

# LEARNERS & LEADERS NEWS

APRIL 2024

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 8



## WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

- Principals Note
- What's happening in March?
- Announcements
- Reminders
- Cluster Chronicles

## A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

*Mr. Dalipi*

Welcome back from what I hope was a restful and enjoyable break! It seems April came and left before we knew it. We are now in the final two months of the school year. For our 5th grade students and parents, let's take these final months to cherish moments and create memories as our children start prepping for their next chapter. We have had a great time thus far but don't blink, more is to come and the last day of school will be here before we know it.

# SCHOOL EVENTS

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT LEARNERS AND LEADERS?

## SPORTS NIGHT

*At our recent sports nights, it was heartwarming to see students and parents coming together to enjoy some active fun! From cheering on the sidelines to joining in on the action, everyone had a blast bonding over friendly competition and shared experiences.*



## METS YA GOTTA READ

*Our NY Mets Ya Gotta Read Program has come to a close. A huge thank you to everyone who participated in the program and helped instill a love for reading in our students. Shout to class 2-1 who clinched the title for the most minutes read!*

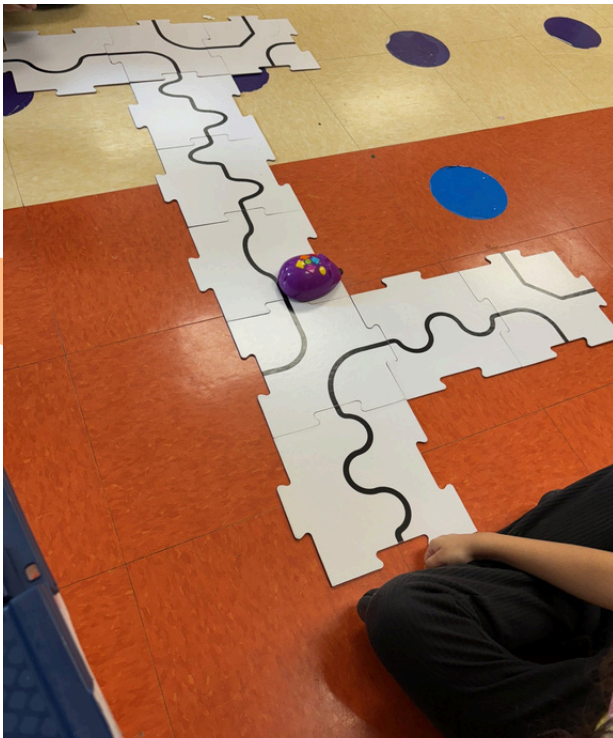


# SCHOOL EVENTS

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT LEARNERS AND LEADERS?

## CIRCLE OF DANCE PERFORMANCE - 3RD GRADE

*Our 3rd-grade Circle of Dance performance was a hit! Many families joined us to enjoy the show, and it was a joyous celebration of culture and talent. Thank you to all who attended and supported our young performers!*



## SHOUT OUT TO 1ST GRADE

*Kudos to our amazing first grade team for partnering with the Hall of Science! They've seamlessly embedded Computational Thinking into their classrooms, empowering students to solve problems and enhance learning. Special shoutout to our 1st grade students for showcasing their CT skills in action!*

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

UPCOMING EVENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS



## EVENTS CALENDAR

- May 14th
  - NY Mets Trip
- May 16th
  - Book Bingo
- May 23rd
  - Talent Show
- Field Days
  - May 29th-30th
- May 31st
  - Mr. Spector's Theater Performance for Parents.
- June 4th
  - 2nd Grade Ballet Hispanico Performance
- June 13th
  - 3K and Prek Stepping Up
- June 14th
  - Kinder Stepping Up
- June 21st
  - 5th Grade Moving Up

## REMINDERS

### *Morning Arrivals*

We ask that all students come to school by 8:05 using our entrance in the schoolyards. Please be sure to have your children on time so they do not miss a minute of learning.

### *Dismissal*

Please pick up your child no later than 2:30. We ask that all parents be in our school yard for dismissal by 2:20

\*\*\*Parents we ask that pets are not brought on to school grounds



# THE CLUSTER CHRONICLES

PHYSICAL EDUCATION, ART, THEATER



## WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

- A note from the teachers
- What we have been learning

## A NOTE FROM THE CLUSTERS

*Ms. Kristen, Ms. Knightley, Mr. Spector & Mr. Ronny*

We hope this letter finds you well as we embark on the exciting month of April filled with creativity, expression, and physical activity in our Specials classes. Here's what you can expect from the Art, Theater, and Physical Education departments this month:

**Art Department:** Our young artists will be exploring new mediums and techniques to bring their imaginations to life. Stay tuned for showcases of their vibrant creations and the artistic journey they embark upon each day.

**Theater Department:** The stage is set for our budding actors and actresses to shine as they delve into the world of theater. From dramatic performances to improvisation exercises, your children will be honing their skills in expression and storytelling.

**Physical Education Department:** Our students are gearing up for exciting sports events, fitness challenges, and health initiatives this month. We emphasize the importance of staying active, healthy, and engaged in physical activities both in and out of school.

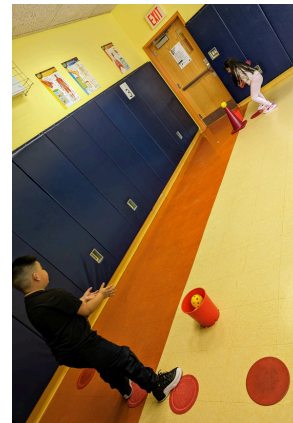
Thank you for your continued support and involvement in your child's education. Together, we can inspire creativity, foster expression, and promote physical well-being in our students.

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

MS. KRISTEN & MR. RONNY

## K-2

In April student got the opportunity to learn, practice, and play baseball. Some of the fundamental skills we practiced were throwing, fielding, and batting. Students also learned the basics rules and fundamental part of the game like running bases and different ways to get the batters out.



## 3-5

This month, our students have been learning and practicing essential skills and teamwork through fun hockey activities. The New York Islanders provided a curriculum and brand-new Islanders branded equipment. The Islanders Floorball program introduces students to the game and culture of hockey. A safe and fun sport, floorball promotes active movement, the enhancement of motor skills, and team building.





# ART

MS. KNIGHTLEY

## K-2

This month in art class, our Kindergarten through second-grade students have been celebrating spring with a variety of colorful projects! Kindergarten students have been busy creating their own version of Eric Carle's "Grouchy Ladybug"! They've been honing their drawing, cutting, and following direction skills through this fun project. After listening to the book and learning about Eric Carle's unique art style, which involves using hand-painted papers that are cut and collaged to create illustrations, students were given red and green painted paper to create the ladybug's body and grass. They also crafted a black head and spots, along with legs and antennas. The project not only allows them to be creative but also teaches them about the process behind Eric Carle's iconic illustrations.

First-grade students have been exploring the beauty of spring through art by focusing on drawing different types of flowers that bloom in this season, including tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths. They've been learning about the unique shapes and details of each flower, honing their observation and drawing skills in the process.

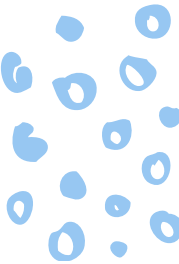
Our second-grade students have been creating their own spring landscapes filled with colorful flowers. We have been learning about perspective, discovering how objects closer to us appear larger, while those farther away seem smaller. This understanding of perspective adds depth and realism to their artwork, as they create vibrant and dynamic spring scenes. Both grades have been embracing the spirit of spring in their art, showcasing their creativity and newfound skills.



## 3-5

This month in art class, our third to fifth-grade students have been exploring landscapes, drawing inspiration from renowned artists like Georgia O'Keeffe and David Hockney. They've been studying the different elements that make up a landscape, such as mountains, trees, and bodies of water, discussing how these elements contribute to the overall composition. Students have also been learning about the three sections of a landscape (foreground, middleground, and background), and understanding how these sections create depth and perspective in artwork.

For their final landscape art pieces, students have been experimenting with a technique called watercolor resist. This process involves using a substance that resists water, such as wax crayon, to create a barrier on the paper. When watercolor paint is applied over the resist, it creates a beautiful effect where the paint does not adhere to the areas covered by the resist, revealing the texture and pattern underneath. This technique allows students to create vibrant and textured landscapes, adding depth and visual interest to their artwork.



# THEATER

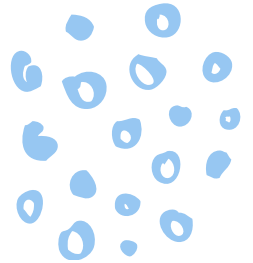
MR. SPECTOR

## K-2

In April, our attention was devoted to embodying the character traits of various beloved fictional book characters, such as Frog and Toad. We engaged in dynamic exercises where we utilized our facial expressions, body language, and vocal inflections to bring these characters to life, reenacting entire short stories with enthusiasm. Following our performances, we used a rubric to facilitate discussions with our partners, evaluating the effectiveness of our acting skills. We identified standout skills showcased during our portrayals and pinpointed the most important areas for improvement. Armed with constructive feedback, we revisited the stories to enhance our performances based on our partners feedback.



A first grade team using their acting skills for the story "Toad Wake Up."



A 3rd Grade team performing a "Lunchroom Bully" script for the class after their team's script analysis and rehearsal.

## 3-5

With Script Writing behind us, April marked the beginning of our exploration into Script Reading. Collaborating in teams of three, we dove into scripts, unraveling their format and delving into the nuances of emotion and body language. Our sessions were filled with script analysis and discovery through rehearsal. Putting theory into practice, we performed our selected scripts for the class. After each performance, all teams engaged in reflective discussions, casting votes and providing constructive feedback on the strengths and areas for growth observed in their peers' abilities and work.



# THEATER

MR. SPECTOR

## THE FOURTH GRADE BIG SCHOOL SHOW

The 4th grade is buzzing with excitement as we gear up for our much-anticipated 2024 School Show, "Pinewood!" Set in the peaceful town of Pinewood, NY, our production unveils a tapestry of tales where families encounter the extraordinary - from Bigfoot sightings to close encounters with aliens and other strange occurrences. Written by the creative minds of our 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders, "Pinewood" comprises six captivating short stories.

Under the spotlight, the entire 4th grade has been diligently rehearsing their roles, infusing each character with life and energy. We invite parents to witness the magic unfold on our grand stage. Mark your calendars for May 31st, from 10:30 to 11:45 am for our BIG SCHOOL SHOW. Join us for an unforgettable journey into the whimsical town of Pinewood!

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