

# January

## Grade 5 Important Dates

- January 15 & 16 – Practice ELA Test
- January 18 – Family Fun Day at 8:30am
- January 21 – No School
- June 5 – Senior Trip Adventureland
- June 24 – Graduation

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## Guided Reading

During the month of January, students will begin the New Year by reading a variety of fairy tales, dramas, plays and fables focusing on the theme. Students were benchmarked in December and are working towards independent reading goals.

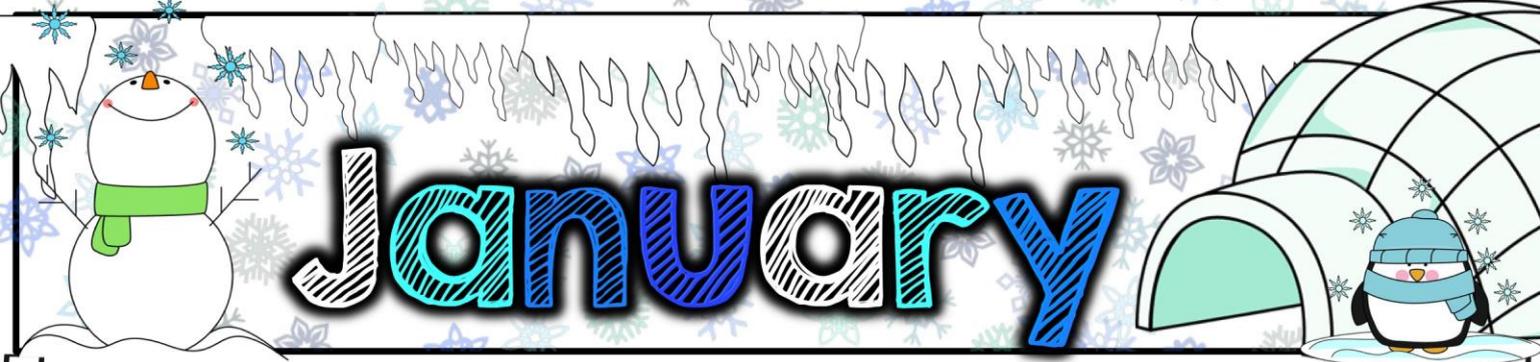
Please be sure your child is reading 30 minutes a night and working towards their new goal.

## Math

Welcome Back!!! We all had a chance to rest up, relax and enjoy some much needed time off. We will now get back to work. I know our Grade 5 Mathematicians are excited to return to the wonderful world of math. January is an exciting month at PS 108Q. We have progressed through the world of decimals and how to perform all four operations in this world. Decimals are important because they can be used to relate to money. We now enter the world of fractions. This marvelous place allows us to take pieces of numbers and do such amazing things like adding and subtracting them. True mathematicians are able to see the relationship between decimals and fractions. Can you? We will then apply these concepts to our Gallery Walks, solving real world problems and analyzing the results of our classmates. Just a reminder, Grade Five Mathematicians have homework daily and should be reviewing nightly. It is important to continue to practice basic math facts and put our best effort into our work.

## Shared Reading

In January, we will be working on Ready New York and Motivation ELA. Ready New York is a rigorous standards-based program that builds strong, independent readers through instruction and practice with high-interest, complex informational and literary texts. Motivation ELA is used to support student academic performance as measured by the Common Core State Standards in the academic area of reading.



# January

## Science

In Science this month we will be finishing Chapter 4: Ecosystems and Biomes. The students will be assessed on Chapter 4, so please make sure they are studying the vocabulary words and reviewing the chapter. Next, we will move into Chapter 5: Our Dynamic Earth. This chapter focuses on Earth's Landforms, Plate Tectonics, Volcanoes, Earthquakes, and Shaping Earth's Surface. As always, please make sure that your child is using the book to identify text evidence when answering the questions on the homework sheets.

## 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?"

## Writing

This month in writing the students will continue working on Informative Writing using the 6 Traits of Writing. We will also start to prepare for the NYS ELA Test by reading passages and comparing the stories in extended response essays and short response essays. The students will be learning how to effectively answer an extended response question comparing two texts. We will continue our nightly writing journal in the New Year. All students should be writing in their journal every day using the 6 Traits of Writing.

## 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.