



Joann Montoya, Assistant Principal Renee Klager, Assistant Principal P.S. 24 Queens
Andrew Jackson Elementary

Debra Cassidy, Principal

HOME OF THE AJ NIGHTHAWKS



141-11 Holly Avenue Flushing, NY 11355 Phone: 718-359-2288 Fax: 718-460-3251

Saher Said, Assistant Principal Bani Singh, Assistant Principal

5th Grade Newsletter

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 $Mrs.\ Bergman: MBergman 2@schools.nyc.gov$

Ms. Conti: Mconti4@schools.nyc.gov Mrs. Greggo: Bgreggo@schools.nyc.gov Mrs. Kosinski: Ckosinski@schools.nyc.gov Ms. Yahav: Ayahav@schools.nyc.gov January 2017

Ms. Chiang: A Chiang@schools.nyc.gov Mrs. Gregory: Lgregory3@schools.nyc.gov Mrs. Guilfoyle: Jguilfoyle@schools.nyc.gov Mrs. McCalla: MSchwartz26@schools.nyc.gov

SUBJECT	TOPIC	SUGGESTIONS FOR SUPPORT AT HOME
Reading	Research Based Arguments	 Read the editorial section of the newspaper with your child, paying close attention to the position of the author and the techniques he/she uses to convey their position. Continue to read and log your minutes on Learn 2 Earn. Students push their opinions by responding to other students' comments and persuasively arguing their own opinions in the post. Visit: https://www.whooosreading.org/ While reading, investigate both sides of an issue and discuss with your child which side they agree with and why.
Writing	Research Based Argument Essay	 Investigate both sides of an issue with your child, encouraging him/her to write their position provocatively. Talk with your child about how their writing can be more persuasive. Weigh both sides of an argument with your child and have them use the discussion to bolster their opinion essay writing.
Math	Geometry and Volume	 Investigate with your child all the different shapes they can find in and around your neighborhood. Have them chart all the attributes they can list for each shape found. Practice finding the volume for different boxes that you may have in the house. Guess how many items might fit in the box in order to fill it up. Continue to encourage your child to use the online math resources and complete work assigned in order to practice all of their strategies they are learning.
Science	Ecosystems	 Students can reread the texts we are using in class in order to gain a deeper understanding of the ecosystem concepts we are learning. Find and view different ecosystems around the world and compare them to the part of the world we live in. Encourage your child to find evidence in the texts they read that they can use to support their hypothesis that they come up with in class discussions.
Social Studies	European Explorers	 Students can reread the texts we use in class and highlight important or new vocabulary words they find. Choose an explorer that we have discussed and conduct further research on them and their accomplishments. Use a map to trace and explore all the areas that the explorers we are researching have traveled, use a double bubble map to compare their travels with your travels.

Focus of the Month: Reading

This month we continue our deeper thinking with close reading. Students have been learning a multitude of strategies they can use when tackling all levels of texts. Encourage students to check their resources when reading their articles to help them remember which strategy will work for what they are reading. In addition, as we move through the next few months it is important that the students continue to build up their stamina and reading for longer periods of time. Please continue to encourage your child to read for a minimum of 60 minutes, post their ideas and log their minutes. You may want to try reading the same book as your child and share thoughts and ideas together.