

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
Valentines Dance	All	February 8	6:30 – 9:00 PM

MRS. MARTIN'S CLASS NEWS

This week in period 2 FIRST class we started substep 2.5. They are working on 3 letter blends up to six sounds in a closed syllable. Also, they are scooping their sentences to practice reading fluently.

My period 1 reading class has been practicing reading and writing their sight words using the gel pads. Also, they are re-reading their chapters for comprehension and fluency. The class is enjoying the story and making predictions of what will happen at the end.

HOMEWORK!!!!

Dear Parents,

Please take a moment and give some thought to how homework is going for your son/daughter. As you know, we want homework to be a review of work and a positive experience, not new work that causes distress for you or your child.

If there is ever a question or concern, please reach out to your child's teacher to discuss how homework can be adjusted to meet the family's needs. We are here to work together!!

Mrs. DiGiaino



Banyan Bulldogs Basketball Schedule:

Jan 10 Home Chapel Hill
(9:45 start time)

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



SOCIAL SKILLS NEWS

The strategy of the month is **whole body listening**. We know one of the reasons we focus on our listening skills is to be able to figure out our social clues. Our social clues help us understand what someone is thinking about and what their plan is. We do not just listen with our ears, we have to look at the person to read their facial expressions, make sure our body is facing them, keep our mouth closed and hands calm so we do not distract ourselves, and use our heart to care about them.

We have been practicing this in our groups. We create a "talk show" format where we have one listener and one speaker. Another member of the group acts as the observer. The observer lists all of the parts of the body the listener used. This can be done at home as well as using the vocabulary ("let me see you listen with your whole body").

During basketball season some of our students may not be interested in playing sports. For those students, we have set up an alternate activity during basketball games. They will be working on our "Fidgets for Focus" project. We will be making homemade fidgets that we can use in the classroom. These fidgets will help us get to the "green zone" so we can be ready to learn!

This week we will be making calming jars. These fidgets will be available to purchase at the school store!

Also permission slips for the puberty classes will be coming out soon. Classes will begin in February on Fridays. The presenter from Finding Your Individuality will come in to do a parent introduction on the program and curriculum. Stay tuned for the dates!

MRS. WILSON'S MATH NEWS

Happy New Year to all the wonderful Banyan families!

The next MobyMax challenge begins on January 14th and will run for 3 weeks. Students will earn individual points and sweepstakes tickets. The tickets may be potential prize winners for a MobyMax t-shirt, baseball hat, or drawstring sports bag! Are you ready to have some math fun!

Speaking of math fun--Pi Day is just 63 days away!

MRS. SANSONE'S CLASS NEWS

All Banyan Elementary School students are participating in Learning Ally's Great Reading Games! Please see the attached notice for more information. 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.

CHEERLEADING INFORMATION

All cheerleaders should wear their uniform to school on Game Day!

Leggings, T-shirts, long sleeve shirts are permitted under the uniforms. Sneakers should be worn.

Please bring a change of clothes for after the game... (we don't want these fabulous uniforms getting stained during lunch)

Go Green – Go White – Go Bulldogs – FIGHT - FIGHT – FIGHT!

Ms. Gross

MRS. KOWALSKI'S CLASS NEWS

Happy New Year! In Math, the students are working very diligently on identifying numbers and working with them to solve addition and subtraction problems. We have been working on daily life skills with time and money. Fast fact addition and subtraction drills are being incorporated on a weekly basis. Some of the students are completing double-digit by single-digit addition problems with carrying. We are also practicing double-digit minus single-digit subtraction problems without carrying.

One helper (per day) is the leader of calendar so they are responsible for pointing and reading the calendar. We then add a straw to keep track of how many days we have been in school. Today marks the seventy-sixth day of school. We also have been using IXL and MobyMax to incorporate their independent skills with the use of technology in the classroom. All of my math students have been doing a good job!

Thank you!

All of my students have been involved in listening to stories and learning about the background of Martin Luther King Jr. and that period of history in the United States. This was a part of our reflection about our own individual interactions with others. As part of our visualizing and verbalizing about the stories and the idea of fairness, the students watched videos, had conversations, and created little skits in some of the classes in which different students wearing pink tags were discriminated against while reenacting some of the story events, and also in creating every day scenarios which occur in their own lives. The students learned that the definition of fairness relating to both the past and present was that fairness is giving others what they need to participate equally in all activities of life, feel comfortable in their interactions with others, and to be successful in all that they do. Fairness is treating others the way you would like to be treated. The culmination was a presentation by all of my students to the rest of the student body.

