



February

Grade 5 Important Dates

- February 5 – No School –Chinese New Year
- February 18-22 – No School- Winter Recess
- February 26 – ELA & Math Parent Meeting at 2:30
- June 5- Senior Trip to Adventureland
- June 24 – Graduation
 - Session 1 at 8:45 : 504, 506, 507, 509, 513
 - Session 2 at 11:00 : 508, 510, 511, 512, 505

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Reminders

- ✓ Please make sure all homework is completed each night!
- ✓ Tuesday from 2:20- 3:00 are designated for Parent Meetings. Please speak with your child's teacher to schedule an appointment.
- ✓ All students should be independently reading 30 minutes each night.
- ✓ If you wish to contact your child's teachers, you may call the school or e-mail them Mondays through Fridays from 8:00 am – 2:20pm.

Math

February is a very exciting month for our young mathematicians at PS 108Q. The month starts off with a practice state math assessment. This is a wonderful way for our students to get comfortable with taking the state test and it serves as an excellent assessment. In math class, we are in the middle of exploring fractions. We have ventured past exploring addition and subtraction of fractions not only with the same denominators but with different denominators. Students have applied this knowledge to "real" world problems and patterns. We are now entering the world of multiplying fractions and mixed numbers. The students are really working hard and are trying their best. Students should be practicing their basic math facts on a daily basis. There is math homework every night. Students should be engaged in math practice constantly and they should be working on their skills. This will make them better mathematicians.

Helpful Sites: www.firstinmath.com. --- thinkcentral.com --- www.prodigygame.com/Play

Writing

In writing, we will be focusing on short and extended reading responses. We will read a short story and answer a short response question using the RACE strategy. Using this strategy the students will restate the question, answer the question, cite evidence from the text, and explain their answer. We will also be reading two texts and writing an essay in which the students will have to pull evidence from both stories. The extended response question is called a paired passage. Students will continue to have daily writing journals for homework.



February

Shared Reading

Throughout the month of February, we will continue to work on Ready and Motivation. Students must master reading a wide range of literary and informational texts. Ready ensures students read rich texts linked in meaningful ways by including a variety of genres and by organizing each lesson under a theme. In Motivation, students participate in close reading of texts and are provided appropriate scaffolding when needed. They also build vocabulary in order to access grade-level complex texts. Additionally, students will begin a unit of study on "The American West" where we will be working on analyzing text structure, making inferences, and explaining the relationships between people and events in historical texts.

Science

In Science, fifth grade students will begin a unit of study on "Protecting Earth's Resources". In this chapter, the students will explore the differences and similarities between minerals and rocks. We will analyze the different types of minerals and rocks, their properties, and how they are formed. We will also closely study what soil is, how it is used, and how we can conserve it. The students will also be studying the "pros" and "cons" of different sources of energy such as fossil fuels, geothermal energy, solar energy, and wind energy. Finally, we will identify how water and air are used as resources and why it is important to conserve and protect these vital resources.

Social Studies

This month in Social Studies we will be exploring primary resources through historical lenses. Students will learn about the historical lens' of geographers, economists, sociologists and historians. The focus questions of this units are "What motivated European explorers to explore the Western Hemisphere?" and "What is the role geography played in European exploration and colonization?"

Guided Reading

During the month of February, we will be reading a variety of passages to review strategies that good readers use. We will be focusing on individual reading goals in small group instruction. Students will focus on a variety of skills, such as making inferences, finding the theme, and main idea/details. Please continue to make sure your child is reading at home with their independent reading book or MyOn. Students should continue to work on their reading goal at home on a daily basis!