2019 is the year of the pig according to the Chinese 12-year animal zodiac cycle! On February 1st, our bilingual Chinese students from K107 will be performing for the families who attend Family Friday to celebrate Lunar New Year. Kindergarten students would like to wish everyone Happy Valentine’s Day and the Lunar New Year.

**First Grade**
In writing, first graders are writing personal narratives, using details and transition words. In Journey’s, first graders are continuing to learn how to infer the author’s purpose, compare and contrast using a Venn Diagram, and draw conclusions using text evidence. In math, we will be focusing on addition with and without regrouping. During writing, we will be crafting various narrative pieces. We also would like to take the time to wish everyone a happy and restful midwinter recess!

**Second Grade**
Second grade students are “full of heart” as we welcome the month of February, and all of the wonderful things we will be learning. In our Journeys lessons, we just wrapped up Unit 3 and will be exploring Unit 4 strategies and skills such as story structure and sequence of events. During our Go Math lessons, we will be learning about three-digit addition with and without regrouping. During writing, we will be crafting various narrative pieces. We also would like to take the time to wish everyone a happy and restful midwinter recess!

**Third Grade**
For the month of February grade 3 will be performing A-Z through the continents. This aligns with our social studies curriculum. The performance will be held on February 15, 2019 at 9:30 am in the multi-purpose room. We will begin our unit on fractions. Please continue working on multiplication drills with your child. We are beginning our biography unit to celebrate Black Month. We will also be celebrating 100th day of school on February 14, 2019. Happy Lunar New Year and have a restful midwinter break!

**4th Grade Math**
This month in math we are busy learning all about division and multiplication. In writing, students are working on biographies. The state tests are quickly approaching, and we will be preparing for these exams. I encourage you to practice multiplication, division, and read with your children daily.

**4th Grade ELA**
This month in reading we will begin Unit 3. Several selections in Unit 3 deal with weather or climate.

**4th Grade SS/Writing**
This month in Social Studies, Fourth grade will continue to learn about the Colonial and Revolutionary period in New York. Students will investigate the growing conflicts between England and the thirteen colonies over political and economic rights that led to the American Revolution. We will focus on how New York played a significant role during the Revolution, due to its geographic location. Writing: In writing, students will learn about the writing process, and how to write essays in response to prompts. We will compare and contrast stories on similar themes and topics. Students will continue to learn how to analyze a prompt, gather text evidence, organize ideas, drafting, and revising and editing.

**4th Grade Math**
During the month of February, fourth grade students will continue their study of fractions. We will also begin preparing for the NYS Math test during test prep programs. We strongly urge all students to attend. Have a great winter recess!

**5th Grade ELA.**
We have concluded our novel study of “Tuck Everlasting”. We will continue to focus on various reading skills, while reading nonfiction texts. Also, we are beginning to prepare for NYS ELA Test by focusing on multiple reading skills and strategies.

**5th Grade Math**
Brrrr, it may be cold outside but we are on fire with fractions! The students have been working so hard. We just finished multiplying fractions and we have started division. Please review with your children nightly. Have a wonderful, restful Mid Winter Break!

**5th Grade SS/Writing**
We are continuing to study the European explorers. Each student be given an explorer, research them and present. In writing we will begin test prep to prepare for the ELA State Exam.
CLUSTER NEWS

Art
Kindergarten will create pictures of the rainforest in the media of oil pastel. Second grade and third grade are creating pictures for “Respect for ALL Week”. Fourth grade are creating self-portraits in their favorite style. Fifth grade will create pictures inspired by artist Georgia O’Keeffe.

Science
I would like to take this opportunity to inform you about the upcoming Science Fair at P.S. 127. All students in grades 3, 4 and 5 are expected to develop an innovation or invention for our first Creativity Convention. Students may use the internet, library or their textbook to get ideas for their project. Display boards will be on sale during the lunch period. The cost is $5.00 per board. All projects are due on March 6, 2019. Three projects from each class will be selected to participate in the School Creativity Convention. Parents of class winners will be notified in writing on March 15th. The class winners will present their projects to the school judges on Monday, March 18th. The judges will select a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winner for each grade. The winners will be announced at the Science Fair March 19, 2018. All this information including rubrics, checklists and some resources will be distributed to the students in the upcoming week. I will also be holding a Science Fair/Creativity Convention information session on February 12, 2019 at 3 pm for grades 3&4 parents, and 3:30 pm for Grade 5 parents. Good luck to all!!! I look forward to seeing everyone’s hard work!!!

Physical Education
Grades K-2: All grades are currently working on scooter skills and the safety rules while riding on a scooter. The children love playing various games while incorporating skills taught in class. The kids love playing on the SCOOTERS! In a few weeks we will be moving onto basic volleyball skills. Grade 3: Students are learning about the basic fundamentals of volleyball. The children love to learn how to bump and set the volleyball over the net. We even get competitive and play who can keep the ball off the ground the longest. Grades 4-5: We are near the end of Fitness Gram! Yay! Continue working on the upper body and abdominal strength exercises. The children are so excited to finally be done and onto SPORTS. Within the next two weeks, we will learn the basic skills of volleyball. Eat healthy and Exercise!

Dance
February is here! In dance, we are working on creating, performing, responding and connecting dance moves to our every day lives. The students are getting the opportunity to create their own dances with small groups and performing for one another, while providing feedback and compliments. Also, dance club students are working towards their performance in May. Stay warm and enjoy your February break!

SUPPORT SERVICES

OT/PT
Here’s the next installment of our useful tips from an OT perspective. This month we’re providing information on potential misconceptions of pencil grips. So without further ado here’s the Introduction to Pencil Grip 101:

Many people believe slapping a grip on a pencil and declaring, “Job done!” will solve their problems. There is actually much more to correcting a grasp than just using a grip. Grips are kind of the equivalent of duct taping a hole in your roof. It might work for a minute, but the underlying issues still remain. Let’s say you put a grip on a pencil and the child holds it beautifully. Fantastical! However, what happens when you take that pencil grip away? If they were just using the grip as a crutch to melt their fingers into, they probably haven’t developed the proper strength to maintain the position alone. That being said, all grips are designed for the same thing: to put a child in a “correct” three finger grasp. But the biggest difference between each grip is the way it gets you there and the thought process in setting up your student to hold writing utensils correctly one day without the need for the grip. Correcting grasps takes consideration and time. We need to think of the underlying issues before slapping on any pencil grip to a pencil. But that will probably take more space and time than this newsletter. If you have any questions about your child’s grasp and ways to help them improve their handwriting in school give us a shout out at my school email: Pmctague2@schools.nyc.gov. Looking forward to answering your questions!

Speech
Grades K-2 help your children with the phonological awareness (sounds). Play games with letter tiles, changing one letter of a three or four letter word to make a new word (ex; mat/sat or card - cart). You can make the words harder or easier. Grades 3-5 help your children understand what they are reading. After they read a story, have them draw/write three to six events that happened in the right order (like a comic book style). This will help put images in their head which helps them get a better grasp on what they are reading. Help them with vocabulary by trying to think of as many synonyms (words that have similar meaning) as they can. Take a vote on which word sounds the best. Have fun with learning!!

AIS/IEP/SETSS
K - 4 SETSS/AIS in February is fab, fabulous, and fantastic! This past month, the Shades of Meaning strategy has assisted all the SETSS and AIS students to better understand the subtle differences between related words. The students have begun to identify a continuum of words related to a theme or idea. It has started to expand the students’ vocabulary by teaching synonyms and revealing the hidden inferences behind words. I’m looking forward to see where all their new words take each and every one of them.

Counselor
During the week of February 11th – 15th, 2019 our School will be celebrating Respect for All Week to continue school’s ongoing efforts to promote inter-personal and inter-group respect and to prevent bullying and bias-based behavior.

Resources were provided for classrooms, posters will be created by students, and Student Council members will make daily announcements throughout the week. We will also be selling pencils Monday 2/11/19 for $1.00 each during all lunch periods. All proceeds will go to PACER National Bullying Prevention Center.
**SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Book of the Month**

**FEBRUARY**

By: Debra Frasier

**Miss Alaineus, A Vocabulary Disaster**

Miss Alaineus, A Vocabulary Disaster is a hilarious story that takes you through the usually not-so-funny world of vocabulary. Sage misses school due to a cold and from there the misunderstanding begins. But “miscellaneous” is finally revealed for the word it truly is, and Sage manages to redeem herself in a marvelous and inspiring creative leap. This is a great book to go along with our School-wide Instructional Focus of vocabulary and social-emotional development.

Enjoy!

**Title 1:**

**2019 Title 1 Parent Committee /PTA Events:**

*(all take place after Family Friday)*

**March 1** - Pastries for Parents. (With coffee, of course!)
**April 5** - Our First Annual "Spring Fiesta!" Celebrate Latino culture with food and dance!
**June 7** - Annual Volunteer Breakfast. All are welcome.

All events include coffee, snacks, and smiling faces! Hope to see you there.

---

**Student Council Corner**

We are excited to be involved in Respect For All week and assisting Mrs. Meola in spreading love, kindness and Respect around our P.S. 127 family.

**PTA**

The Title 1 Parent Committee presents one FREE event each month, following Family Friday.

**February 1** - Lunar New Year Celebration. Watch our bilingual classes perform! March 1 - Pastries for Parents. (With coffee, of course!) April 5 - Our First Annual "Spring Fiesta!" Celebrate Latino culture with food and dance! June 7 - Annual Volunteer Breakfast. All are welcome.

PTA

Snack shake and ice cream every Friday
February bottle mania 3rd and 4th grades last day is 2/8
February 8th - Craft night K-2 5:30-7pm
February 12th - Valentine’s Day pictures
Candy gram on February 14th
February bottle mania for the 5th grade starts 2/25
February 28th at 8:45am General meeting

---

**Note from the Nurse**

FLU IMMUNIZATIONS can still be given and offer protection! The Flu is in NYC, cover your coughs in elbows, if vomiting or fever within 24 hrs. of school please do not come to school.

Safety is very important so please have your children’s shoes double knotted at home each morning to prevent falls.

Continue to dress in layers that can be adjusted to the room temperature.

Sent from the New York City Department of Health & Mental Hygiene. This email and any files transmitted with it may contain confidential information and are intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. This footnote also confirms that this email message has been swept for the presence of computer viruses.

---

**Book of the Month**

**FEBRUARY**

By: Debra Frasier

**Miss Alaineus, A Vocabulary Disaster**

Miss Alaineus, A Vocabulary Disaster is a hilarious story that takes you through the usually not-so-funny world of vocabulary. Sage misses school due to a cold and from there the misunderstanding begins. But “miscellaneous” is finally revealed for the word it truly is, and Sage manages to redeem herself in a marvelous and inspiring creative leap. This is a great book to go along with our School-wide Instructional Focus of vocabulary and social-emotional development.

Enjoy!

---

**Title 1:**

**2019 Title 1 Parent Committee /PTA Events:**

*(all take place after Family Friday)*

**March 1** - Pastries for Parents. (With coffee, of course!)
**April 5** - Our First Annual "Spring Fiesta!" Celebrate Latino culture with food and dance!
**June 7** - Annual Volunteer Breakfast. All are welcome.

All events include coffee, snacks, and smiling faces! Hope to see you there.

---

**Note from the Nurse**

FLU IMMUNIZATIONS can still be given and offer protection! The Flu is in NYC, cover your coughs in elbows, if vomiting or fever within 24 hrs. of school please do not come to school.

Safety is very important so please have your children’s shoes double knotted at home each morning to prevent falls.

Continue to dress in layers that can be adjusted to the room temperature.

Sent from the New York City Department of Health & Mental Hygiene. This email and any files transmitted with it may contain confidential information and are intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. This footnote also confirms that this email message has been swept for the presence of computer viruses.