

Banyan School

12 Hollywood Avenue – Fairfield, NJ 07004

banyanschool.com



Upcoming Events

Event:	For:	Date:	Time:
Decades Day - Wear your favorite decade clothing	All	January 31	All Day
Chinese New Year	All	February 5	Lunch
PTO Dance	All	February 8	6:30-9:00 PM



NOTES FROM MRS. MCNEILL

Banyan School welcomes our new Music Teacher!

On February 4th, we will welcome a new teacher to our midst! Ms. Filomena Mastrolia will join us as a teacher of Music! Ms. Mastrolia comes to us with experience in both private and public school settings, and is very excited to begin her work with us. Please join us in welcoming her to the Banyan family.

Additionally, we are planning for a performance once again this year at Bergen PAC, which will be collaboratively planned by our Artist in Residence, Mr. Anthony and Ms. Mastrolia. Please watch for more information regarding Voices in Harmony, which affords our students the exciting opportunity of performing on the stage of the Bergen PAC!

As February approaches, please note that our High School students are planning a **Banyan Baskets** sale once again. **Banyan Baskets** are our own High School business enterprise, in which our students have the experience of "running the business!" They handle the taking of orders, assembly of gift baskets, and distribution of their "products!" Please support our High School students in their exciting business venture! A flyer is attached.

Banyan Bulldogs Basketball Schedule:

Jan 31 Home Center School

Feb 7 Away at Chapel Hill

Feb 13 Away at Deron

Feb 27 Home Deron

March 7 Home Center School

All games to begin at 10:00



MR. HOFMANN'S CLASS NEWS

In health class, the students watched a video about Jesse Owens winning four gold medals at the 1936 Olympic Games held in Berlin. Despite his overwhelming success, Owens returned to much bigotry in the United States and helped set the stage for the emergence of Martin Luther King, Jr., who led peaceful marches and desired that everyone be treated equally.

MRS. WILSON'S MATH NEWS

We are into Week 3 of the MobyMax Challenge--**The Big Bang New Year Kickoff**. Week 1 - Luciana was the lucky winner and Week 2- David Dapcic was the lucky winner. Who will it be for Week 3? Everybody is a winner in my book because of your great math effort and practice.

Let's not forget about IXL. Our completed problems number is up to 28,284 with 116 hours of practice and 585 skills mastered! Since this is the halfway point in the year, can we double the completed problems number by the end of the year? I bet we can!

My math groups have been working on measuring capacity. Next week we will work on a fun project that will help the students learn the relationships between cups, pints, quarts, and gallons! Get ready for the "parade" of Gallon People throughout my room.

MRS. SANSONE'S SCHOOL 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 your child's reading teacher.

Learning Ally Reading Challenge Top 10 Readers of the Week:

- 1- Sacha
- 2- Alex A.
- 3- Matthew
- 4- Kevin
- 5- Dean
- 6- Emma S.
- 7- Andy
- 8- Luciana
- 9- Amanda
- 10- Kiera

MRS. SANSONE'S CLASS NEWS

My periods 4/5 FIRST class has started decoding and encoding nonsense words. These types of words follow phonetic rules and help students apply sounds to unknown words. My periods 7/8 FIRST class are practicing reading and spelling words containing five sounds. We are also beginning to add suffix -s or -es to these words. Both classes continue to work on scooping sentences into phrases to improve fluency. Visualization is practiced by the students making a picture in their minds when reading silently, then replaying & rehearsing the story prior to retelling it. Keep up the great work!

PUBERTY CLASSES

Our puberty classes will be beginning on Fridays in March! This will be available for our 6th, 7th and 8th grade students.

On **February 8th**, Melissa Keyes DiGioia of Finding your Individuality will be presenting an overview for parents on her program. The presentation will begin at **2:00**.

This is a great opportunity to ask her any questions about explaining puberty to our students! She will be going over how to explain anatomy, personal hygiene and dating to our students. If you would like to attend, please RSVP with me by February 5th.

Dr. Rick

MRS. ONSDORFF'S SCHOOL STORE NEWS

Our school store "The Dog Bone Shop" is open on Fridays during the lunch period. This year the store is under the management of our very dedicated managers, Eric and Erin. The store provides many educational and social goals for all of our students. It allows students to practice their math skills while identifying bills and coins, adding up the cost of items, and using subtraction in order to figure out the change that each customer must receive. It is not only academics that are being emphasized. It allows both the workers and the customers to display politeness, cooperation, and problem solving. Over the years, I have seen many of the workers develop confidence and communication skills while dealing with coworkers and customers. Other skills that they are acquiring while working at the store are the ability to organize, keep track of inventory, and make cooperative decisions. Any student in the school is welcome to work at the store. Over the past few years, Mrs. Schapiro has been our main shopper for the merchandise that we sell. We are also grateful to the other parents who have donated items to our inventory. We carry a wide variety of merchandise, and this year Mr. Boysen will once again take photos of our basketball teams and cheerleaders that will be for sale. He will also take pictures of activities taking place during Girls Group and Guys Group. Dr. Rick and Ms. Dekker have made calming jars with their students that are for sale at the store. The proceeds from these jars will be given as donations to their chosen cause. We also have the assistance of Mrs. Schenfeld who helps the students at the register.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR STORE! Encourage your children to shop on Fridays. Our items range in price from \$.25 to \$5.00. We are also grateful for any donations of merchandise that you would like to make to our store.

MRS. PRICE'S CLASS NEWS

We started the 3rd Marking Period this week, which means that I said goodbye to my old Social Studies students and welcomed my new ones. We had a great first semester. I am so proud of all of my previous students for participating and learning about history over the first half of the school year. We discussed all of the units that we covered; Community, Community Workers, Needs vs. Wants, Johnny Appleseed, Native Americans and Pilgrims, Lenni Lenape, Landforms, Bodies of Water, American Revolutionary War, and Maps. A majority of the students enjoyed learning about the Native Americans and Pilgrims and Maps. Their favorite activity was building the longhouses which were displayed in the library for over a month. They also did a great job on TypeToLearn which has shown their ability to type not just in Social Studies but also in their Writing class. I am excited to get to know all of my new Social Studies students and look forward to the second half of the school year with you.

MRS. MARTIN'S CLASS NEWS

My period 2 and 3 FIRST class just started Step 3! The girls are very excited to move onto the next step and will start working with multisyllabic words. They will be learning to read and write two syllable words with two closed syllables. Also, we are working on silent reading and retelling the story they have read. Keep practicing reading and retelling at home.

MS. DREHER'S CLASS NEWS

My Reading class has been reading the story Wonder by R.J Palacio. This story is about a young boy Auggie who was born with a rare disease that causes deformities to his face. The book goes into detail on how Auggie has grown up and dealt with the struggles of being "different" his whole life. The story is written in 8 parts, each part is dictated by a different character. My class has just started Part 4 of the story, that is dictated by Jack, one of the student's that goes to school with Auggie. We have been practicing writing summaries and finding the main idea of a chapter. My students have also been working on finding supporting details to discover the main idea. We have had oral discussions with comprehension questions, as well as reviewed vocabulary within the chapters. My students have done such an outstanding job this year, and I cannot wait to continue reading and working with them!



This year Banyan School will be celebrating Chinese New Year on February 5, 2019.

Banyan School provides lunch for all its students. Lunch will consist of Egg Rolls, Chicken and Broccoli, Lo Mein, Plain Fried Rice, and White Rice.

We normally check to see if anything is made with peanut oil. All food is prepared at Panda House in Fairfield. Phone #973-808-8882

If your child does not wish to participate in the lunch, they may bring their own.