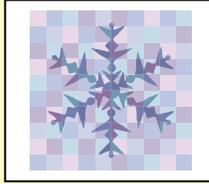


P.S. 196Q Kindergarten Newsletter

January 2018



Writing:

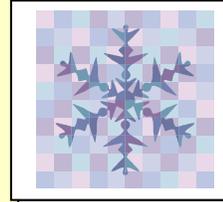
During January, we will continue focusing on writing opinions pieces. We will discuss what an opinion is and why we have opinions. We will focus on a certain topic and a reason or reasons to support that opinion. Students will still be using the strategies they have learned to form an opinion and support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

We will also go a little further and touch upon persuasive writing. The children will brainstorm real world problems and discuss why it is a problem, try to solve the problem and who can help them solve that problem.

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 do you like and why?
- *What do you dislike and why?
- *What real world problems do you notice?
- *Who can help you solve this problem and how?
- *Why is it a problem?
- *Why do you want to fix this problem?



Reading:

During January, we are continuing reading strategies. We will be focusing on our reading super powers; we will remember to use all of our super powers we learned to tackle tricky words. Including thinking power, word power, pattern power, the big 3 power, laser vision and pointer power. This helps the children figure out words they do not know.

We will also learn how to make our books come to life by reading with a smooth voice, singing out the pattern and changing our voices. We will be looking for punctuation to know when to stop or change our voice. When we see a period we stop and when we see a question mark or exclamation point we change our voice. This helps the children to learn to read with fluency.

We will focus more on retelling the story using details. We will continue to discuss the characters and setting, and think about what happens in the story. We also will go a little further by thinking about the how and why questions, and making text to self connections. This helps the children re-tell the story and make inferences.

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:



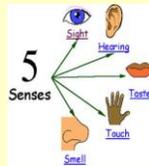
Unit 2: Self and Others: Individual Development & Cultural Identity

* 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:

- January 2nd-Return to School
- January 12th Fun Friday
- January 15th-No School: Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- January 23rd- Trip to Queens College

Math:

Unit 5: Addition

In January, we will be focusing on exploring addition through situations that require a joining action. Children will solve problems with contexts that require them to add to a set as well as to put together sets. How they solve the problems depends on the context of the word problems themselves.

Strategies to work on at home:

- * Make a cube train of two different colors to model addition is one way to show joining sets
- * Draw pictures to solve word problems
- * Write number sentences that solve the word problem ($4+4=8$)
- * Create your own word problems and record the number sentence
- * Model how to add using concrete objects (cheerios, buttons, counters)
- * Come up with different ways to make a number such as 8. ($4+4$, $5+3$, $2+6$)

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 3: Communication

This unit focuses on promoting comfort, self-confidence, and respect when students communicate with others. It also focuses on helping them develop and practice positive and successful communication skills.

At home you can work on asking your child how to use their whole body to be a careful listener.