

Cliffside Park School #4



Monthly Update-September 2017
Principal- Mrs.Jaclyn Roussos

Kindergarten:

Kindergarten kids are cool and off to a great start! In Math, the students were introduced to the numbers 0-5. In Science, the students were introduced to FOSS, our new science curriculum. In Social Studies, the students started to learn about our school and family, In Reader's and writer's workshop, the students learned proper book handling skills and decorated their writer's folder. In Foundations, the students were introduced to letters, keywords, sounds, and letter formations.

First Grade:

During the month of September the First Grade worked on decorating and personalizing writing Folders. we did this to create a resource that inspire us to write about our experiences, emotions we feel and personal interests. In Reading we worked on what good readers do, where good readers read, story elements, visualization and briefly learned about making connections. In Foundations, we reviewed letter sounds and letter formation. In addition, Mrs. Pirretti's class is

working on sequencing through retell, making connections with the author's purpose, and learning lots of new and exciting sight words that will help us read. In Math, we completed Topic 1, solving addition and subtraction problems to 10. In Social Studies we began learning about communities, how to be a good citizen. Finally, in Health we learned about healthy habits.

Second grade:

During the month of September the Second Grade worked on personalizing writing Notebooks or Folders. We did this to learn how the objects and pictures we added can help inspire writing ideas. In Reading we worked on setting goals as readers; and how using the skills we learn can help us to become better readers. In Foundations we learned about glued sounds and how these sounds can help with spelling words. In Math we reviewed the different ways we can add and subtract. In Social Studies we began learning about communities and how we can make our communities better. Finally, in Health we are learning about how to make healthy choices in our lives.

Third grade:

This month, 3rd graders learned many new exciting things! For math, we jumped right into learning multiplication and fluency of multiplication facts. In reading, students have been setting

goals and understanding the routines of Reader's workshop. In science, we did our first experiment, which had students exploring and comparing seeds from different types of fruit! In writing, students are focusing on writing a piece about special memory and are learning what writers do each step of the way. In Social Studies, students have been learning about 3 different types of communities, natural resources found in these communities, and the different maps and purposes. For Health, we began exploring the three aspects of personal wellness; physical, social, and emotional wellness.

Fourth grade:

During the month of September our fourth graders set up routines, rules and rituals! with 4th grade being such a transition year, these routines and rituals will allow them to feel at ease in the classroom and outside the classroom! In Readers and writers workshop, students were introduced to the structure of workshop and how they play a big role in the instruction of it. Inside the classroom students also personalized their writer's notebooks during writer's workshop, which is to assist in their writing process. In math, place value and the addition and subtraction of multidigit numbers were reviewed. In Social Studies, students were introduced to the regions of New Jersey and have been grouped to work collaboratively and cooperatively to research their assigned region. Each group will create a presentation of their region

and present to the class. In Science, students will be studying environments and be responsible for caring for certain environments. They will be observing and analyzing these environments and recording what they need to flourish. Lastly, in Health, students are studying personal health and wellness. Students are working with the idea of self concept and will be introduced to their health project in the upcoming weeks.

Fifth grade:

During the month of September our fifth graders set the foundation that will lead to a very productive year. Reader's and writer's workshop procedures were established, notebooks were decorated, and introduction to the writing process began. In math, we reviewed place value and decimals. For Health, we began studying personal growth and wellness, and started a group project designing a 6-day lunch menu program for our district. In Social Studies, students are learning that we improve our understanding of people's actions and beliefs through the study of history. Lastly, in Science, students are learning about mixtures and solutions. We established the procedures for the many experiments we will do this year. This lead into our first "Mixtures and Solutions" experiment.

Sixth Grade:

The sixth grade held two successful bake sale fundraisers for our trip to Buehler Challenger and Science Center. The Safety Patrol team was organized and put into action. All school doors are patrolled in the morning and in the afternoon. Kindergarten through second grades are chaperoned by one Safety Patrol officer during lunchtime to ensure students safety and order. The basement bathrooms are also monitored during lunchtime.

Library:

September was a busy month for students in the library. Everyone participated in a school wide project based on the book only one You by Linda Kranz. Each student painted their own unique rock during their library period. The beautiful painted rocks were placed in front of our school to create a path as a reminder to us all of the important message shared in this wonderful story.

Music:

For the month of September, Mr. Ragusa taught the students Patriotic songs in honor of Patriot Day on 9/11. Grades 1-2 learned "God Bless America" and "This Land is Your Land," while grades 3-6 covered the same songs and also learned "The Star-Spangled Banner." Students in grade 3-6 also learned historical facts about how the song was written.

Gym:

September was a busy first month for students in PE! We reviewed all rules and safety protocol, and got organized into our squads and stretching lines. We have worked up to a 5 minute jog thus far, with a overall goal of 10 minutes. We also reiterated the importance of sportsmanship, and treating others fairly, and with respect. We are currently working on our basic gross motor skills in k-3rd grade, and have introduced basketball to the 4th-6th grades. It was a great first month, and we have a lot to get to in the upcoming months to follow.

Art:

In 1st grade students are learning about Art in Mexico and are doing a project on Day of the Dead skeletons or Amate Paper. Students in 2nd grade are learning about geometric and organic shapes and making a house out of geometric shapes. 3rd grade is learning about balance and symmetry while creating radial and symmetrical designs. 4th grade can define line in Art when creating a collaborative project about lines and zentangles. 5th grade is learning about Paleolithic cave paintings and creating their own cave painting consisting of animals, human figures and abstract designs. 6th grade students are creating a mosaic design.

Computer:

Students in 3-6 have been busy logging into their new Google accounts and creating acrostic poems. Students in K-2 have been focused on accessing websites to practice developmentally appropriate skill sets.

World Language:

In kindergarten students are learning the numbers from 1-10 and the basic colors and basic introductions. In 1st grade students are also learning more introductions and the numbers from 1-20 while reviewing and adding additional colors from last year. In 3rd grade students are learning the numbers from 0-59 and learning to identify the classroom objects and creating a dialogue. In 4th grade students learn the numbers from 1-100 and are learning to add and subtract in Spanish while completing number puzzles and a dialogue. In 5th grade we are learning the numbers 0-500 and learning to translate math problems into Spanish. We are also studying the geography via a map of South America. In 6th grade we are learning the numbers from 1-1,000. We are also learning Spanish pronouns while beginning to conjugate verbs.