



Fourth Grade Newsletter

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Ms. Alestra Aalestra@schools.nyc.gov Ms. Batterton Hbatterton@schools.nyc.gov Mrs. Berry Kberry2@schools.nyc.gov
Mrs. Eggers Pegggers@schools.nyc.gov Ms. Li Hli6@schools.nyc.gov Mrs. Kaur Rkaur13@schools.nyc.gov
Mrs. Lauten Rlauten@schools.nyc.gov, Ms. Tang Ktang5@schools.nyc.gov
Ms. Yovino Tvovino@schools.nyc.gov

SUBJECT	TOPIC	SUGGESTIONS FOR SUPPORT AT HOME
Reading	Mystery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ During the month of June, students will read like sneaky sleuths, not only sniffing out clues to help them solve the mystery, but clues that help them infer and assign character traits to the different characters, as well as noticing different traits the authors use as they write. ✓ At home students can continue reading mystery to immerse themselves in the genre. Ask your child about the mystery who are the characters? What are their motives? Do they have an alibi? ✓ Students can enrich their mystery reading by going to kidsmystery.net
Writing	Mystery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Students will be continuing their mystery writing unit enhancing their mystery stories by adding realistic characters with multiple motives, alibi's and even red herring turbulent twists and turns to throw the reader off the track! ✓ At home, students can use http://www.creative-writing-ideas-and-activities.com/writing-mystery-stories.html to help them with their mystery writing. ✓ Students can also use the mystery planning template on Scholastic to help them organize their ideas and details. https://www.scholastic.com/content/dam/teachers/lesson-plans/migrated-featured-files/janplanmystery.pdf
Math	Measurement & Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ During the month of June students will be completing their study of measurement, conversions, and completing differentiated math tasks honing the children's skills that are prerequisites for fifth grade math. ✓ To prepare for fifth grade, Students should be able to recite multiplication facts quickly, or be able to use strategies to figure out the product in a short amount of time. ✓ At home, children can look at word problems challenging themselves to write an equation to solve the problem and choose and use the best model to represent their thinking when solving these problems. ✓ Visit www.math-play.com for interactive algebra games!
Science	Science Research, Experimentation, & Science Fair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ During our last month of school, students will revisit some of the topics we studied throughout the year, engaging in classroom experimentation, ultimately creating their science fair boards. Some of their work will be displayed in the school-wide science fair coming up in June! ✓ Don't forget to visit the local library to continue researching your favorite topics over the summer! ✓ Visit http://www.flocabulary.com for some entertaining informational songs on your favorite science topics (It's not just science, math and history too!! check it out!) ✓ Over the summer, children should take time to go outside and observe the world around them jotting down interesting things they observe at home, in the park, at the zoo, or wherever their feet take them.
Social Studies	Industrial Revolution & Immigration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Students will be studying the effects of the Industrial Revolution and immigration on New York and how, through immigration, New York emerged as an economic power. ✓ Over the summer you may want to take an exciting day trip to visit places in New York City such as Ellis Island, the Statue of Liberty, or the Tenement Museum. ✓ Take a virtual field trip to these places by researching them online!

Focus of the Month: STEM "Excellence in Math, Science, and Technology"

The STEM learning movement is much more than a clustering of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) classes. STEM learning focuses on deep mathematical and scientific principles, which children need to acquire to help them be successful in their futures. STEM learning involves students in real-world, hands-on inquiry and open-ended exploration which helps develop investigative and creative thinking skills, while utilizing rigorous math and science connections and fostering productive teamwork. As students complete and evaluate their solutions, reformulating their ideas, they are simultaneously reframing their idea of failure as a necessary part of learning. That is to say, that when a solution fails, it is not considered a failure, rather a stepping-stone toward the ultimate solution. If a student's first idea doesn't work students need to perseverer to find which pieces are needed to continue to search for an answer, keeping in mind there are always multiple solutions to every problem. Students have been posed with real-world every day problems in math and science where they are expected to find and evaluate multiple approaches and solutions. This work spills over into computer class where students are given a task and completing it using computer coding, solving, debugging, and thinking of many ways they could reach an end product.