

# Third Grade Newsletter

P.S.24 Queens

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☺ **Important Dates in February** ☺

**-First Friday/100<sup>th</sup> day of school-Math: February 15<sup>th</sup>**

**-No School: February 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>**

**-Theatre Moves Show: February 10<sup>th</sup>**

**-Home Basketball Game: February 10<sup>th</sup>**

Reading	Test Sophistication	At home, please make sure your child is reading for 50 minutes per night. We are going to be focusing on all of the reading comprehension skills that will ensure your child excels on the State Test. Please practice with them at home, chunking the text, by planning where they will stop and think within their paragraphs. Chunking means to break up sections of a text to organize information into manageable sections to understanding main idea of a text. When they stop, please have them write a few words on what the big idea of those paragraphs were.
Writing	Test Sophistication	At home, please make sure that your child is completing both the short and long responses that we are having them complete for homework. In class, we are going to begin focusing on the writing strategies they will need for the State Test. Something you can practice at home, is using the acronym: ADD or APP -Answer, Detail, Detail or Answer, Prove, Prove with text evidence. Have the students answer the question, flip it, and give text evidence. This is a fun way for your children to remember how to complete a short response.
Math	Fractions/ Test Sophistication	At home, please ask your child to model their fraction word problems in more than one way. For example, they can represent their work as a bar model, number line or as a conventional fraction. We are also working on finding the area and perimeter of shapes. At the same time we will be preparing the students for math state exam by reviewing topics taught and test taking strategies for multiple choice and short response questions.
Science	Animal Adaptation	At home, please ask your child what they are learning about how some animals adapt and survive in their environment. In class, we will be reading articles about how animals adapt thinking about the big ideas and developing content specific vocabulary.
Social Studies	Geography: Country Study	At home, please allow your child to research on the internet about their class's far off country they will be focusing on. When researching, allow them to take an in depth look at the different aspects of culture: Traditions, Clothing, Holidays, Folklore, Economy, Government, Food and History.

## Focus of the Month

The focus is in reading for the month. We are working on close reading of text both fiction and non-fiction. A close reading is a careful and purposely reading. The students really focus on what the author had to say, what the author's purpose was, what the words mean and what the structure of the text tells us.