

# Banyan School

12 Hollywood Avenue – Fairfield, NJ 07004

banyanschool.com



## *Upcoming Events*

Event:	For:	Date:	Time:
<b>Early Dismissal</b>	<b>Staff Development</b>	<b>March 15</b>	<b>12:30 PM</b>
<b>Spring Fling</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>March 28</b>	<b>5:30 PM</b>

## MRS. RALLO'S CLASS NEWS

Reading/T.M.C.- "Connect to the Text" This is an important concept we develop as we read novels/passages in class. Making connections is very important in building comprehension. When children make connections between texts and their own experiences, they gain a deeper understanding of the text. Students eventually need to learn to connect text-to-self, text-to-text, and text-to-world. Using this strategy at home will help students develop a better understanding of what they are reading.

## ACTIVITY CLUB NEWS

We are almost to spring! Which means our Basketball season is coming to an end. The activity club which meets during basketball games has been busy with hands on creations that we have been able to sell in our school store. During our next basketball game, the children who do not wish to participate will join us for a special activity which involves food! Pi day is March 14th and we will be having a celebration of pie and a fun math lesson. To help Mrs. Wilson, our group will be making a chocolate pie to have at the event!

This small group has been working so well together and we hope they enjoy this hands-on food prep for Pi day!

-Ms. Miranda

***Please note: Saturday School for March 2 was cancelled due to the snow. Anyone who signed up for Saturday School last week will be able to attend Saturday School this week, March 9. It will be the same program that was planned for last week.***

### **Remaining Basketball Schedule:**

**Thursday, March 7 Home**

**Wednesday, March 13 Home**

**Wednesday, March 20 at Deron 9:30 am**

**Friday, March 29 All School game 1:10 pm**



## NOTES FROM MRS. MCNEILL

Voices in Harmony:

On Sunday, March 24th at 2:00, 12 of our Banyan Elementary School students and 5 of our High School musicians will be performing on the BIG STAGE at the Bergen PAC. We welcome all families to attend this amazing program, which will feature musical performances by students from 16 area private schools. Admission is FREE, but TICKETS ARE REQUIRED to attend. If you would like tickets, please email your request to: [cwithers@banyanschool.com](mailto:cwithers@banyanschool.com), or call the main office. Tickets will be sent home with your child.

**Drop Everything And Read:** On Tuesday, your children had the opportunity to participate in having "DEAR time," otherwise known as "Drop Everything And Read." This was a very memorable event for us, especially for the adults who were able to 'observe' the activity. I happened to be conducting a tour during one of the DEAR times, and I have to say that it was very heartwarming and inspiring to see students and adults, sitting together silently over books, engaged in that very practice that we work so hard to achieve... READING! It reminded me that I don't take enough DEAR time for myself, and that there are few things as enjoyable as reading a great book. So, let's keep Read Across America going! I encourage you to continue to make time to read to, and read with your child regularly. You'll be creating warmth, nurturing, and memories for life. My adult children still reference their favorite childhood stories and time spent together reading. It's worth every minute of time that you spend, and I encourage you to let the schedules and pressure go, and engage in some great children's literature. I promise it will be time well spent!

**Fashion Show is Coming!** This event is one for the memory books as well. Have you signed up your child? Do you have any questions about how it works? We'd love to help you to understand the event, so if you have any questions, please call the main office or the development office. The Fashion Show is intended to be a family event, which focuses on our students, and developing their confidence and their poise. There will be a field trip to the Willowbrook Mall and other local stores for the models and all students on Monday, March 18. Please remain attentive for continuing notices and updates.

## MRS. SANSONE'S CLASS NEWS

My 4th/5th period class has been working hard reading and spelling consonant-vowel-consonant words with all short vowel sounds. These students will now be moving on to the next Wilson Reading System substep and learning about bonus letters. They will read and spell words that have an extra or "bonus" letter f, l, s, or z added on to a word as a spelling rule. Examples of these words include puff, fell, pass, and buzz.

My 7th/8th period class has been perfecting their reading and spelling skill with 2-letter consonant blends. Students have been practicing words with these blends at the beginning and ends of words such as blast, stamp, and trust. These students are progressing forward to the next Wilson Reading System substep and are learning about 3-letter consonant blends. Examples of these words include: strap, splash, scrap, and prompt. These students know it is important to use their finger tapping strategy to segment all of the sounds in these words. Keep up the great work!

### Learning Ally's Great Reading Games Final Results:

The top 10 students below received prizes last Friday during our author webinar event.

#### Top 10 Students:

- 1- Dean
- 2- Kevin
- 3- Matthew W.
- 4- Nicholas
- 5- Sacha

- 6- Alex A.
- 7- Keaton
- 8- Michael
- 9- David
- 10- Ariana

The top 3 reading classes have earned a pizza party, which will take place next Wednesday, March 13th.

**Total Points for Reading Classes:**

- #1 = Dreher Period 1 = 14,364
- #2 = Rallo Period 8 = 13,744
- # 3 = Martin Period 1 = 12,324
- Kowalski Period 1 = 11,574
- Cuellar Period 1 = 10,995
- Hain Period 2 = 10,524
- Megna Period 1 = 8763
- Megna Period 5 = 8495
- Perkins Period 4 = 5581
- Megna Period 4 = 3083
- Kowalski Period 4 = 2582
- McCarter Period 8 = 2344
- Rallo Period 1 = 1992
- Mitofsky Period 1 = 1532
- Mitofsky Period 5 = 321

Thank you all who participated! Please continue to have your child use Learning Ally at home.

**SPEECH SUITE NEWS**

Lots of exciting activities are happening down in the speech suite

Whether the students are working on their articulation, memory, recall or descriptive language they have all become star speech students.

Recently we have been doing "share and care" during Girls Group as well as Guys Group lunch. Ms. Gross has been helping the students practice before they share. We have had some great shares including:

- An invisible pen
- A Moana purse
- A story regarding Saturday School
- A Korean book
- And even ... SLIME!!!

Keep up the great work kids!! We love hearing your questions at the end of each share and care!

**MS. VANDENBREE'S CLASS NEWS**

Congratulations to my period 1 FIRST class! They completed Substep 1.1 and now are in Substep 1.2! They are excellent tappers! Also, congratulations to my period 3 FIRST class! They are working very hard in Substep 2.4, and are starting nonsense words this week! They are excellent markers! My period 7 FIRST class has completed Step 8 and are now in Step 9! Congratulations! My period 9 TMC class is enjoying the stories and pictures we visualize and verbalize each day. They know all their structure words and continue to apply them. Keep up the great work everyone!