



Fourth Grade Newsletter

Issue #9

P.S. 24 QUEENS

May 2017

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SUBJECT	TOPIC	SUGGESTIONS FOR SUPPORT AT HOME
	Mystery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ During the month of May, students will immerse themselves in many magical mysteries. Mysteries are a great vehicle for promoting critical thinking and deductive reasoning. Students get the chance to infer, notice clues and wonder about them as they follow ideas across the text to predict outcomes. ✓ At home, encourage your children to read mysteries during their independent reading time by reviewing the clues with them and trying to solve the mystery before the crime solver. ✓ Students can explore and read mini mysteries on http://kids.mysterynet.com/ to practice their deductive reading skills.
Writing	Bringing History to Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ During the month of May, students will be coupling their writing with their social studies research, using their findings to write an informational book about different aspects and events which took place during the period of the Revolutionary War. ✓ This work can be supported at home by conducting additional research using websites such as http://www.pbs.org/ktca/liberty, http://mrnussbaum.com/american-revolution, or http://www.ducksters.com/history/american_revolution.php ✓ Students can examine text features asking themselves, "Why did the author choose to include this?" and, "How does this feature enhance my learning about the topic?" Then they can choose and create some text features of their own.
Math	Measurement & Data	<p>* May 2-4, 2017 Students will complete the NYS Math Exams</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ May means Measurement! Students will be using customary and metric units of measurement to measure length, weight, and liquid volume. They will convert from smaller to larger units and larger to smaller units interchangeably, and display measurements on line plots by examining them for benchmarks such as mean, median, and mode. ✓ At home ask your child questions such as, "How many inches are in a foot?" "How many centimeters are in a meter?" "How many minutes are in an hour?" ✓ Go online and play: http://pbskids.org/games/measurement/ or http://www.kidsmathgamesonline.com/geometry/measurement.html
Science	Test Sophistication	<p>*Students will be taking the NYS Science "hands-on" test, May 24, 2017 & the written test on June 5, 2017.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ In preparation for the state tests, students will be reviewing topics such as the water cycle, food chains and webs, simple machines, ecosystems, and the influence of natural conditions and human impact on the ecosystem. They will also be conducting different experiments in order to prepare for the hands-on portion of the test. ✓ At home students can review topics they are unfamiliar with using web sites such as study jams, Sid the science guy, and Ducksters.
Social Studies	American Revolution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ In Social Studies, the students are wrapping up their investigations studying the American Revolution and the foundation of our nation. The 4th graders have been discovering the drama of history through research using the internet, poetry, informational texts, historical fiction texts, and primary sources. ✓ To support this work at home, have your child extend their researching skills. Go to the library or internet and find out more about the foundation of our nation.

Focus of the Month: "Excellence in the Arts"

At PS 24 Q, teachers and administration strive not only to support students with rich inviting activities and rigorous assignments, but develop them into well rounded students giving them opportunities to grow in all areas of knowledge, including the arts. All students at PS 24 participate in CREATE, a dance program which teaches students about different genres of music, dance techniques and steps. It takes them through the process of choreographing a dance which they perform with their grade at the end of the dance cycle. Students may also be fortunate enough to have a visual art prep with the talented and artistic Mrs. Sanchez who teaches students a myriad of art techniques using a variety of mediums throughout the year. Students might have a drama prep with the dramatic Mrs. Kaufman who introduces students to reading and acting out plays with inflection and flair. In addition to CREATE, fourth and fifth grade students are given the privilege of taking weekly violin lessons from the talented Ms. Kang. Students are also invited to try out for the school chorus, who under the skillful hands of Mrs. Kaufman and Ms. Rajwan, learn about music, singing and working together to be a part of a group, making beautiful music. PS 24 prides itself on its focus and attention to all the areas of the arts, visual, music, drama, and dance.