

P.S. 196Q Kindergarten Newsletter



December 2017



Writing:

During January, we will be focusing on writing opinions pieces. We will discuss what an opinion is and why we have opinions. We will focus on a certain topic and a reason or reasons to support that opinion. Students will still be using the strategies they have learned to form an opinion and support their opinions.

We will be promoting critical thinking by having discussions first and saying why to support our opinion. We will also be focusing on drawing, dictating and writing to form an opinion. The children can state their opinion, draw a picture to show their opinion or write a sentence to explain their opinion.

Some things you can work on at home with your child when writing with your child:

- *Have your child form an opinion on anything they enjoy such as:
- *What is your favorite animal? Why?
- *What is your favorite food? Why?
- *What is your favorite after school activity? Why?
- *Please make sure to have your child support their opinion with at least three reasons. (Your child can start off with one reason and gradually increase to three.)

Reading:

During December, we are continuing reading strategies. We will be focusing on our reading superpowers: thinking power, pointer power, laser vision power, big 3 power, word power and pattern power. Thinking power helps us think before and after you read. Pointer power helps us to use our pointer to point under the word. Laser vision helps us to think, see and get ready to read. The Big 3 power helps us to ask 3 questions does it look right, sound right and make sense? Word Power helps us to read words and pictures we know. Pattern power helps us to follow the pattern in a book.

We will also discuss many different things, including how readers understand that there is a relationship between illustrations and words. Readers will identify characters, settings, and major events in stories. Students are learning text based vocabulary. Students are also beginning to retell the story being read and understanding that there is a sequence.

Some things you can work on at home, when reading with your child:

- *Who are the characters?
- *What is the setting? Where does the story take place?
- *What happened in the story?
- *Can you retell the story in order, by telling the important events? (first, next, then and last)
- *Why do you think the character felt that way?
- *Why do you think that happened?



Social Studies:



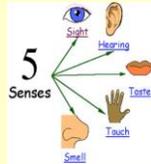
Unit 2: Self and Others: Individual Development & Cultural Identity

* Students will learn "All About Me," what makes us special and the unique things about each of us.

* Students will learn about differences and similarities between people, by looking at families, communities, and cultures.

* U.S. Symbols, Traditions, and Holidays: Columbus Day, Halloween, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving, etc.

Science:



Unit 2: Observing and Describing Objects and Exploring Properties

* Students will identify the five senses and how they can use them in their daily lives.

* Students will measure, describe, categorize (sort and classify), and compare observable physical properties of matter and objects.

* Students will use different tools to observe and measure objects.

Important Dates:

December 6th- Writing Parent Workshop 8:00am (Rm 134)

December 8th- Fun Friday

December 13th-Math Parent Workshop 8:00 am (Rm 235)

December 20th- Science/Social Studies Parent Workshop (Rm 135)

December 24th-January 1st Winter Recess- School resumes on January 2nd

Math:

Unit 4: Represent and Compare Numbers to 10

In December, students will focus on learning how to build on their understanding of numbers 0-5 to conceptualize the numbers 6-10. Children will learn about numbers up to 10 as they place counters in ten frames to show different numbers. This provides a foundation for understanding the place value structure of our number system.

Some strategies you can work on at home when doing math with your child:

- * Match objects to numbers orally as they count (1:1 correspondence)
 - * Use a ten frame to represent numbers using objects
 - * Draw pictures that represent the numbers
 - * Practice writing the numbers correctly
 - * Practice writing the number names (i.e., six)
- Place value- to help understand 10 as 10 single objects, and as 1 group of 10.

Reminders to Parents:

* Remember if your child is absent three days, you need to send a doctor's note.

* Children need to be picked up by 2:50 p.m. Mon-Thurs and by 2:00 on Friday.

* Please send a healthy snack every day!

* Please remember to use ReadingEggs with your child!

Sanford Harmony

Unit 2: Empathy and Critical thinking

This unit focuses on promoting emotional understanding and empathy. It encourages students to become flexible and critical thinkers about their own ideas and the messages they receive from others.

At home you can focus on looking through a picture book and describe the different feelings the characters are displaying in the illustration.