

FANTASTIC FIFTH GRADE

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PS221Q –North Hills School
Little Neck, NY

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Mathematics

Unit of Study: Multiply and Divide Fractions

Students will:

- Use models to multiply and divide fractions
- Estimate fraction products and quotients
- Find fractional parts of groups
- Find products and quotients of fractions, whole numbers, and mixed numbers
- Relate fraction multiplication and area
- Use the strategy *Guess, Check, and Revise* to solve problems with fractions

A way to help at home:

Continue to explore recipes with your child. Ask them to double or triple fractions in the recipe. They could also practice division of fractions by dividing ingredients in the recipe.

Social Studies

Unit of Study: European Exploration

Students will continue to explore:

- The motivations of European exploration to the Western Hemisphere
- The role geography played in European exploration
- The positive and negative consequences of exploration of the Western Hemisphere

A way to help at home:

Discuss the explorers we are learning about, including Christopher Columbus, the Vikings, Hernán Cortés, Jacques Cartier and Samuel de Champlain.

Writing

Unit of Study: Literary Essay

Students will continue to:

- Write opinion pieces on texts, supporting their point of view with reasons and information
- Draw evidence from literary texts to support analysis
- Create an organizational structure that logically groups ideas

A way to help at home:

Ask your child to discuss the literary texts they have read and the claim they are supporting in their essay.

Reading

Unit of Study: Revolution!

Students will:

- Draw conclusions and make generalizations using text details.
- Analyze text details to identify and evaluate author's purpose.
- Use context clues to define domain-specific vocabulary.
- Analyze text structures to aid in comprehension

A way to help at home:

Ask your child about the historical Revolutionary figures we have been reading about. Have them discuss their individual acts of bravery and how they helped shape history?

Music - Mrs. Gleboski

In 5th Grade Music, students are continuing to learn about how to play the guitar. In addition to guitar, students will obtain a deeper understanding of vocal techniques in choral music. We will begin to explore different styles of music and practice performing these pieces both on guitar and with our voices. Please visit our music website at: <http://mrsgleboskismusicroom.weebly.com/>



Computers - Mr. Caniano

This month our fifth graders will work with M.I.T.'S *Scratch*. *Scratch* is an excellent online tool that teaches students the basic concepts of coding. The students will create their own animations and games. The link to Scratch can be found on the school website under fifth grade websites. Please encourage your child to keep working with *Scratch* at home and contact me if you have any questions.

Science - Mrs. Rothenberg

Unit Question - What happens when two substances are mixed together?

Our fifth graders will continue their work as food scientists this month. So far they have learned:

- All molecules of one substance are exactly the same, and they are different from molecules of any other substance.
- Different molecules have different properties.

This month we will investigate the following question:

Chapter 2: Why do some salad dressings have sediment and others do not?

Sanford Harmony

Unit of Study: Empathy and Critical Thinking

Students will continue to explore:

- The perspective that personalities and abilities can change and improve.
- The problems associated with stereotypes and work together to develop strategies to prevent the negative consequences of stereotyping.

A way to help at home:

When praising your child, focus on their process (e.g., "You worked really hard on those math problems!") instead of a fixed characteristic (e.g., "You are really good at math!"). Focusing on the process helps promote resilience in our children.



Art- Ms. Pecoraro

This Month We will begin working on artworks that express different emotions inspired by our School-Wide Mood Meter Initiative!

Thank you to all of the teachers, staff, parents, volunteers and participants for another wonderful and enjoyable Family Art Night! 😊

Supporting the Arts at Home: Take time to look at artwork with your child in a book, online, or in a museum/gallery. Have a discussion about what you see and how the artwork makes them feel. If you find an artwork that inspires you, create a drawing or similar artwork of your own.



Physical Education - Mr. Stewart

Our seniors will continue working on key elements of passing games and net games. We will incorporate interdisciplinary aspects such as journal writing, statistics, graphing and team management. We also introduced a student led teaching model. This model allows students the opportunity to lead competitive stations, where their peers can showcase talents and earn prizes. We will begin a curriculum focused on staying healthy and preventing the spread of sickness.

Looking Ahead:

4th - Lunar New Year Assembly

5th - Lunar New Year - no school

7th - Hurricanes Home Game

**11th - Respect for All Week begins
Centre Pizza (4pm-6pm) - Fifth grade fundraiser**

**14th - Valentine's Day
Harlem Magic Masters Assembly**

16th - Lego Movie 2 - Fifth Grade Fundraiser

18th - 22nd Midwinter Recess

25th - Sky Dome Planetarium Program