

# LEARNERS & LEADERS NEWS

NOVEMBER  
2024

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2  
ISSUE 3



## IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

- Principals Note
- Student of the Month
- Events
- Announcements/  
Reminders
- Cluster Chronicles

## A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

*Mr. Dalipi*

As we transition from Thanksgiving into the excitement of December, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to all of you. The month of November was filled with wonderful events that brought our school community together, and we're looking forward to more memorable moments this month. As we head into the final month of the 2024, we're excited to continue building memories and engaging our students in meaningful and fun experiences. Thank you for being a vital part of our school community!

# STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

NOVEMBER 2024

*We proudly introduced our Students of the Month program, recognizing the hard work and achievements of our dedicated students.*



# SCHOOL EVENTS

HIGHLIGHTS FROM NOVEMBER

## STARS STUDENTS ASSEMBLY

*Students in 4th and 5th grade had an engaging and educational trip to the Hall of Science, exploring hands-on exhibits and discovering new wonders of science.*



## STUDENT GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

*Our students demonstrated leadership and responsibility by participating in our Student Government Elections. Congratulations to all candidates and elected representatives!*

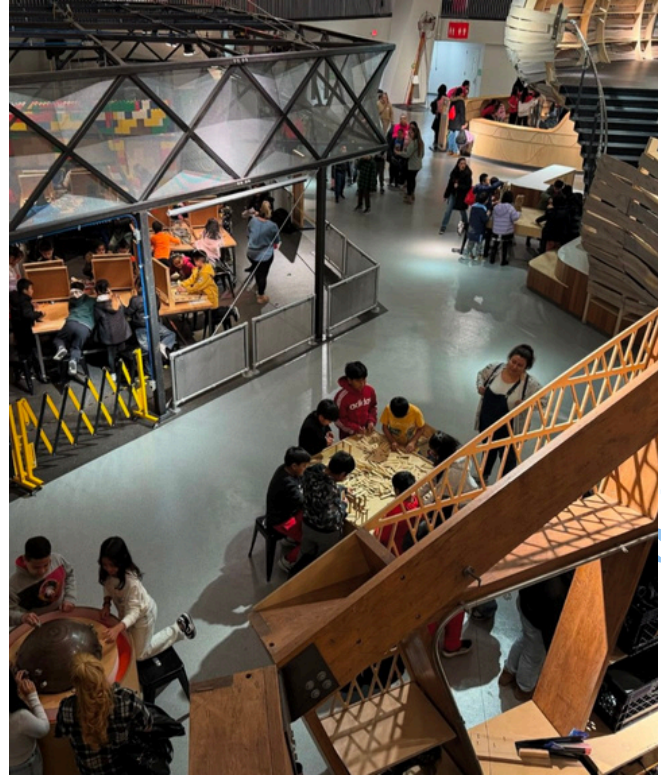


# SCHOOL EVENTS

HIGHLIGHTS FROM NOVEMBER

## 4TH & 5TH GRADE HALL OF SCIENCE TRIP

*Students in 4th and 5th grade had an engaging and educational trip to the Hall of Science, exploring hands-on exhibits and discovering new wonders of science.*



## 1ST GRADE TRIP TO ALLEY POND

*Our first graders enjoyed a fantastic trip to Alley Pond, where they connected with nature and learned about the environment through fun, hands-on activities.*



# SCHOOL EVENTS

HIGHLIGHTS FROM NOVEMBER

## THANKSGIVING CELEBRATIONS

*From the PTA Title 1 "Give Thanks" event to grade-level Thanksgiving celebrations, we embraced the spirit of gratitude with joy and community involvement.*



## KINDERGARTEN PAJAMA DAY

*Our kindergarteners had a cozy and fun-filled day with Pajama Day, celebrating with stories and activities in their comfiest attire.*



# SCHOOL EVENTS

HIGHLIGHTS FROM NOVEMBER



## CBS WEATHER VISIT

*A special thank you to John Elliott from CBS Weather for visiting our 4th graders and sharing insights about meteorology and forecasting.*



# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

UPCOMING EVENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Kindergarten Trip 	3	4 Candy Cane Sale Begins Venta de bastones de caramelo comienza 12/4-12/17 	5	6 1st grade trip PTA Meeting 8:30am TRS Building Reunión de PTA 8:30am Following/Después TITLE 1 Meeting Reunión de Título 1 	7
8	9 Candy Cane Sale 12/4-12/17	10 4th and 5th Grade NY Edge Trip 	11 Town Hall meeting in person Reunión del Ayuntamiento en persona  Wear Green Viste de Verde 	12	13 PTA MOVIE NIGHT! 	14
15	16 Candy Cane Sale 12/16-12/17	17 Last day Candy Cane Sale Último día de venta de bastones de caramelo	18	19	20 Candy Cane Distribution 	21
22	23 WINTER BREAK NO SCHOOL! 	24 School Closed Escuela Cerrada	25 HAPPY HOLIDAYS 	26 School Closed Escuela Cerrada	27 School Closed Escuela Cerrada	28
29	30 School Closed Escuela Cerrada	31 School Closed Escuela Cerrada	1/1 Happy NEW YEAR 2025 	1/2 Back School 		

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## UPCOMING EVENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

### REMINDERS

#### Dismissal Procedures:

As we continue to prioritize a smooth and safe dismissal process for all students, we would like to remind everyone of the designated entrances and exits for pickup:

- Parents of K-2 students: Please enter and exit through the Stockholm entrance.
- Parents of 3-5 students: Please enter and exit through the Dekalb entrance.
- Parents with multiple children: If you have children in both lower and upper grades, please enter through Stockholm. As the younger grades are dismissed first, please wait there, and your child in the upper grades will be sent to you.

#### Arrivals for Pre-K and 3-K Families

Dear Families,

We kindly remind you of the importance of arriving on time each morning. Arrival doors at Exit 6 in the schoolyard will open at 8:08 AM. Teachers will come out to the schoolyard and escort children up. Ms. Elizabeth will now remain at the door to assist with arrivals until 8:20 AM.

After 8:20 AM, any students arriving must use the front entrance. Parents will need to bring their child to the main office and sign them in as late.

Being late not only disrupts your child's day but also impacts the entire class as they settle into their morning routine. Starting the day on time helps your child transition smoothly, stay focused, and fully engage in learning.

Thank you for your cooperation in ensuring our mornings run smoothly and effectively.

### Kinder and 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

EARLY DROP-OFF

7:50 - 8:00 AM

CLOSE DOOR 8:00 AM

RE-OPEN

REGULAR ARRIVAL

8:07 – 8:14 AM

AFTER 8:14 AM – LATE

ENTER THROUGH LOBBY

### Grades 2-5

EARLY DROP-OFF

7:50 - 8:00 AM

CLOSE DOOR 8:00 AM

RE-OPEN

REGULAR ARRIVAL

8:07 – 8:14 AM

AFTER 8:14 AM – LATE

ENTER THROUGH LOBBY



# 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*

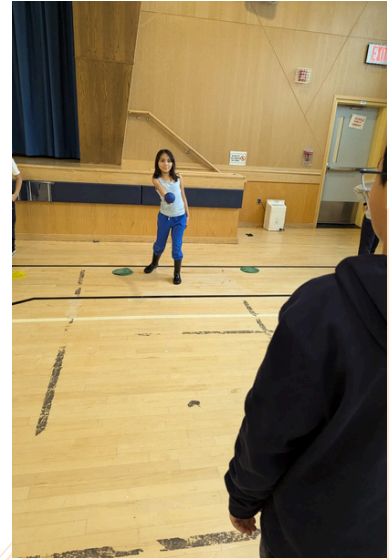
In the Art, Theater, and Physical Education departments, we are thankful for the creativity, energy, and enthusiasm your children bring to our programs. Their passion and commitment inspire us every day, and it is a joy to witness their growth and development in these areas.

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

MS. KRISTEN & MR. RONNY

## K-5

We are excited to share our Throwing and Catching Unit in our Physical Education classes. This unit aims to develop essential motor skills that are foundational for various sports and physical activities. Students have learned the correct stance and grip for throwing different types of balls. We practiced catching with both hands and using different balls to improve dexterity. We incorporated fun games that emphasized teamwork and collaboration, such as relay races and modified team sports.



# ART

MS. KNIGHTLEY

## K-2

In November, our K-2 art classes explored fall-themed projects inspired by the beauty of the season. Kindergarteners read *Leaf Man* by Lois Ehlert and used real leaves to create imaginative collages of people, animals, and other creative scenes. First graders painted vibrant fall tree landscapes, experimenting with different shapes and colors for their treetops. They learned about the horizon line and used it to draw their backgrounds with clouds, then carefully cut out their painted trees and assembled them into layered scenes. Second graders studied the concept of symmetry by drawing and coloring symmetrical fall leaves. They practiced sketching different leaf shapes before creating their final artwork, selecting their own fall-inspired colors to bring their designs to life.



## 3-5

This November, our 3rd-5th grade art classes focused on fall-themed projects and artistic techniques. Third graders learned about Vincent van Gogh and his famous painting *The Starry Night* as inspiration for their pumpkin artwork. They practiced shading and blending techniques to bring their pumpkins to life, set against a swirling night sky background. Fourth graders explored color mixing and composition by creating painted leaf collages. Using tempera paint, they mixed custom shades for their leaves, cut them out, and arranged them in overlapping, natural compositions. Fifth graders experimented with a watercolor resist technique for their fall leaf project. After practicing leaf drawings, they traced their designs with beeswax crayons, added intricate patterns, and painted over them with watercolors to reveal vibrant, textured designs.

# THEATER

MR. SPECTOR

## K-1

In Kindergarten and 1st Grade, we've been diving into the exciting world of characters! Characters are the people, animals, or creatures that bring stories to life—you can't have a story without them.

To explore characters, we've been playing a variety of fun, character-based theater games like Character Surprise, Pass the Face, Character Walk, and Interactive Storytelling. Through these activities, we're learning how to become amazing actors by using our face, body, and voice to pretend and bring characters to life.

We've also been discovering how much better our acting becomes when we use all three parts of our acting tools—face, body, and voice—when compared to just one or two. Our young actors are doing a fantastic job transforming into incredible characters!



Kindergartners pretending to be snakes slithering through the dark forest.

## 2-5

In Grades 2-5, we've been focusing on using rubrics to peer-assess, evaluate, and improve our acting skills.

In Grade 2, we use a simple rubric with thumbs up, thumbs sideways, or thumbs down to score how well a performance includes a beginning, middle, and end, as well as how effectively students use their face, body, and voice. In small groups, one student is the storyteller, one as the actor, and one as the judge who uses the rubric to give feedback.

In Grades 3-5, we've introduced number-based rubrics to evaluate more advanced acting skills. These include physicality (expressive body movements), stage directions (moving on stage in a way that fits the scene), and script memorization using techniques like chunking (learning the script piece by piece) and rereading (practicing the lines repeatedly). In small groups, two students perform as actors while one takes on the role of director, using the rubric to provide feedback.

After rehearsing in small groups, students perform for the entire class. The audience then uses the rubric to score the performance and provide constructive feedback. This process helps us refine our skills and become confident, thoughtful performers!



A Second grade storyteller and actor telling a story with a beginning, middle and end to be scored by the class.