



# Banyan School

12 Hollywood Avenue – Fairfield, NJ 07004  
banyanschool.com

## *Upcoming Events*

Event:	For:	Date:	Time:
<b>Back to School Night</b>	<b>All Parents</b>	<b>Sept. 25</b>	<b>7 – 9 pm</b>
<b>No School</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>Sept 30</b>	<b>All Day</b>

Welcome back from the counseling team!

We are very excited to welcome all of our students back for the new school year and especially our new faces! Here in room 10 (the counseling room), we run social skills groups and individual counseling. As a team, we strive to make sure all of our students have the support and skills needed to excel. We use many different modalities when working with our students and are very aware of their needs and strengths. In particular, we follow a curriculum called Social Thinking by Michelle Garcia Winner. This program teaches our students to understand their thoughts and feelings and how to foster healthy relationships with others. We do this through concrete language, activities, and perspective taking.

Each month, we will be introducing a new Social Thinking skill. We will continue to build upon these skills and keep parents informed monthly with what skill we are working on and strategies to use at home!

We are happy to be a part of your student's growth here at Banyan!

Ms. Miranda, School Social Worker



## **Saturday School**

**This Saturday, September 14**



## **MS. KEMPTON'S CLASS NEWS**

Attention all parents:

All Banyan students have access to a free reading website/app called Lexia. Please be on the lookout for your child's username and password. This information will be sent home from your child's FIRST or Vocabulary teacher. This program is a great resource to practice all reading skills, including comprehension. You can feel free to have your child use this program at home for extra practice. Please be sure your child completes the program independently. The program will adjust as needed, providing more support if your child needs extra practice, or it will move at a quicker pace if your child is showing mastery of a certain skill. Information about RAZ-Kids and Learning Ally will be sent home next week. Stay tuned!

## **MRS. RALLO'S CLASS NEWS**

It's great to see everyone back at school ready to begin a new year. I've enjoyed getting to know my new students and chatting with my "old" friends

I began DRA testing this week with my reading students. Writing students will write a story independently which will be their baseline writing sample for 2019-20. My vocabulary students have begun learning about synonyms and are completing a project on characteristic traits.

Homework expectations, class work, and routines will be discussed at Back to School Night. I look forward to meeting you and answering your questions. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me

It will be a fun and productive school year I am sure!

## **MS. VANDENBREE'S CLASS NEWS**

Welcome back! The students are adjusting well and getting to know their teachers and schedules. This year I teach Reading, FIRST (Focused Intensive Reading Strategies & Techniques), Writing, and TMC (Training Minds to Comprehend). I'm looking forward to working with everyone. Keep up the great work!

## **MR. CUELLAR'S CLASS NEWS**

I am excited for this new school year because I have all new students! Granted some are new to me and some are new to Banyan, but I am thrilled to work with each one of them. This year in TMC class, we will be moving through short stories, short chapters, and then novels using our Structure Words to help create "movies" in our minds. In Reading class, we are selecting "Just Right" books with the students, so that they can read independently at school and at home. Once we have selected a handful of "Just Right" books, we will be moving into Instructional Leveled books based on each student's instructional reading level. From there, we will focus on various reading skills throughout the school year.



## **SPEECH NEWS**

Ms. Gross and Mrs. Tuli have been very busy finalizing the speech and language schedules. Please check your child's binder for their speech notebook which we will use to communicate with you about all of the "happenings" in the speech suite!

Looking forward to a fantastic

Ms. Gross and Mrs. Tuli

## **GIRLS GROUP/GUYS GROUP NEWS**

We are happy to announce that Girls Group will continue this year on Tuesday during lunch time and Guys Group will now be scheduled for Wednesday lunch time. Not only will our social thinking strategies be practiced but also back by popular demand is our speech super star of the week! Each student will have an opportunity to bring in something from home to share with the group.

Looking forward to a great time in Girls Group and Guys Group!

Ms. Gross, Dr. Rick and Ms. Miranda



## **NEWS FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE**

Welcome Back!

I would appreciate receiving all health forms and emergency cards as soon as possible. It is crucial to have current health information on file.

Please do not send in candy for snack time. A nutritious snack and fresh water will help your child work more efficiently through the morning. Students can carry their own water bottle throughout the day. Please, no glass bottles. Due to safety reasons, we ask please do not send in metal knives with your child. It would be appreciated if fruits/vegetables were cut up and put in a container.

If your child has food allergies, please send in alternative snacks to be used when we celebrate birthdays for the children. These snacks will be stored in your child's homeroom.

Looking forward to seeing you at Back to School Night.

Thank you

Diane Boysen, RN