



PS24Q Andrew Jackson Elementary

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Grade 5 Newsletter ~December 2024 ~ Issue # 3

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Reading: Informational Texts	During module 3 of our HMH program, students will listen to, read, and view a variety of texts and media that present them with information about natural disasters. A genre focus on informational text provides students with opportunities to identify central ideas, summarize events, and ask and answer questions to better understand unfamiliar texts. Students will also encounter narrative nonfiction, realistic fiction, and persuasive text to build knowledge across genres. As students build their vocabulary and synthesize topic knowledge, they will learn about the causes of different types of natural disasters.
Writing: Persuasive Essay	In writing, students will work on a persuasive essay. They will work on a piece of writing and depending on where students are in their writing, they may use the time to pre-write, draft, revise, edit, or publish. Students may also choose from among tasks such as: Listing possible topics for writing, checking facts, adding details to a draft, and peer editing and conferencing. Ask about the texts your child is reading and what they have learned from them.
Math: Dividing Decimals	Our 5th grade mathematicians have just finished exploring multiplying decimals. They learned how to use a variety of strategies: using base-ten blocks, money, and number lines. These strategies are effective ways to help the students understand the concept of multiplying numbers such as 4×3.4 . Now, students will apply those same strategies to divide decimal numbers such as $4.4 \div 2$. At home, please continue to encourage your child to use IXL.com to practice the skills being taught in class.
Science: States of Matter	Our science scholars are beginning to explore the different states of matter. We are exploring how molecules behave in solids, liquids, and gasses. To improve students' reading comprehension skills, while developing scientific understanding, the students will be reading and analyzing a variety of science articles. Using the "3L's" teaching method, students will learn new vocabulary, analyze the author's craft, and strengthen their reading skills.
Social Studies: European Exploration	Students will focus on the history of the Western Hemisphere by learning about the Age of European Exploration. In this unit, we will closely read complex texts to be informed about how this influential age of exploring allowed the colonization of the Western Hemisphere. The students will closely study how power, wealth, and morality (religion) influenced explorers, and how Exploration affected the native inhabitants. Additionally, this period in history helped shape the globe to become what we know it today!
Academic Focus of the Month: The Arts	By offering art education in the school system, all children get a chance to stimulate their imaginations, as well as their cognitive and problem-solving skills. Our Arts Program at P.S 24Q includes classes in Art Education and Fine Arts (music). The 5th grade students always look forward to Art class where they get to draw, paint, create, and express their emotions and ideas. In Music class, the 5th graders learn about patterns of music, tempo, and note-reading. Our school offers the 5th graders an opportunity to join "Clubs" in Pottery Making and Orchestra, among others! These special clubs allow students to further explore their interests. Our goal is to create well-balanced, academically strong students who have an outlet for self-expression.

Upcoming Events and Dates

- Monday, December 9th -SLT Meeting
- Thursday, December 12th - Friday December 13th - Picture Day
- Wednesday, December 18th - 1 -2 Parents as Partners
- Thursday, December 19th - Title 1 Meeting - Arts
- Friday, December 20th - 3-5 Parents As Partners
- Monday, December 23rd - Wednesday, January 1st - Winter Recess