

Classroom News

October 2026

Notes

For our color week celebrations....

Monday: Bring in a small picture of something for the color of the week. 4x6 or smaller please.

Tuesday: Bring in a healthy snack of that color if possible.

Wednesday: Wear your favorite clothing in that color.

Thursday: Bring in show and tell of that color. Hide it in a paper bag.

Friday: Blue ribbon spirit day! Wear your school shirt!

What We Are Learning

We will continue our color theme days, focusing on one special color each week. The schedule for which color we will be learning about was sent home last month. If you need another copy, please let me know.

This month we will begin our unit on "Balls". We will learn about different types of balls, what they are used for and how they roll.

Upcoming Events

10/6 Chocolate Fundraiser ends

10/8 Coffee and Conversation with Principal Myers

10/12 **No School-** Columbus Day Indigenous People Day Italian. Heritage day

10/28 Virtual PTA Meeting

10/30 Pumpkin Patch and Halloween Party

October Birthdays:

Mrs. Muntzenberger 10/7



Classroom News

October 2026

What's Happening in Pre-K

Notes

For our color week celebrations...

Mondays: (*Map it Monday*) Bring in a small picture of something for the color of the week. 4x6 or smaller please.

Tuesdays: (*Taste it Tuesday*) Bring in a healthy snack of that color if possible.

Wednesdays: (*Wear it Wednesday*) Wear your favorite clothing in that color.

Thursdays: (*Think about it Thursday*) Bring in show and tell of that color. Hide it in a paper bag.

Friday: (*Feeling school pride Friday*)

Blue ribbon spirit day! Wear your school shirt!

What We Are Learning

Welcome to PreK at PS 221! We are so excited to begin this adventure with you. Every month we will update you on what's going on in our class and school community.

We have begun our color theme days focusing on one special color each week. The schedule for which color we will be learning, has been sent out in your child's red take home folder. Please check your child's folder every day.

In addition, we will be learning about different shapes as well. Square, Circle, Rectangle, Triangle, Diamond or Rhombus. Please review what we learn in the classroom at home.

Everyday we are practicing spelling our names with our name puzzles, practicing proper pencil or marker grip and writing our names. Please practice proper pencil or marker grip at home to start good writing habits.

We are also discovering all the learning areas in our classroom and will meet some special people that help us in our school.

Upcoming Events

10/2 Cheerleading Starts

10/5 Fire Truck Safety

10/6 Chocolate Fundraiser Ends

10/8 Coffee & Conversation w Principal Myers 8:45 am

10/12 NO SCHOOL

10/28 Virtual PTA Meeting

October Birthdays:

Natalie Ku 4th

Abigail Fernandez 12th

Cody Cheung 19^h





Kindergarten NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2026



Dear Kindergarten Families,

What a wonderful month! It has been an absolute joy getting to know your children and discovering the unique personalities, talents, and ideas each of them brings to our classroom. We are so excited to watch them grow and flourish this year! To ensure a smooth and safe start to our learning day, the Kindergarten doors close promptly at 8:25 A.M. If you arrive after 8:25 A.M., please bring your child to the main entrance. A staff member will escort them to their classroom.

Classroom News

Into Reading:

There's Only One Me! What makes each of us special? Students will learn they are different in so many ways. The things they love to do, the languages they speak, their names, families, and dreams. Children will read books and explore what makes each of them one of a kind!

Into Writing:

Students will write narrative stories. Stories can be about real people, places or things that are not true or could not happen in real life.

Fundations (Word Work):

Students are continuing to work on proper pencil grip, learning letter formation and sounds by repetition, sky writing, and writing practice.

Illustrative Math: Math in Our World

Students are continuing to recognize numbers and quantities in their world. Students are participating in math discussions with partners.

Social Studies: What does it mean to be a member of a school community?

Students will identify, understand, and describe people in the classroom/school community; understand his/her role and responsibilities, as well as rules for the school community.

Science: Our Environment: What do living things need to live and grow, and how might they change their environments to survive?

Students will study the relationship between living things and where they live, and the impact humans have on the environment.

Upcoming Events

Please refer to our school calendar for any important events.

Ways to help your child at home:

Reading: Ask, "What makes you special?"

Writing: Ask your child to think of a story about school. Who are the characters? What is the setting?

Fundations: Have your child practice writing letters with the correct formation.

Math: Prompt your child to discuss the quantities they see all around them.

Social Studies: Talk about who is in our school community and what they do.

Science: Talk about the different animals they observe, their habitat, and what they eat.

Reminders

- ★ October 2, Cheerleading Starts
- ★ October 5, Fire Truck Safety
- ★ October 6, Chocolate Fundraiser Ends
- ★ October 8, Coffee and Conversation w Principal Myers 8:45 AM
- ★ October 12, NO SCHOOL
- ★ October 28, Virtual PTA Meeting

Continuing Practicing

- ♥ Proper writing grip
- ♥ Writing your name and forming letters correctly
- ♥ Review Sight Words Daily
- ♥ If your child is not yet able to tie their shoelaces independently, we kindly request that you send them to school in shoes without laces, such as Velcro, or elastic laces. Untied laces pose a tripping hazard during recess and gym class, so non-laced shoes help keep our kindergarteners safe and independent throughout the day!



October 2026

First Grade Newsletter

Mrs. Magone, Mrs. Macaluso, Ms. Heihs,
Mrs. Hoffman and Ms. Nguyen

Reminders:

- Remember to check your child's Home Folder on a daily basis. Please remove old work from the folder.
- Review your child's homework with them.

Dates to Remember:

10/2 Cheerleading Starts

10/5 Fire Truck Safety

10/6 Chocolate Fundraiser Ends

10/8 Coffee & Conversation w Principal Myers
8:45 am

10/12 NO SCHOOL

10/28 Virtual PTA Meeting

Word Work:

- Continue working on letter sounds and letter formation.
- Begin blending sounds and begin tapping out words.
- Begin reading and writing TRICK WORDS (Sight Words).

Reading:

- We will be completing **Module 1: NICE TO MEET YOU**
- **Essential Question:** How can making new friends and learning new things help us?
- **Genres:** Realistic Fiction and Fairy Tales.
- **Skills and Strategies:** Character study

- **Begin Module 2: My Family, My Community**
- **Essential Question:** How does everyone in my family and community make them special?
- **Genres:** Informational Text, Realistic Fiction, and Fantasy.
- **Skills and Strategies:** Text organization, Retelling, Setting, and summarizing

Writing

We will be writing a **Descriptive Essay**. We will review the writing process and publish our first piece.

Math

We will be:

- counting on to solve addition facts
- adding and subtracting equations within 10
- analyzing data

Social Studies:

BIG IDEA: Why are families important and how do they influence who we are?

We will discuss:

- why families are important
- how families help us
- how families teach us values

Second Grade October Newsletter

Mrs. Fanelli

Mrs. Li

Mrs. Lorenzo & Mrs. Malave

Ms. Tsoulos

MATH

Unit 1: Ways to Represent Data

- Students will interpret picture graphs and bar graphs.
- Students will represent data using graphs.
- Students will solve one-step problems using addition and subtraction within 20.

*Practice addition and subtraction facts with your child.

READING

Module 1: Look Around and Explore

- Children will listen to and read texts that inspire them to look at details in the world and learn new things. Students will explore and apply these reading skills:

central/main idea
character
setting
creating mental images

*Help your child by asking questions like, Who is the main character? What is the setting? What is the problem of the story? after a few pages of reading.

WRITING

Module 1: Narrative Writing

- Students will learn how to create a personal narrative about their own experience. The story will include a beginning, middle, and end.
- Students will learn how to:
 - add proper punctuation.
 - properly sequence a story using transition words.

*Help your child with conversations and encourage them to explain ideas in detail using descriptive language.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Rights, Rules, and Responsibilities

- We will discuss the Constitution and the three branches of government.
- We will discuss the election process and what positions we can vote for.

*Talk to your child about the upcoming election and why voting is important.

PHONICS

Unit 1: FOUNDATIONS- Learning Routines

- Students will review Foundations routine, letter sounds, short and long vowel sounds, blends, and digraphs.

*Help your child by reviewing letter sounds and sight words.

Looking Ahead:

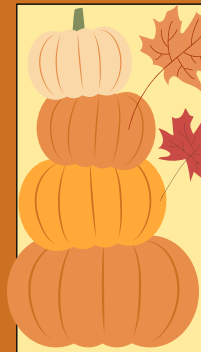
10/5 Fire Truck Safety

10/6 Chocolate Fundraiser Ends

10/8 Coffee & Conversation with Ms Myers 8:45

10/12 No School

10/28 Virtual PTA Meeting



3RD GRADE

newsletter



Mrs. Abel, Mrs. A. Gomes, Mrs. M. Gomes, Mrs. Lykos,
Mrs. Rivera, and Mrs. Velic

OCTOBER 2026

READING

Module 1: What a Character

Over the next three weeks, our class will build their knowledge about story characters and what makes them unique, with a focus on the realistic fiction genre. We will read texts about interesting characters who are true to themselves when faced with a challenge. Children will also write an expository essay about how authors make their characters interesting to readers.

WRITING

Students will be creating personal narratives is a true story about something that happened in their own life. It has a beginning, middle, and end, and includes lots of details like how they felt or what they saw, heard, and did, so the reader can understand and feel like they were there

MATHEMATICS

Unit 1: Introducing Multiplication

- Interpret scaled picture and bar graphs.
- Represent data using scaled picture and bar graphs.
- Solve one- and two-step story problems using addition and subtraction.
- Represent and solve multiplication problems involving equal groups.
- Understand multiplication in terms of equal groups.
- Represent and solve multiplication problems involving arrays.

SOCIAL STUDIES

UNIT 1: Introduction to World Geography and World Communities

Students will be learning about why geography matters.

REMINDERS

- 10/2 Cheerleading Starts
- 10/5 Fire Truck Safety
- 10/6 Chocolate Fundraiser Ends

- 10/8 Coffee & Conversation w Principal Myers 8:45 am
- 10/12 NO SCHOOL
- 10/28 Virtual PTA Meeting



Fabulous Fourth Grade

C. Soldatich-Crawford, E. Ku, K. Sersen, M. Tung, T. Schlesinger

October 2026

P.S. 221Q

Reading

Unit of Study: Reading Module 1 - Identity. What makes us who we are?

- Students will read varied works of fiction centering on the theme of identity.
- Students will practice summarizing text, making inferences about characters, identifying the elements of a story (characters, setting, problem, solution), discussing figurative language, and comparing and contrasting characters in a narrative text.

How to help at home

- If you read a book or watch a show with your children, ask them to describe the characters. What do they think of them? How do they know?
- Give your children a chance to summarize stories and events in school. Who was involved? Where was it? What happened?

Math:

Units of Study 2: Fractions

- Students will generate equivalent fractions
- Students will use visual representations to give reasons/explain fractions

How to help at home:

- Connect real life examples with the use of fractions. For example, ordering a pizza pie. Talk about denominators/numerators.
- Give your children opportunities to apply all math facts at home. For example, they can add the cost of items as you shop.

Social Studies

Unit of Study: The Geography of New York

- Students will discuss important vocabulary pertaining to geography. We will discuss the compass rose, directions, and the difference between physical and political features.
- We will think about regions of New York State and New York City, and reflect on how these regions are similar and different.
- We will identify important landmarks, regions, and geographical features of New York State.

How to help at home:

Writing

Unit of Study: Narrative

Writing

- Students will identify narrative writing as story writing involving characters, a setting, a problem and a solution.
- Students will brainstorm different narratives from their own lives and choose one to develop into a published piece.
- Students will plan, draft, revise and edit a narrative with detail, dialogue, and all essential elements of story.

How to help at home:

- Advise your children to look closely at the stories that they read and think about the presentation. When characters are speaking, how are quotation marks used? When are lines skipped?
- Ask your children to summarize their narrative ideas to you.

- Examine a map of New York. If you do any traveling with your family, ask to describe where you are. Is it a city? Is it rural? Which features do you see in each location?

Looking Ahead:

2nd- Cheer starts

8th- Coffee and Conversation with Principal Myers
8:45 a.m.

12th- No School (Italian Heritage Day)

28th- PTA Meeting

30th- PTA- Fall Festival



****Please have your child practice
typing/remembering their username and***

PS 221 North Hills School
Little Neck, NY 11362
Principal: Allison Myers
Assistant Principal: Diane Malanga

We're on the web!
See us at PS221Q.org

password. *

FANTASTIC FIFTH GRADE

M. Giusto, L. Covelli, D. Rothenberg, T. Connelly, S. Fratianni

PS21Q –North Hills School
Little Neck, NY

October 2026

Social Studies

Unit of Study: Geography and Early Societies of the Western Hemisphere:

Students will:

- Understand the geographical factors that have affected the development of the Western Hemisphere
- Learn how early people adapted to their environment
- Understand how early people contributed to the development of the Western Hemisphere
- Draw conclusions about native people based on archaeological evidence
- Use multiple resources to locate information about the geography and the early peoples of the Western Hemisphere
- Describe, compare and contrast the Earth of the past to the Earth today

A Way to Help at Home

Give your child the opportunity to go online and view samples of achievements and contributions of the Pueblo, Clovis, Maya, Inca and Aztec civilizations.



Reading

Reading Unit of Study: Building a Community of Strong Readers Students will:

- Examine how characters' responses and reactions to events in the text affect the story
- Learn new vocabulary
- Determine theme
- Summarize a text
- Understand the impact challenges have on a story
- Ask and answer questions based on the different text they read A Way to Help at Home Ask guiding questions, such as:
 - What is the theme of the text?
 - What are some new vocabulary words learned while reading the text?
 - What is the conflict in the story?
 - How does the conflicted impact the characters in the story?
 - How did the characters resolve the conflict in the story?



Math

Complete: Unit 1-Finding Volume

In this unit, students find the volumes of rectangular prisms and figures composed of two prisms.

Begin: Unit 2-Fractions as Quotients and Fraction Multiplication

In this unit, students solve problems involving division of whole numbers, with answers that are fractions (which could be in the form of mixed numbers). They develop an understanding of fractions as the division of the numerator by the denominator, that is $a \div b = \frac{a}{b}$. They then solve problems that involve the multiplication of a whole number by a fraction or a mixed number.

Please view the "Family Support" section of your child's Google Classroom for more detailed information, and videos outlining how to support your child's mathematical understanding.

Writing

Writing Unit of Study: Expository Writing In this unit we are writing an expository essay about an inventor who worked hard to turn an idea into an invention. Students will continue to:

- Understand the elements of expository writing
- Support a point of view with reasons and information
- Draw evidence from a variety of texts
- Create an organizational structure that logically groups ideas A way to help at home Review the organization with your child's writing. Make sure they have an opening, supporting details and conclusion. Encourage your child to use tools at home like a thesaurus or dictionary, to check spelling and modify word choice.

Reminders:

Oct 12th Italian Heritage/Indigenous Peoples' Day, schools closed

Science

Unit of Study: Modeling Matter

In this unit the students will get to experience real-world examples and fundamental concepts of matter Students will learn about: properties, structures, and interactions of matter.

During this unit students will:

- Describe and identify matter using properties, such as color, hardness, and whether a material conducts electricity or responds to magnetism.
- Understand how matter can exist in different states: as a solid (ice), a liquid (water), or a gas (water vapor).
- Mix solutions, such as salt water, or sugar water to see what they create.
- Use the filtration method
- Understand what a physical changes is and how to create one.
- Understand what a chemical change is and how to create one.
- Understanding the hardness scale.
- Understanding atoms and molecules

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Ms. Fratianni- SFratianni@schools.nyc.gov

Mr. Connelly- TConnelly3@schools.nyc.gov

Ms. Covelli- LCovelli@schools.nyc.gov

Ms. Giusto-MGiusto@schools.nyc.gov

Ms Rothenberg-DGatta@schools.nyc.gov

WELCOME SCIENTISTS & PARENTS!

Our scientific adventures in Room 210 took off in the month of September! We have been having an amazing time getting to learn about each other and new changes to the Science Lab, while exploring, building, imagining and discovering all things SCIENCE.

All grades revisited the Engineering Design Process and developed their Growth Mindset as they planned and designed based on a grade appropriate challenge. From becoming makers building with STEAM bins in the first grade, engineers designing with DOTS candy and toothpicks in second grade, to constructing name tags that can perform functions, such as holding a pencil in fourth grade. With these challenges we learned what we need to thrive as scientists and about perseverance since not every plan goes the way we expect it to!

GOOGLE CLASSROOM INVITATIONS!

We still need your help! Invitations have been sent to every student in grades 1 through 4 for our Science Google Classroom for their particular grade level. Please help your child log into their Google Classroom account from TeachHub, where they will find their invite waiting for them. Our Google Classrooms are a great way for you to share along in our learning.

Should an error have been made, please have your child let me know the next time I see them or send me an email at rclarke9@schools.nyc.gov. Thank you for your support!

1st Grade

How can we use our five senses to make observations?

First grade scientists will:

- understand that scientists can learn about their world by gathering information using their five senses
- understand how our body's *structures* have special *functions* that allow us to learn about the properties of objects

Encourage your child to be a five-senses scientist!

👁️ **Sight:** Look closely at an object and describe its color, size, shape, and other details.

👂 **Hearing:** Take a listening walk to identify different sounds and describe them as loud, soft, high, or low.

👃 **Smell:** Safely smell familiar items, such as fruit, soap, or spices and describe each smell.

👋 **Touch:** Place safe objects in a bag and have your child identify them by touch. Use words such as smooth, rough, soft, hard, bumpy, or fuzzy.

👅 **Taste:** During a meal or snack, talk about flavors such as sweet, sour, salty, or bitter.

2nd Grade

In honor of International Dot Day, we read The Dot, by Peter Reynolds. Second grade engineers then:

- learned the steps of the engineering design process
- Built structures out of Dots Candy and toothpicks
- explored ways to improve their designs when the building was done

Ways to engage with your engineers:

Build something together! Use materials you have at home—blocks, paper, cups, straws, or recycled materials—to design and build a structure. **Then test and improve.** When a design doesn't work, ask, "*What happened? What could you change to make it better?*"



3rd Grade

How can we communicate effectively as we build trust as we collaborate as a team?

Third grade engineers:

- communicate with their partner to learn about what makes them special
- learn three strategies for great communication, including, active listening, asking questions and confirming understanding
- explore the stages of the Engineering Design Process

Ways to engage with your scientists:

Practice active listening. When your child is sharing an idea, practice giving your full attention, making eye contact, and waiting until they finish before responding.

4th Grade

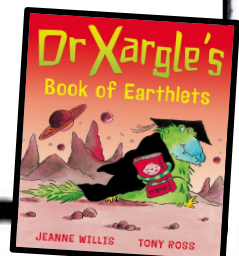
How can we use what we observe to make inferences about things we cannot see?

After reading Dr. Xargle's Book of Earthlets, by Jeanne Willis, fourth graders:

- developed an understanding of the differences between *observations* and *inferences*
- made observations and inferences about several mystery objects
- categorized *qualitative* and *quantitative* data

Ways to engage with your scientists:

Practice using "I observe..." versus "I infer..." While taking a walk, looking out a window, or visiting a new place, challenge your child to share one observation and one inference.



Music Newsletter

OCT 2026
MR. LIN

CLin2794@schools.nyc.gov



Kindergarten

Kindergarten students are exploring expressive sounds – fast and slow, loud and soft, smooth and bouncy – with Mr. Lin's world-traveling auntie (who is 100% fictitious but also 100% fabulous). We work on listening skills, movements, and emotional expressions. Parents can sing students' favorite songs with them and ask students to show how they feel – tiptoeing like a mouse or stomping like a giant. Moments like these grow confidence and creativity.

First Grade

First-grade students are focusing on rhythm and maintaining a steady beat, the heartbeat of all music. We practice clapping, stepping, and use simple rhythmic patterns to build hand-eye coordination skills. We also practice singing with a full range of emotions and singing like a star. Parents can help students discern rhythmic patterns in the music they hear every day, practice clapping back the rhythms, and sing students' favorite songs with them.

Second Grade

Students in grade two are exploring the art of echo singing, folk dances, and call & response songs. They learn to interpret music through motor movements and recognize the musicality in the sounds they hear every day. Anything and everything can be music as soon as they open up their mind and free their ears. Students are encouraged to practice reflective listening and recognize the beat, rhythm, and beauty in everything they hear.

Third Grade

Third-graders are getting started on the recorder journey by practicing breath control, finger dexterity, hand-eye coordination, and the fingerings for the first three notes (B.A.G.). Parents can help by celebrating any and all successes, no matter how small, and encouraging patience. It is imperative to help students from day one to normalize mistake-making, practice self-compassion, and fully expect performance anxiety and be okay with it :)

Fourth Grade

Students in fourth grade are learning how music is organized into beats, measures, phrases, sections, and movements. In addition to playing and singing with traditional music notation on a five-line staff, students gain exposure to chord diagrams, tablature notation (tabs), and lead sheets. This will provide students with the versatility to explore instruments, including piano, ukulele, guitar, and so many more down the road.

Fifth Grade

Fifth-grade students are beginning an intensive keyboard unit while reviewing treble clef notes and all note values. Students recognize that big musical possibilities lie within their fingertips. Just a couple of weeks of in-class practice can enable students to play some of their favorite songs on the keyboard. Music teaches focus, resilience, and joy that can reverberate far beyond the classroom. What better way to do it than with the keyboard!

North Hills Carolers

A New PS 221 Student Club

Love to sing and spread holiday cheer?

Join North Hills Carolers for a season of music and festive performances!



Who Can Join?

2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade students only.



How Are Students Chosen?

Students are selected through an audition.



Permission Slips

Permission slips were sent home the week of 9/14.



First Rehearsal

Monday 10/5 period 3



Rehearsals

Selected students will meet in the music room for practice every Monday during period 3.



December Performances

In December, the Carolers will travel around the school to carol for classrooms. They will also give an evening performance on 12/16/2026 at 6:30 PM.



Questions? Email Mr. Lin at CLin2794@schools.nyc.gov



October 2026

Kindergarten

Students will be learning how to draw realistic 3-D Pumpkins and Pumpkin Patches! Ask them to share their expertise and show you how to draw them at home too! 😊

1st Grade

Students will be practicing their cutting and pasting skills creating Kooky Pumpkin Collages. 😊

2nd Grade

Students will use their cutting and drawing skills to create COOL Positive and Negative Shape Black Cats. 😊

K, 1, and 2 EXPLORE: If you would like to practice cutting skills with your child at home, there are many free printable 'cutting sheet practice' pages online that you can download fairly easily.

3rd Grade

Students will be using collage to create Positive and Negative Shape Pumpkins Designs. 😊

4TH GRADE

Students will be exploring line, shape, and pattern by creating an artwork inspired by Artist Yayoi Kusama. 😊

5th Grade

Students will be getting their own sketchbooks in Art Class! They will work on a variety of exercises exploring the Elements of ART! 😊

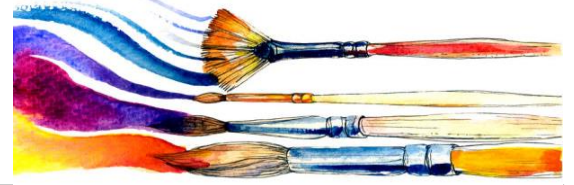
"Our earth is only one polka dot among a million stars in the cosmos." ~ Yayoi Kusma

Supporting the Arts at Home:

Look closely at the world around you and discuss what you see with your child! Ask them about lines, shapes, colors, and textures found both in indoor and outdoor settings (as in nature and architecture). Expand their vocabulary by describing the lines (e.g., straight, wavy, zig-zag), colors (e.g., red, yellow, blue) and textures (e.g., smooth, bumpy, rough).

"ART IS A PLACE FOR
CHILDREN TO LEARN
TO TRUST THEIR
IDEAS, THEMSELVES,
AND TO EXPLORE
WHAT IS POSSIBLE."

-MaryAnn F. Kohl



10 Ways Art Helps Kids



- 1 to make sense of their thoughts
- 2 to connect with their feelings
- 3 to explore their internal world
- 4 to encourage play, stimulate imagination
- 5 to relax, quieten their minds, aid concentration
- 6 to relieve stress, reduce anxiety
- 7 to help develop self awareness
- 8 to build confidence and self esteem
- 9 to lower their blood pressure
- 10 to express what is hard to put into words



Artist Joke:

What did the artist draw before
he went to bed?

ANSWER: The curtains!



OCTOBER 2026



PS 221Q

North Hills School
Little Neck, NY
www.PS221Q.org

Principal: Allison Myers
Asst. Principal: Diane Malanga

Computer Science- Mr. Caniano

Please have your child practice typing their Teach Hub username and password at home.



Kindergarten

Our students in kindergarten have done a fantastic job in computers so far. We have been learning how to use the mouse and access the school website. In October, we will be using Starfall to work on our phonics and reading. The stories and activities will help our students with sight words and vowels. We will also be using the ABCYA website to work on our counting and addition mathematics skills.

A Way to Help Your Child:

Please encourage your child to visit the school website, PS221q.org for added practice. The students will be able to navigate to Starfall and ABCYA once at Ps221q.org. From there, they can work on a reading or math activity to refine their skills. Please also have your child practice typing their Teach Hub username and password at home.



First Grade

Our first graders will be working on a variety of activities in computer class this October. First, we will work on our reading skills. Some of the resources we will use include Epic! Online Reading, ABCYA, and Starfall. We will also be starting Code.org Course B this month. Our initial lessons will be on how to log in and on creating algorithms through sequence. Each student will have an individual account to track their progress.

A Way to Help Your Child:

Please encourage your child to visit the first grade section of the school website. The students can continue reading and coding while at home. Each child has their own individual Code.org account and the students can continue working with algorithms by logging in while at home. Please also have your child practice typing their Teach Hub username and password at home.



Second Grade

Our second graders will be working on their typing skills this month. We will be using *Dance Mat Typing* to work on the home row, and the rows above and below the home row. In addition, we will also be continuing Code.org Course C this month. Our initial lessons will be on creating algorithms through sequence and debugging. Each student has an individual account to track their progress.

A Way to Help Your Child:

Please encourage your child to practice their typing accuracy and speed when at home. There are many resources that can be found at Ps221q.org. Just five minutes of practice a day can really make a difference. In addition, students can continue their debugging with Code.org while at home. Please also have your child practice typing their Teach Hub username and password at home.



Third Grade

At the beginning of October, our third graders will be working on their typing speed and accuracy with Typing.com. In addition, we will be using *Microsoft Word* to create a short essay on online safety. Finally, we will also be continuing with Code.org Course D this month. The focus will be on debugging. Students have individual accounts with Typing.com and Code.org to track their progress.

A Way to Help Your Child:

Please encourage your child to practice their typing and coding while at home. They can log into their Typing.com and Code.org accounts at home for added practice. Please also have your child practice typing their Teach Hub username and password at home.



Fourth Grade

The fourth graders are off to a great start. This month the students will be using *Microsoft Word* to complete a research essay on internet safety. First, we will use thinking maps to organize our writing and help create our first drafts. After we check for grammar and spelling errors, we will add a border, word art title, and picture to our work. In addition, we will be working with Code.org Course E this month. The focus will be on debugging loops. Finally, in late October we will begin our work with the Lego Education Spike Prime equipment. The unit is entitled "Happy Traveler: Programming Your Way Around Town." The students will use the Lego kits to create, program, and test new vehicles such as helicopters, taxis, boats, cable cars, and more. This unit will be continued in November.

A Way to Help Your Child:

Please encourage your child to use *Microsoft Word* at home. Students can write on a topic of their choice and add a picture when they are finished. Students can also practice their typing using many of the resources found under class websites. Finally, there are many activities the children can work on at Code.org to refine their skills. Please also have your child practice typing their Teach Hub username and password at home.



Fifth Grade

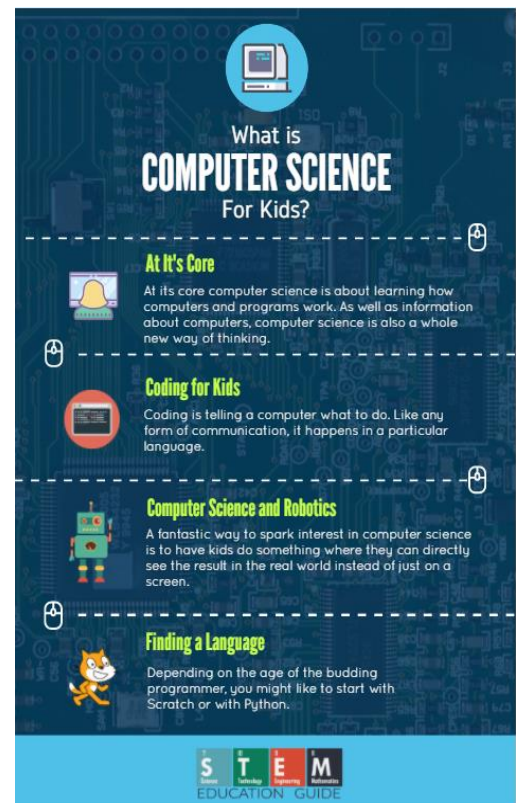
Our fifth graders will be working with the Lego Education Spike equipment this month. The name of the unit is "Quirky Creations: Engineering Cool School Hacks." The intention is to solve school problems through building and programming. We will be creating the "Good Morning Machine," "Hi-Tech Playground," "Trash Monster Machine," and more. In addition, we will be working with Code.org Course F. The focus will be on adding sprites and on how to change their appearance, actions, and locations.

A Way to Help Your Child:

Encourage your child to log into Code.org at home and continue to working with sprites. In addition, the students can continue to improve their typing speed and accuracy by working on the lessons at Typing.com. Please also have your child practice typing their Teach Hub username and password at home.

Helpful Tips:

- Passwords should be child friendly.
Example: Red123 or Chips2
- We can help reset passwords to make logging on easier.
- All students should practice going onto Teach Hub, i-Ready, and HMH.



- 10/2 Cheerleading Starts
- 10/5 Fire Truck Safety
- 10/6 Chocolate Fundraiser Ends
- 10/8 Coffee & Conversation w Principal Myers 8:45 am
- 10/12 NO SCHOOL
- 10/28 Virtual PTA Meeting