

Guidance Corner – A Message from Ms. Chimera-Stass

Welcome Back and Happy Spring!!

The word of the month for May is: **HONESTY**

Definition:

hon·es·ty

/ˈɑːnəstē/

noun

1.

the quality of being truthful.

"they spoke with convincing honesty about their fears"

synonyms: moral

correctness, [uprightness](#), honorableness, [honor](#), [integrity](#), morals, [moralit](#)
principles, [nobility](#), [righteousness](#), [rectitude](#), right-mindedness, upstandir

Honesty is more than not lying. It is truth telling, truth speaking, truth living, and truth loving. James E. Faust

Families of 5th Graders

If you are satisfied with your middle school acceptance you do not need to do anything except to look out for orientation information. Please take your child to these sessions. It is a great way for them and you to get another look at the school they will be attending in the fall.

If you want to appeal, you can do so from your MySchools account. Or you can come in and meet with Ms. Stass to get a paper appeals application.



Peggy Wyns-Madison
PRINCIPAL

Julie Cavanagh
Assistant Principal



May, 2019

Dear P.S. 15 Families:

Welcome back! We hope you and your family enjoyed the spring break. Our May calendar is full of important and special events.

On May 1 and 2 our third, fourth and fifth graders will be taking the New York State math exam. Please make sure your child gets a good night rest and a healthy breakfast. They are welcome to join us at 7:45 a.m. for breakfast in the cafeteria. Remember if your child is not feeling well, they can take the test on the make-up days.

All of our English Language Learners (K-5) will be completing their NYSESLAT exams in the areas of Speaking, Listening, Writing, and Reading during this month. Our fourth graders will be participating in the performance portion of the New York State Science exam during the last weeks of May. The written science test will be administered in June.

PS 15 is looking forward to our school-wide fundraiser, the book fair. This year's book fair will be hosted by Fork and Pencil, and a percentage of the sales will be used to support PS 15's school enrichment programs. Please support this effort and increase your child's home library with new books.

Last month, DOE representatives spoke at the Community Education Council (CEC) meeting about rezoning District 15. PS 15 is one of the schools that is included in the rezoning discussion. As a community member, you are invited to ask questions and provide initial feedback that can inform the DOE's rezoning plan for District 15. Two meetings will be held this month-- Monday, May 6 at PS 58 and again on Monday, May 20th at PS 32. We will share the time for the meetings once the DOE finalizes it. Please hold either date on your calendar and make every effort to attend this important meeting. Our School Leadership Team (SLT) will be meeting with the DOE and the other rezoning schools and their SLT members on Tuesday, May 7th.

Do join us for our final Open School Night on May 15th from 4:30 pm-7:30 pm. You will have an opportunity to meet the current teachers who teach the grade that your child will articulate to next year, and find out what you can do with your child over the summer months to prepare them for the next year's class.

As you know, the New York State Education Department will conduct an on-site needs assessment as per the CSI designation. The onsite visit will include members from the Integrated Intervention Team (IIT) and will take place on June 3, 5 and 7. The IIT members

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will visit classrooms and meet with students, staff and parents. The goal of the review is to determine root causes for the CSI designation and to provide feedback to help schools. In the coming weeks, an invitation letter will be sent to you to attend the parent session, which will be held on June 5th.

As I visit math workshops in various classrooms, I'm noticing our students using more math manipulatives to defend their answers or to help them visualize how to solve the problems. Our teachers have been working with a math specialist from the DOE's Field Service Center. In planning for next year, we will be introducing a new math curricula, enVisionmath, and Bridges. We will be planning sessions for families to learn about the new curricula, and our SLT will be assisting us in setting up family math type sessions to help you learn with your child.

Many thanks to all of you for supporting the Participatory Budget Voting Sessions. We are grateful to Ms. Jenny Witherell and Mr. Guy Eddon and their Advocacy Committee for spearheading the efforts. We understand that the awards were announced, and PS 15 will try again next year.

The Friends of PS 15 Committee is hosting their annual event on May 21st at Pioneer Works at 6 pm. This event is always a success. Many, many raffle prizes are pouring in. So get your ticket for the event and grab raffle tickets, too.

As always, I'm honored to work with a terrific staff, amazing students and top-notch families. I look forward to seeing you all throughout the month of May.

Sincerely,

Peggy Wyns-Madison

Pre-Kindergarten News

Pre-K welcomes May with a Smile. The students in the pre-k classes are happy to welcome the month of May and all things spring! It feels like a long time coming! We are so excited to get to know about living and non-living things and to find out about the life cycle of plants.

Please be sure to mark your calendars for fun activities that we will offer this month:

May 4th - Stewardship Day 11:00-1:00 on the Playground

May 7th - Studio In A School Parent-Child Workshop 2:30 in the Art Room

May 10th - Family Friendly Day Spring Breakfast/Mother's Day Celebration

May 13th - P.S. 15 Walk-A-Thon

This month also continues our study of numbers 1-20 and the concepts of addition and subtraction as the students explore "two more" and "one less". Thank you for your support in our work to deepen the connections we have made throughout the school year and celebrate all that we have accomplished thus far!

Kindergarten News

In May, kindergarteners will begin their study of animals and what they need to survive and thrive! While we will study a variety of animals, our focus will be butterflies through our next magnet unit, "Beautiful Butterflies!" Using different journaling and questioning techniques, students will closely examine butterflies and their life cycles. We will use our information to create non-fiction writing pieces. Now that the weather is getting warmer, we will be out on the playground. Please remember to wear sneakers to school so we can play safely!!



May Birthdays



Bayan Abuzeid
Shardonay Allford
Inarie Baggoo
Reyna Blaufarb
Madison Campbell
Jada Caraballo
Alexia Casey
Serenity Collymore
Nigel Conde
Isabella Dattolo
Joanna Ehrinpreis
Landen Estrada
Jack Foley-Murphy
Abigail Gonzalez
Miguel Gonzalez
Benjamin Hart
Nadav Haveshush
Milani Isaac
Christa Jeanfelix
Mykala Johnson
Shaynah Jones
Miles Kelman
Keyara Maldonado

Caleb McGaughan
Adrienne Mendoza
Mason Nunez
Dylan Paladini
Nayeli Palapa Jolalpa
Madison Posley
Grant Richardson
Emma Rivera
Erika Rivera
Samantha Rivera
Nara Rocha-Waid
Jeremiah Rodriguez
Aaliya Rosario
Kimberly Ruiz Resendiz
Amerie Santana
Ashely Stephens
Elijah Sutton
Tatiana Truitt
Jahzara Vanzant
Omauri Washington
Brooklyn Wheeler
Anaya Woodberry



First Grade News

This month we will start our next Magnet Unit “A Walk in the Park”. We will study the features of a park. We will also explore parks in our neighborhood! In reading, we will study story elements and go on reading adventures. We will finish writing Nonfiction chapter books and revisit Opinion Writing. In Go Math, we will continue to practice double-digit addition and subtraction and begin to learn more about measurement and data. In Number Corner, we will explore fractions!

Second Grade News

In May, second grade will be continuing our urban, suburban and rural Magnet unit! We are learning about different communities in this social studies unit, while incorporating science, writing and building on our knowledge of informational texts and research skills. In math, we will be moving into telling time and measurement. Second grade continues to work on fluency and reading for a longer period of time, so continue to read every day!!

Third Grade News

In May, we are finishing up our magnet unit on Africa and traveling to Brazil!! We will study the different kinds of cultures, traditions, foods and history of this country. We will be able to compare and contrast our learnings with previously studied countries. In our writer's workshop we will be finishing up our informational unit and head into our opinion writing. In Math, we will be focusing on revisiting our strategies that we already learned to scaffold upon them to get ready for fourth grade.

Fourth Grade News

Greetings Red Hook community! Our math focus in grade 4 this month will be on relating fractions to decimals as well as taking a deeper look into our geometry and measurement units. Fourth graders will continue to prepare for the upcoming N.Y. State Science Exam that is administered between May 22-31 and the beginning of June. In our Marquis Studio sessions with Mr. Hector, we will continue learning about percussion instruments. In Social Studies, we will be immersed in our Colonial Studies and American Revolution Unit as we write opinion pieces supporting the reasons we would be either a loyalist or a patriot!

Fifth Grade News

With the Ela and Math state tests behind us, we are looking forward to the last portion of the year. In the final two months, we will be deep in our rain forest/ South America unit. We are lucky to be working with Mr. Daniel from Marquis Studios. The students will be creating Mayan-like masks. These masks will represent global issues important to our future citizens. In writing, we are circling back to informational writing. Topics will vary; however, they will concentrate on the Amazon Rainforest and the need to preserve it. As for trips, we will be visiting the Hayden Planetarium May 6th - look for those permission slips.