



Class 2-317

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

READING

In September, students engaged in many conversations centered on a love of library. They learned about good reading habits, reflected on their reading histories, created personal goals, and discussed the power of reading over their lives.

In October, students will continue to learn ways in which they can become independent readers who set and meet goals and problem-solve as they self-monitor for sense. They will also learn general metacognitive strategies that can be applied across texts, such as activating schema, using inference, making connections, and questioning through concrete anchor lessons. Students will learn to annotate as they read in order to leave tracks of their thinking and expand on their understanding. Reading journals and post-its will be tools students use daily to respond to texts in meaningful ways.

SOCIAL STUDIES AND SCIENCE

In Social Studies, students explore the essential question: "How does geography influence where people choose to live and why?" The unit begins with immersion in the tools and terminology that are used in the study of Geography. Students will be exposed to many different types of maps and will learn to read them by understanding their special features. Students will then use their map skills to look closely at how the geography of New York differs significantly across the state. Having knowledge of land forms and water forms will enable students to zoom in on New York City and see how its geological features provides unique advantages to our city.

Simultaneously, we will soon launch our science unit on Pebbles, Sand and Silt. Our young geologists will quickly learn that rocks are the solid earth material that composes the bulk of this planet. The first part of this study will support students to recognize and distinguish rocks by looking at and describing their properties. They will also learn that the size of the rock particles provide important clues on the history of the rock, leading them to understand the relationship between earth interactions and the structure of the earth.

WRITING

In September, students were reintroduced to living life like a writer. They collected ideas, developed a story, and began to elaborate. They are learning the importance of stretching out and magnifying their small moments with great attention to detail and to crafting powerful beginnings and endings. In upcoming weeks, we will look more closely at the craft of mentor authors Jane Yolan and Jonathan London. Mini lessons will help children name their intentions as writers and revise their piece. As a class, we will examine *Owl Moon*, considering the powerful effect craft strategies have on readers. Students will utilize the same strategies in their own writing, including sensory images, precise vocabulary, figurative language, show-not-tell feelings, and bit-by-bit action at the heart of the story. Lastly, children will devote careful attention to revising and editing their piece in order to make it as clear and as powerful as it can be.

MATH

Class 317 has already embarked upon an extensive multiplication and division unit. In this unit, students will build upon fluency with addition and knowledge of arrays. They will quickly let go of repeated addition as a strategy, in favor of more efficient multiplication facts. Using the language of multiplication, they will begin to understand factors and differentiate between the size and number of groups within a given context. By learning that division is an unknown factor problem, students will become aware of the fundamental connection between multiplication and division. As we continue our investigation of multiplication and division through November, students will learn to model, write and solve partitive and measurement division problems. Students will use tape diagrams, number bonds, and skip-counting strategies, as well as the properties (distributive and commutative) to model different equal group situations. They will also start to analyze the arithmetic patterns that emerge to compose and decompose numbers. While we have many strategies to solve and model multiplication and division problems, it is important that your child practice their 0-12 multiplication facts so that they can develop their fluency.

OCTOBER CALENDAR



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1  Read With Your Child 8:35-9:00 am	2	3
6	7	8	9	10 Vocabulary Quiz
13  Columbus Day No School	14 Possible Field Trip to Whitney: Jeff Koons 	15	16	17 College Prep Rally  Vocabulary Quiz
20	21	22	23	24 Vocabulary Quiz
27	28	29	30 Personal Narrative/Author Mentor Publishing Party 9-10 am 	30 Halloween / Vocabulary Parade 

Please understand that some events may change or be added to our calendar. You will be notified of any changes via email.