

## Guidance Corner – A Message from Ms. Chimera-Stass

### February is Respect For All Month:

It is the policy of the Department of Education to maintain a safe and supportive learning environment that is free from harassment, intimidation and/or bullying and from discrimination on account of actual or perceived race, color, ethnicity, national origin, citizenship/immigration status, religion, creed, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, disability or weight.

During the month of February, we will be celebrating acts of kindness and Respect.

Definition of Respect:

*Noun*

1. a feeling of deep admiration for someone or something elicited by their abilities, qualities, or achievements  
“the director had a lot of **respect for** Douglas as an actor”
2. due regard for the feelings, wishes, rights, or traditions of others.  
“young people’s lack of **respect for** their parents”

### We will also be recognizing students who are Upstanders.

**Upstander:** a person who speaks or acts in support of an individual or cause, particularly someone who intervenes on behalf of a person being attacked or bullied.



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**P.S.15** THE PATRICK F. DALY  
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February, 2020

Greetings PS 15 Families!

February is an important month for our calendar year. It marks the beginning of our second school semester and the kick off for our annual schoolwide social action work. Our Diversity Committee is kicking off the month with activities to not only acknowledge and celebrate the history and achievements of African Americans, but also to share, discuss and conduct activities for the Black Lives Matter at School’s week of action. Note that our third graders will hold their culminating project, the African Marketplace this month. All of our third graders have learned a lot about various countries in Africa during their social studies unit and will be sharing their learning in a unique way. Please feel free to speak to our third graders to learn more about their event.

Did you know that our third, fourth and fifth graders have been invited to attend an afterschool academic/enrichment program on Wednesdays and Thursdays? The students get additional academic support to help them meet their grade level academic goals as well as enrichment experiences. Invitations were distributed last month. We are fortunate to be able to offer this program at this time. Please contact our parent coordinator, Ms. Johnson if you have questions/concerns.

**\*\*continued on page 2\*\***

The winter season appears to be quite mild, but the flu season is hitting our city hard. Please come out on Wednesday, February 12 for the next Principal's Sip and Learn, which will focus on winter wellness. P.S. 15's very own nurse practitioner, Mr. Michael Lamb will be sharing ways to help you keep your child healthy and to combat the wintry season especially if your child has chronic illnesses such as allergies, asthma or other respiratory type of conditions, etc. Meet our nurse practitioner and learn about our school-based health clinic and our partnership with NYU Langone. The clinic is equipped to offer many supports such as flu shots, physicals, as well as prescriptions.

As always, I look forward to seeing you throughout the month.

Sincerely,

Peggy Wyns-Madison

## February Birthdays



Jadiel Almonte  
Raymond Anschutz  
Anaviya Barksdale  
Dimonique Bethea  
Nyree Bethea  
Stephany Bethea  
Tiffany Bethea  
Ronell Bond Jr.  
Kiarah Bynum  
Finley Cartozian  
Ryder Chasin  
Milan Cherry  
Keller Chung  
Jennilee Dones  
Myriam Duce  
Quanmel Gilliam  
Roberto Guerrero  
Mathew Guerrero Ortega

Talia Haveshush  
Ajani Hill  
Zion Keith  
Basil Montes  
Jaylene Nunez  
Heather Pacheco  
Andrew Payamps  
Gabriela Perez  
Jesely Ramos  
Sariyah Raymond  
Niilah Rivera  
Ella Russell  
Wolf Siegel  
Gwendolyn Stone  
Luis Vega  
Marquis Vega  
Tilly Vogel  
Sebastian Zuniga-Silva

### Pre-Kindergarten News

The students in Pre-K are continuing to learn about themselves, and the world that they live in, as they move forward in the magnet Unit of Study: Wondrous Winter. Arctic and polar animals will become the focus of the study and students will deepen their appreciation of nature and how animals adapt to survive.

Love and kindness is in the air as the students revisit the different kinds of feelings that everyone has and ways to express them. We look forward to celebrating Valentine's Day with our friends and family. Please join us for a Valentine's themed Family Fun Activity on Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup>.

### Kindergarten News

February is an exciting month for Kindergarteners! Activities planned around the Magnet unit: Wacky Weather will continue to be a main focus in the classroom. In reading and writing, we will start taking a closer look at pattern books and using them as models to write our own. In math we are continuing to develop our addition skills. The 100<sup>th</sup> day of school is approaching! Stay tuned for information about activities and festivities for that day!

## Upcoming Events

FYI – Parent Teacher Conferences (PTC) will be held on

**Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup>.**

Dismissal will be at 11:30 that day.

PTC will take place from

12:30 pm to 2:30 pm

4:30 pm to 7:30 pm



### First Grade News

February is an exciting month for first graders! We are continuing our Magnet Unit “Living in America”. Students will learn more about the significant individuals, historical events and symbols that are important to American cultural identity.

During writing workshop, we will write narratives, which recount real experiences or events. In reading workshop, students will be meeting characters and learning lessons. They will continue to practice reading strategies and study characters in books.

First grade mathematicians are continuing to improve their ability to add and subtract fluently within sums of ten. In Envisionmath, students will use mathematical reasoning with shapes and their attributes. During Number Corner, we’ll explore two-dimensional shapes. We’re also looking forward to celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school!

### Second Grade News

Second Grade will continue to explore non-fiction in both reading and writing. We are also continuing our New Amsterdam Unit, where we are combining social studies and science. In math, we are working on two & three digit addition and subtraction. Please continue to have your child read every day for at least twenty minutes.

### Third Grade News

Good Morning (E-karo), Good Afternoon (E-ka-san) and Good Bye (Odabo), third graders are learning Yoruba phrases. In social studies, we are wrapping up our Nigeria Unit. Please look out for the closing event (African Market Place) in February .In Math, we are starting our Unit on Area and how it relates to multiplication. In writing, we are continuing work on informational writing. In reading, we are looking at close reading strategies and increasing reading stamina.

### Fourth Grade News

Greetings Fourth grade parents and families! For Social Studies, this February, fourth grade will continue studying the Native Peoples of New York, particularly the Iroquois. In writing, students will be choosing from a variety of topics in order to compose an opinion piece. We are beginning to concentrate on preparing for upcoming state tests by studying various text elements and responding to text-based questions. Our focus in math is factors, multiples, and patterns. Once we master those topics in math, we will be moving onto learning about fractions.

### Fifth Grade News

We’re well on our way to exploring the Amazon rainforest and the impact deforestation is having on it. This fits in well with our opinion-writing units. We will be researching different industries and companies impact on the rainforest. For example, students may choose to write to lumber companies or cattle (beef) companies and try to convince them to reduce their usage of the rainforest land and resources therefore, hopefully, minimizing the impact of deforestation.

In math, we are beginning our unit on fractions. Fractions are a huge focus this year. We have started adding and subtracting fractions with unlike denominators. We are using manipulatives like Cuisenaire rods and fraction strips to help students build a concrete and deeper understanding of what fractions represent and how to work with them. As students build that understanding, we will be adding and subtracting mixed numbers. To support your child at home, you can practice skills like rewriting equivalent fractions with a common denominator, rewriting an improper fraction as a mixed number and rewriting mixed numbers as improper fractions.