



KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

# School No. 5 Newsletter

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## A Note from the Principal

By: Mrs. Martinotti

This school year marks my third as principal of School No. 5. I can honestly say that I was just as excited to begin this year as I was two years ago! It has been a wonderful three months welcoming our families back as well as getting to know those who just joined our community!

We have already completed our Fall Trimester. During these past three months, our amazingly dedicated teachers have been planning and instructing some wonderful lessons and learning experiences. Our math and science curricula have seen major changes and our teachers have been trained and continue to learn how to shift their instruction to best prepare your children for success in our global society. In math, students are not only learning basic facts and formulas, but analyzing and explaining the

processes involved in solving real world problems. Science lessons have come alive both literally and figuratively! We have crayfish and mealworms living among us and our students are learning how to be real scientists as they observe and predict during live experiments. At School 5 we continue to put great emphasis on language arts and continue to immerse ourselves in literary experiences.

I look forward to the next two trimesters and doing all I can to support and guide our teachers, students, and you – our parents- as we round out the school year.

Here's to a great year at School 5 where "Knowledge is Power"!

~Mrs. Martinotti



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# A Peek Inside Our Classrooms

Since the very first day, our classrooms have been buzzing with excitement over wonderful learning experiences. Take a look and see why we are so happy to be at School 5!

## **Mrs. Rutz: Pre-K**

In September, we began with establishing our classroom routine for our future learning. We completed exciting activities and lessons on apples. As a class, we made our class rules to follow this school year. In October, we began taking weekly trips to the park where we enjoyed fresh air and worked on developing their gross motor skills. Students began to learn about the changes of the season of fall and we spoke about pumpkins and leaves. As a culminating activity, we joined the



other Pre-K classes for our Pumpkin Patch at School #5. Students enjoyed that trip especially having apple cider donuts. In November, we learned about what it means to be thankful and how to treat our friends with good manners. We are



continuing learning our numbers and letters throughout many activities.

## **Ms. Fontana: Pre-K**

In Ms. Fontana's Pre-K class, we kicked off the year by learning to recognize not only our names but our friends' names as well. We dove into science lessons by identifying the parts of apples and pumpkins, as well as their life cycles. We incorporated identifying shapes in many different ways, including creating jack-o-lanterns and scarecrows just in time for Halloween. November flew by as we participated in a class election, discussed what we love about our friends and family, and wrote about things we are thankful for just in time for Thanksgiving.

## **Ms. Sanchez: Pre-K**

In September, we joyfully entered our classroom by meeting our new friends. We picked our own rules and learned the many routines and rituals to follow in a classroom environment. In October, we were introduced to the changes of fall where we spoke about the weather, leaves and pumpkins. We enjoyed our Pumpkin Patch at School #5,

especially drinking apple cider and eating apple cider donuts! In November, we learned about what it means to be thankful and touched on what we're thankful for. Additionally, we demonstrated how to have good manners in and outside of the classroom. Furthermore, we have learned the name, shape and sound of nearly all of the letters and learned number operations for 0-10. We are enjoying our time in Pre-K and look forward to all the of learning that is ahead!

## **Mrs. Montana: Pre-K**

In September, our class enjoyed many back to school activities, such as, friendship games, making class rules and forming relationships with classmates. We also had fun lessons and engaging books on how apples grow and change of season. As a whole class, we made an apple pie, participated in apple tasting a variety of apples and painted apple stamps. Students also became engaged in the Life Cycle of a Pumpkin, by making predictions regarding the inside and outside of a pumpkin. We explored the various changing fall colors by going on a "leaf hunt" outside and around school 5.

Students collected leaves and made leaf rubbing placemats. During November, student lessons focused on the Thanksgiving holiday, family traditions/cultures, friendships and food. Students enjoyed making and eating a "mock pumpkin pie", mixing pudding, graham crackers and pumpkin pie spice. I'm so proud of all of my preschoolers and look forward to our winter themed lessons and holidays!

### Mrs. Lee: Pre-K

Our Pre-k Room 3 has been working very hard throughout these first few months of school. In September, we kicked off very well with our daily routines, getting acquainted and learned new classroom rules. We also focused around apples where we tasted, identified, and graphed which apples were our favorites. In October, we learned all about pumpkins. We became scientists and experimented to make pumpkin volcanoes! Oh, were we so excited to see what happens when we mix a few ingredients to make it erupt! Also at the end of the month, we had the best Pumpkin Patch event! We drank the most delicious apple cider and ate yummy apple cider donuts. My favorite! In November, we learned all the things we are grateful for. We will continue many new fun adventures to expand their knowledge!

### Ms. Hompesch: Pre-K

The students in Ms. Hompesch's class have been very busy participating in a number of fall activities. Some of those activities included finger painting fall trees, making apple prints, and strengthening fine motor skills while creating tissue paper leaves in fall colors. We invited parents to our classroom to celebrate diversity and show appreciation for things we are

thankful for during our International Thanksgiving Feast. In addition to these seasonal activities, we have also been very busy learning appropriate social and play skills while participating in collaborative activities with Ms. Montana's and Ms. Butler's classes. We have also been working on strengthening gross motor skills while playing on the playground and taking advantage of the beautiful weather!

### Ms. Butler: Pre-K

Since the beginning of the school year, we have been working very hard in Room 5. In September, we started working on our daily routines in the classroom as well as classroom rules. We took time to learn about apples, where we did activities that dealt with graphing and tasting different kinds of apples. We also did our very own apple volcano experiment with Ms. Hompesch's class. In October, we spent time talking about pumpkins, where we learned the life cycle of a pumpkin and created our own "Thumbkin" patch. We focused on the Fall season and took a look at different colors we see outside. In November, we talked about friendship, what it takes to be a good friend, and the Thanksgiving holiday. We had a great time hosting a Thanksgiving feast where parents were able to attend and spend time with us in the classroom. Each student even made their own Thanksgiving placemat. We have been incorporating more fine motor activities in the classroom as well. I cannot wait to experience all the fun activities that winter has to bring in our classroom!

### Ms. Cohen: Pre-K

Room 1 has been very busy the first few months of the school year. In September, we learned and talked about the rules of the classroom and daily routines. In October we went

pumpkin picking, and talked about apples and the season of Autumn. We worked together to make fresh applesauce in our classroom, and read many books about the changing seasons. Miss Jess' class also talked about 2 fall Holidays, Halloween and Thanksgiving. We were able to decorate our classroom with lots of fun turkey and pumpkin projects as we worked on developing our fine motor skills. It has been a busy and fun first few months!

### Mrs. MacRae & Ms. Corcoran: Grade 1

First grade has been very busy throughout the first trimester! We started the year off by launching our Reader's and Writer's workshops. Students enjoyed publishing their very first story and sharing them with their classmates! We also began our new hands on Foss Science curriculum. Students became super scientists as they participated in interactive experiments and documented their findings in their science journal. We are very proud of our first graders and look forward to the second trimester!



### Mrs. Orso & Mrs. Vento: Grade 2

Second grade published our first piece which was a personal narrative. In reader's workshop we are now immersed in fiction and we are enjoying learning all about traditional literature, realistic fiction and fantasies. In science, we loved exploring life cycles and we discovered that mealworms transform into darkling beetles by creating our very own mini habitats. We carefully watched each stage with a magnifying glass and documented it all in our science notebooks.

### Mrs. Maurizio & Ms. Robles: Grade 3

The third grades have been very busy at work this trimester! We have learned multiplication and division. In writer's workshop, we completed our first personal narratives. Many students have written about their favorite, special memories and turned them into wonderful books. In science, we examined different types of seeds, even planted seeds right in our classroom with just water. We used our own backyard here at school 5 to find seeds and learn how they are dispersed in different ways. Our special treat this year is that we have welcomed new friends to our classroom, crayfish! We will be observing and learning all about them. Third graders are quite the scientists!

### Mr. Nichols & Ms. Rodriguez: Grade 4

In fourth grade this trimester, students have been loving our new science modules! We've been working like scientists by asking questions, conducting investigations, and obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information. In reading, we've set goals and learned how to apply self-monitoring skills to reach them! In our writing unit, we've worked hard to produce and publish a piece of writing using the writing process just like authors!

### Ms. Scordo: Grade 5

In fifth grade, we've conducted some great experiments with our new Science series, and have completed our Personal Narratives as well as our first Launching series in Readers Workshop. In October, our students worked diligently to raise money for our Trick or Treat For UNICEF fundraiser, and helped raise \$666.00 for underprivileged children around the world! WOW! We have also begun using our lockers and our students are very excited to take advantage of this new responsibility. I could not be prouder of

how hard the fifth grade has worked, as they have accomplished so much in just a few short months thus far!

### Ms. LaRose: Grade 6

The 6th Grade has been very busy adapting to our new Literature, Math, and Science series, all at the Middle School level. We have learned how to be of service to others who have disabilities, injuries, or misfortunes in their lives by reading informational text, having an exciting visit with Canine Companions for Independence Puppy Raiser Caryl



Swain, writing cards to hospitalized US Veterans, and enjoying a trip to the theater to view the

movie adaptation of the novel, Wonder. Thank you Mrs. Martinotti and the staff of Cliffside Park Public Library for making the trip possible! We have just begun constructing replicas of famous structures designed with arches in them, based on the Aqueducts of Ancient Rome. We hope to have them on display in the next few weeks!

### Mrs. Stitz: ELL

The ELL students have been enjoying and learning a lot with our new ELL series. We have been building our vocabulary, reading and daily conversations. Students are also loving our new ESL I-Pads. We have been spending time working with our new programs. The students have enjoyed spending time on ESL Brainpop, Turtle Diary and many, many more!!!

### Ms. Morales: Resource Room

Students in the Resource Room have been busy learning and discussing different themes in books. We discussed many books that dealt with acceptance, courage, perseverance, cooperation, compassion, kindness, loyalty, and honesty. Students learned how one person's differences can affect the lives of so many others.

### GIRLS WHO CODE



Our sixth-grade girls have been creating a computer science project through "Girls Who Code", an international program designed to attract women to the field of technology. We can't wait to share their project!

### Safety Patrol



Under the guidance of Mrs. Murtagh and Ms. Chica, School 5's safety and security is under the watch of our '17-'18 squad. All members applied for the position and agreed to take their posts every day!

### Playground Art



Thanks to our middle school friends, we have beautiful artwork to color in based on the design and style of artist Keith Haring. Every piece has a positive message. We also have a great hopscotch board. Thank you!

# Students of the Month

Students of the Month are selected by their teachers based on their observations of students reaching personal goals. These goals can be related to academic achievement, improved conduct, or any area a student proves he or she has worked hard to improve. Take a look at those who set their goals and achieved them!

## SEPTEMBER

AMI MUSTAFAJ  
 MOHAMMED EWAIS  
 ADAM STAHL  
 MATTHEW MATEO  
 MELANIA AVALOS  
 ABIGAIL MICHEL  
 RYAN AOKI  
 JACOB CHOI  
 MARCOTULIO MOTO  
 ARIELLE MONTANO  
 SEAD KASAMAJ  
 STEPHANIE ORTIZ  
 RYAN ESPINAL  
 ANTHONY TZOY  
 ABDEL INOUSSA  
 SELEN SARI  
 TROY LEMUS  
 SIENNA VALDIVIESO  
 CLAIRE FALERO  
 JUNIOR CORLETTA  
 MADELINE MOLINA

## OCTOBER

EMILY O'DONOVAN  
 JADEN ROCA QUEVEDO  
 ISIS BUENO  
 KEILAH AUILAR  
 KAITLYN CRUZ  
 MACKENZIE DE LEON  
 JAYDEN LUNA  
 KIRA ARONOFF

AIDEN YI  
 LUKE DOUGLAS  
 DYLAND RUIZ  
 DANILO CANIL  
 GIOVANNA ANJOS  
 ISABELLA LOPEZ  
 CRISTIAN VENTURA  
 MELANIE ORTIZ  
 NNENNA IRIAKA  
 ALEJANDRO CHAVES  
 ASHLI ESQUIT  
 HENRY VALLES  
 KAROLYN GASPAR

## NOVEMBER

MICHAEL AVALOS  
 ELISAVETA JEREN  
 DENNIS ROMERO  
 JEFFREY LUNA  
 GIANNA ECHEVARRIA  
 FAKEEHA ELBAD  
 MIA MARTINEZ  
 MATHEO VASQUEZ  
 NATALIE FLORES  
 MATTEO SANTANA  
 DYLAND RUIZ  
 SAYDIA RASHID  
 SALAH BAHAR  
 NATALIE MARIN  
 ABRAR KHALIL  
 JUSTIN MARROQUIN  
 ALEX POGREBINSKY  
 RIHANNA ROJAS  
 ALEXIS ALATISE  
 MARITA CHAMOUN  
 STEPHANIE LEMUS

Congratulations to all!



## STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



### Junior, Grade 5

Junior works hard every day! His smile lights up our school!



### Kiera, Pre-K

Kiera started Pre-K in September and has made great strides already!



### Alex, Gr. 3

Alex is serious about his schoolwork and gives 100% every day!

# Citizens of the Month

School No. 5 believes not only in strong academics but in being the best person we can possibly be. Every month we focus on a different character trait. Teachers select Citizens of the Month who have exhibited outstanding qualities of that trait. Here they are....

## SEPTEMBER: "COOPERATION"

ELLA CIOBANU  
 JACK MIRADOLI  
 SOPHIA BRINGAS  
 LEILA HOLLAR-GREGORY  
 ROMAN LOH  
 LEYLA FIRAT  
 RANDY TOMAS  
 SHANELLE SANCHEZ  
 JOSELIN BALAN  
 ASEEL ABUSIAM  
 NICHOLAS DONAHOE  
 LUIS MOTA  
 MIA CHAMOUN  
 ROLAND CHRISTIAN  
 RYAN GONZALEZ  
 SAHILY AGUILAR  
 JAMEILYN MOTA  
 ROTIMI ESISO  
 BARBARA MILLAN  
 VICTORIA SEQUEIRA  
 MELAKAI ALIGO

## OCTOBER: "RESPECT"

DAANTJE PETERS  
 CHLOE SHIN  
 SKYE BROOKS  
 SEAN PARENT  
 LOGAN GUZMAN  
 MIA ROTH  
 MATTHEW ENG  
 GENESIS FUENTES  
 ELIZABETH CEPEDA

AUSTIN HROMIN  
 VICTOR GONZALEZ  
 EMELY PABLO  
 DAVID CRUZ  
 MIA DUDLEY  
 ALANI HICKS  
 VESA SHALA  
 ANYELI SOSA  
 ASHLEY OSORIO  
 NICOLAS ROBLES  
 VERONICA CORREA  
 WILBER MORALES

## NOVEMBER: "HONESTY"

CAIDEN MORENO  
 IRINI TRIANTAFILLAKIS  
 ANDREW VALDEZ  
 JAYLENE LUNA  
 TAJOHN ARIAS  
 ABIGAIL MICHEL  
 NATHAN JUMBO  
 BRIAN ESTRADA  
 LUCAS SANDOVAL  
 AYDEN DIAZ  
 SEAD KASAMAJ  
 LOGAN PERALTA  
 OLIVER ELIAS  
 KEILA ESTRADA PEREZ  
 KYLE ROBINSON  
 JULIANA ROBERT  
 KATHERINE ESTRADA  
 ERIK LOSHE  
 ATILA PAGE  
 LEVI SHERRY  
 EMILY CRUZ

Great job, Citizens!

Citizen OF THE  
**MONTH**

## CITIZENS OF THE MONTH



### Ella, Pre-K

Ella was recognized for her passion for learning and willingness to help others.



### Sean, Pre-K

Sean is a great friend to his classmates and respectful to all!



### Katherine, Gr. 3

Katherine works hard and demonstrates honesty even when it is a difficult situation!

# PTO News

School No. 5 is lucky to have our parent volunteers who dedicate their time and energy toward enhancing the activities and fundraising for our school. We are grateful to **Mrs. China Iriaka** and **Ms. Carolyn Sacchetti** for all they do for us. We also owe a debt of gratitude to **Ms. Corcoran** who works so hard to organize meetings and events with our parent volunteers!

## Meetings:

Meetings are generally held once a month on Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM. Look for announcements in flyers, text messages, on our school calendar, and on our marquee. We'd love to see you and appreciate any help you can give to our school and students!

## Upcoming Events:

- ✚ December 5-8, 2017: Scholastic Book Fair
- ✚ December 12-13, 2017: Holiday Shop
- ✚ December 14, 2017: Gingerbread House Contest
- ✚ January 18, 2018: PTO Meeting
- ✚ January 19, 2018: Movie Matinee
- ✚ January 23, 2018: Half-day Bagel Sale
- ✚ February 1, 2018: International Night
- ✚ February 15, 2018: PTO Meeting



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214 Day Avenue  
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School 5 Families