

Banyan School

12 Hollywood Avenue – Fairfield, NJ 07004
banyanschool.com



Upcoming Events

Event:	For:	Date:	Time:
Holiday Shop	All	December 12 & 13	All Day
Social Thinking Workshop	All	December 17	10:00 AM
Holiday Concert	All	December 17	1:00 PM
Early Dismissal	All	December 20	12:30 PM
No School	All	December 23 – January 1	

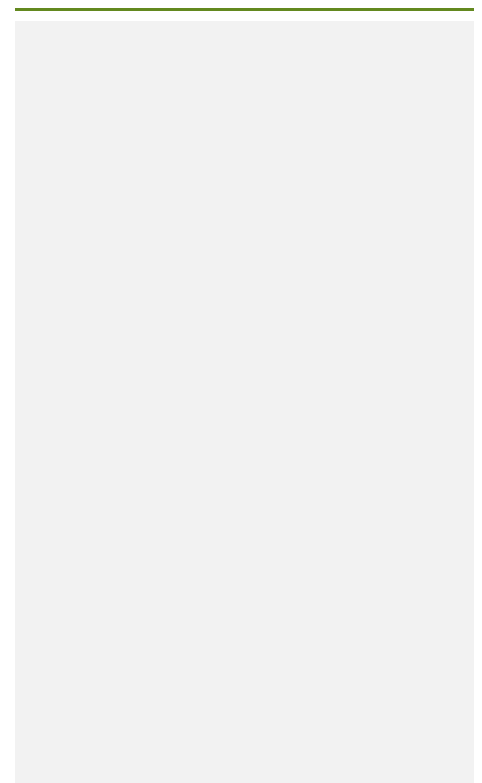
SOCIAL SKILLS NEWS

This month we are focusing on *thinking with your eyes*. We often teach eye contact as a socially expected behavior. But eye contact helps us with perspective taking. If we notice what someone is looking at, we can guess what they are thinking about.

It is important to reinforce this with our students who have a difficult time focusing. We use this strategy by prompting them with *What am I looking at? What am I thinking about?* This helps them to focus on the environment, read social cues, and infer meaning from those cues.

If a learner is not focusing on a person's expression or social cue, we may ask them to *think with their eyes* and point out the cue to them. We use this phrase because it tells the student what the function of our eyes are: to read social cues from the environment. Feel free to use these prompts and vocabulary at home.

Save the date for our parent workshop! December 17th, 10:00-11:30 at our high school. Right before the concert. RSVP with Dr. Rick at rmanista@banyanschool.com.



MRS. MARTIN'S CLASS NEWS

In Reading and TMC class we have been working on developing detailed images by looking at a picture and sentences that are orally read to them by the teacher. We have been practicing the structure words and using them in both classes. The structure words that have been introduced are: what, size, color, number, shape, where, movement, mood, background, when and sound. We will continue practicing in both classes to help improve comprehension. Practice using the structure words at home while reading stories.

MRS. WILSON'S MATH NEWS

MobyMax--Our MobyMax challenge is in full swing through December 15th. The students are really practicing very hard--good work everyone!

IXL Update-- Over 21,000 completed problems have been done by our Banyan students this year--WOW!

I would like to share a favorite poem of mine:

I HEARD A BIRD SING

I heard a bird sing
in the dark of December.
A magical thing
And sweet to remember.

'We are nearer to Spring
Than we were in December.
I heard a bird sing
In the dark of December.
--Oliver Herford



MRS. MICHEL'S SCIENCE NEWS

In science class, the students are learning about the planets of the solar system. They are creating a diorama that displays some fun facts and land features of Mars.

In other classes, the students are learning about the layers of the Earth. During hands on activity the students have created a model of the Earth using different color clay to represent the different layers of the Earth.

All the science students are observing the trout grow during class. During morning homeroom the students have the opportunity to feed and take care of all the animals and fish in the science room.

MR. CAMP'S NEWS

Two weeks ago, we held our annual Student Council Speeches and Election. All of the students did an amazing job reading their speeches in front of their peers. They should all feel very proud of themselves for successfully performing this very difficult task! Here are the results:

2nd Grade Representative - Kaylee
3rd Grade Representative - Bella W
4th Grade Representative - Keaton
5th Grade Representative - Vito
6th Grade Representative - Tristen
7th Grade Representative - Keith
President - Anthony
Vice President - Ethan
Speaker of the House - Joe L.
Secretary of State - Alex L.
Treasurer - Erin
Secretary - Adrianna C.
Co-Clubs Chair - Boone and Sam I.
Co-Activities Chair - Jeremiah and Siena
Co-Spirit Week Chair - Alex A. and Ryan
Co-Fundraising Chair - Samantha and Sacha
Co-Community Chair - Manny and Aidan Z.

Congratulations!

MRS. PRICE'S CLASS NEWS

In Math, we have been working on number identification, computation, telling time, and identifying our coins. In Reading, we have been working on identifying the characters, setting, and main idea in stories that we read and rhyming picture and orally spoken words. In Writing, we have been working on our letter formation as well as writing our persuasive letters. In FIRST, we have been working on our letter, keyword, and sounds. My students have been doing a wonderful job in reading and writing their letters, both consonants and vowels. In TMC, my students have been doing a wonderful job describing in as much detail as possible the picture in front of them. They have also been applying the structure words and skills they have learned to create a movie in their mind as they listen to a story. I am so proud of all of my busy bees and the hard work that they do every day in my classroom! Keep up the great work! Wishing you and your families a joyful holiday season and a Happy New Year!

MS. ZATUROSKA'S CLASS NEWS

Periods 1 & 5: In this Unit, we are learning about Ancient Rome! We talked about why Julius Caesar was an important ruler in Ancient Rome. We also talked about things we still use today from the Ancient Romans (Roman Numerals, The English Alphabet is based on the Latin Alphabet, Romans were the first to use concrete, etc). In addition, we talked about Ancient Roman Activities (Chariot Races at the famous

Colosseum). We also compared the Ancient Roman Gods to the Ancient Greek Gods! This week, we're completing a "Roman Rulers" cut and paste activity.

Periods 4 & 9: In this Unit, we are learning about the Civil War. We started discussing about the major battles during the Civil War: Fort Sumter, First Battle of Bull Run, and the Battle of Gettysburg. We also talked about the Emancipation Proclamation and Abraham Lincoln's famous Gettysburg Address! We're completing a cut and paste activity where students had to choose one of the battles and answer "who, what, where, when, and result" questions about their battle.

Period 8: In this Unit, we completed our landforms cut and paste activity, and now we began talking about bodies of water! The bodies of water we will be discussing are: ocean, lake, river, and pond. The students will play various games and a cut and paste activity to identify the four bodies of water.

F.I.R.S.T Period 2 & 3: In this step, we are working very diligently on the letters and sounds of the alphabet. We have been working on saying the alphabet and correlating the sounds that belong to each letter (Example s says /s/). We've also been building words with all the digraphs, bonus letters, welded sounds, and now we are working on words with the suffix s.

