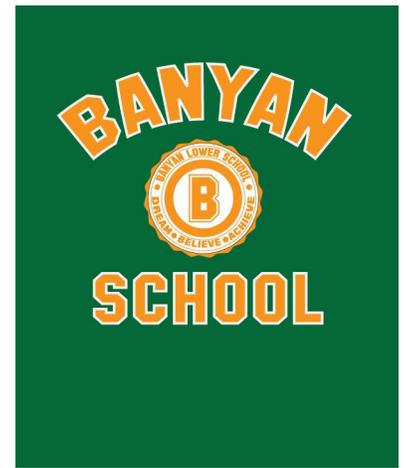


Banyan School

12 Hollywood Avenue – Fairfield, NJ 07004

banyanschool.com



Upcoming Events

Event:	For:	Date:	Time:
Early Dismissal	All	January 18	12:30
No School	All	January 21	All Day
PTO Dance	All	February 8	6:30-9:00 PM

MR. HAIN'S CLASS NEWS

Mr. Hain's third and fourth period *FIRST* class has completed step 11 of the Wilson Reading System and is currently in step 12 (the final step) of the Wilson Reading System. The students are currently working on specific suffix rules in addition to understanding and identifying the silent letters in specific words. The students continue to work hard every day and I am looking forward to continuing working with this *FIRST* class throughout the school year.

MS. MITOFSKY'S CLASS NEWS

In my period 1 reading class, we have started a new chapter book, "Super Fast, Out of Control". In my period 5 reading class, we also began another chapter book, "Hatchet". We are thinking outside the box and making excellent predictions. In periods 7 and 8 we are beginning to learn about idioms. In math class, we are continuing fractions. We have gotten very comfortable identifying $1/2$, $1/3$, and $1/4$. We are able to cut pictures in half, thirds, and fourths. Fridays we are continuing working with money. We are identifying coins and their specific values. Stay tuned for some fun activities planned for Saturday school next month on February 2!

Banyan Bulldogs Basketball Schedule:

Jan 17 Home Windsor

Jan 24 Away at Windsor

Jan 31 Home Center School

Feb 7 Away at Chapel Hill

Feb 13 Away at Deron

Feb 21 Home Center School

Feb 27 Home Deron

All games to begin at 10:00



MRS. SANSONE'S CLASS NEWS

Reminder: All Banyan Elementary School students are participating in Learning Ally's Great Reading Games! Learning Ally is a great resource for students to listen to audiobooks that may be difficult for them to decode on their own. Students may listen to books at home or even on the ride to/from school! Each week, any students participating will be entered into a raffle to win a small prize. The contest will continue until February 23rd. At the end of the contest, the top two reading classes with the most points will earn a pizza party! If you need your child's username and password, please email you child's reading teacher.

MRS. MICHEL'S SCIENCE NEWS

On Monday, January 21, about 9:30pm there will be a lunar eclipse. To prepare for this students watched a Brainpop video. They made a model of a lunar and solar eclipse. Science students took home an article to read about the lunar eclipse. The students had fun while learning interesting facts about the upcoming lunar eclipse.

MS. MEGNA'S CLASS NEWS

We can't believe that January is already almost halfway over. We are really moving along with the year. In my F.I.R.S.T. classes we are just starting Book 2! Congratulations to Alex, Aiden, Matthew, Sam and Ethan! In Book 2 of the Wilson Program we will be covering blends, base words, suffixes, digraph blends, and much more. My 1st period Reading class is finishing up the Moon Dog Series Books, we have about 3 books left and can't wait to see what happens with our characters. In my 4th period Reading class we just started reading the Horrible Harry Chapter Book series. Everyone seems to be enjoying it. I hope to continue reading chapter books and to keep pushing them to read more challenging books in the future. In our 5th period Reading class we have just finished the Magic Belt Series, and were so excited to find out that Zak and Finn have made it home safe and sound. We will be starting a new series called the Sound Out series which is written in chapter format and gives students massive opportunities to practice decoding skills. They will also be practicing fluency, comprehension, vocabulary, and writing in this book series. We are so excited to show off our reading skills and get into some new subjects as well as other concepts we have been learning.

MRS. PERKIN'S CLASS NEWS

During the month of January, my classes have embarked on an inspiring reading adventure. During my Second and Third Period, we have moved into Step 2 of the Wilson Reading System. As a part of substep 2.1, we have been working on reading and spelling words with glued -ng and -nk words. We have also started to independently scoop words into phrases. In Period 4, we are working on ways good readers use their superpowers to decode (soundout) unknown words. For example, students break words into base-words and suffixes, use context clues and look for words within words. We have also been working on retelling a chapter we have read using details from the text. During 7th and 8th Period, we are reviewing and addressing new concepts in Step 2.4 of the Wilson Reading System. Students are working on reading closed syllable words with blends at the beginning and the end of a word. We are also starting to explore word elements. Word elements help us understand word structure and help with decoding and spelling words

MR. MCCARTER'S CLASS NEWS

It's a new year and it's great to be back. Everyone has returned rested and ready to learn. Since January and February are the two coldest months of the year, my 1st, 4th, and 5th period **Writing Classes** are continuing our winter writing themes by composing two different descriptive paragraphs. Students have been asked to use their five senses to describe "On a Snowy Day" and in the second paragraph to describe the setting of a "Winter Wonderland". All of the students have impressed me with their growth over this year and I look forward to even more improvement as we head into the second part of the school year. Finally, in our attempt to foster a cross curricular approach in all our classes, I will be incorporating the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday and Black History Month throughout my classes.

To honor the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, my students will be researching five facts about Dr. King and why he played such a big role in shaping America. We will also analyze MLK Jr.'s famous "I Have a Dream" speech. After listening to his words, how can our students not be inspired when asked to create their own "I Have a Dream" speech?

My **First Class**, 2nd and 3rd period continues to work hard on tapping and scooping skills to build fluency when reading. The class enjoys sounding out our nonsense words which are always fun to read. We also continue to practice our new sight and vocabulary words.

The 7th period **Math Class** students will continue reviewing all their mastered math concepts while we move forward with learning place values up to 100, graphing, and working on our measurement skills. Our cross curricular portion will be working more with word problems to not only strengthen our math skills but also our reading and comprehension skills.

In my 8th period **Reading Class** we will be reading non fictional and biographical text to highlight our cross curricular approaches to the MLK holiday and the upcoming Black History Month curriculum over the next two months. Finally, 8th period reading class is starting their new book "How to Eat Fried Worms" a very engaging book about Billy and his friend Alan who dares Billy to eat 15 worms. I am sure our students will enjoy this humorous story. To everyone, keep up the hard work!



NURSE'S NOTES

Please have your children dress appropriately for the cold weather. As long as the temperature is 35 degrees, the children will go outdoors for recess. The fresh air will be good for them.

GIRLS GROUP FUN!!

These Banyan Girls are ALWAYS up for a GOOD TIME!!!

We had an idea for SPECIAL GUESTS!!! Some of the girls mentioned family members who may be interested in coming to Girls Group as a Special Guest to share about experiences with work, hobbies, etc. This can be a parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle... the options are endless!!!

Talk it over with your daughter and let us know!!!

Ms. Gross

Student Council Souper Bowl!

From now until February 1 the student council will be running a fundraiser. They will be collecting donated canned goods to place in two large boxes. Each box will be decorated by the students and will contain the logo of the two teams competing in the upcoming Super Bowl! The canned goods will be donated to people in need. Please feel free to donate from now until the weekend of the Super Bowl!

Thank you!

Sincerely,

The Banyan School Student Council