

Banyan School

12 Hollywood Avenue – Fairfield, NJ 07004

banyanschool.com

Upcoming Events

Event:	For:	Date:	Time:
Early Dismissal	All	December 20	12:30
No School	All	December 20 – January 1	

MRS. ONSDORFF'S CLASS NEWS

My TMC classes have been working on figures of speech. Presently, we are practicing idioms. An idiom is a type of figurative language that is a phrase that people say that is commonly accepted as having a different meaning that the individual words may lead you to believe. For example, stating that "it's raining cats and dogs" does not mean that there are literally cats and dogs falling from the sky. Instead, it means that it is raining heavily. We have been using idiom cards that have amusing pictures on them which help the students remember the idioms. One card has the idiom on it, and the other has the explanation on it. We have been using these cards to play memory. We also use them to make choices when playing a tic-tac-toe game or a board game. Before placing an X or O or before taking their turn to move along the board, I set up scenarios such as "I looked out the window and realized that I had to go back to get my raincoat and umbrella." (*It is raining cats and dogs*). or "I practiced ice skating for many weeks, but I just kept falling down, I even took ice skating lessons. I was getting very discouraged." (*Don't throw in the towel*). The student either selects the correct idiom from the choices or comes up with the correct idiom from memory depending on individual needs and abilities. Students also enjoy acting out the idioms which helps them understand the meaning of the idioms.



Save the Date!



February 7 2020 Annual
Valentine's Day Dance

6:30 – 9:30 PM

Happy Holidays from The
Banyan Staff!



MS. MEGNA'S CLASS NEWS

Christmas Break has really snuck up on us. It's a crazy time of year and I can't wait to see where we go from here. In my 1st period reading class we are reading the Geodes Series 2, we are currently finishing the winter books which include winters, Arctic caterpillars, the evergreen tale, and daytime darkness. We will also begin reading the summer series which includes road trip, bathers, nature's thermometer, and summer snow. They are enjoying reading about how winters are different all over the world, also watching videos on where it's warm in the winter and different things they can do in the winter. We have been reading, reading, reading, showing our skills and really making an effort to show fluency. In my 2nd and 3rd periods and also my 7th and 8th period Wilson or FIRST classes we are trying to finish Step 3 which will include prefixes, suffixes -ing and -ed, multisyllabic words, compound words, the blend -ct, base words, schwa, and so much more. In my 4th period reading class we are continuing to read the Geodes series and are going into the curious creatures books which include rabbit or hare?, draw a rabbit, the hares and the frogs, and young hare. We are excited to learn about rabbits and hares, where they live, how they survive, and what things make them different. In my 5th period Writing class we are working on descriptive writing, each student is writing about a classmate and then we will type them up and try to have other students guess who they think they have described. We have been working so hard and I can't wait to see where the year takes us and how much these kids learn and grow.

MRS. PERKIN'S CLASS NEWS

As 2019 comes to a close, I would like to reflect on the accomplishments of my students. My 2nd and 3rd period class has moved from substep 5.4 to substep 7.3. We have started to read nonfiction biographical articles about different basketball players. As part of reading non fiction articles, we have started to take picture notes and engage in close reading activities. We have moved from the foundational phase of reading comprehension to the initial phase. My 4th and 5th period co-teaching class just completed step one of the Wilson Reading System. During step one of the program, we have learned how to read CVC words, words with digraphs, glued letters, bonus letters and the suffix -s and -es. The students have made improvements in their decoding (reading words) and encoding (spelling) skills. We will begin Step 2 after the winter break. My 7th and 8th period classes have moved onto substep 3.4 of the Wilson Reading System. The students are working on reading and spelling multisyllabic words with closed syllables. They are also working on their visualization skills while reading sentences and short passages. We have also started to read noncontrolled texts which require the students to be more flexible in their decoding skills. They have been making great gains in their self confidence and self monitoring skills.

MRS. MARTIN AND MR. CAMP'S CLASS NEWS

In Mrs. Martin and Mr. Camp's Social Studies class, the students have started a unit on map skills. They are learning about the compass rose and the cardinal directions (North, East, South, West). They will be introduced to different types of maps and the uses of each map.

In First class, Johnathan and Cameron have been working in Step 3.4. They are learning to decode and encode three and four syllable words. Keep up the great work!

I hope everyone has a nice holiday and enjoys the break. See you next year!

CHEERLEADING

Congratulations to our 2020 cheerleading squad.

All of the girls should have brought their uniforms home with them. Please keep them at home so that they can wear them for our first game!

Practice will start Wednesday, December 18, 2019.

- For our boy cheerleaders – your cool new uniforms are on the way!!!

GO BANYAN!!!

SPEECH THERAPY FUN!

Ms. Gross has been working with some of her groups on the strategy of “thining with your eyes”. We have been looking through magazines and talking about the people in the pictures: who they are, where they may be what they might be saying what zone are they in?

This activity can be used to target many speech goals labelling and describing objects inferencing generating sentences/questions even articulation practice – the list goes on...

Over the break why not peruse some magazines with your child. Cut out a picture and write down some descriptions and even try to and determine what zone the people are IN and why? Hand it in to Ms. Gross for a Banyan Buck!

Also..if you have any old magazines, please send them to the Speech Suite!

Happy Holidays!

MS. MITOFSKY’S CLASS NEWS

Wow I can’t believe we’re at Winter Break!!! In my reading class we have finished Sign of the Beaver and we were able to watch the movie. We found similarities and differences between the movie and book. We shared what we liked and what we didn’t like. We even formed opinions about what we thought was better, the book or the movie. Once we come back from the break, we will jump right into our next novel. We are still in the process of voting on the next book. In my FIRST class we are making progress as we move through Step 4. In my period 4 TMC class we have finished two of the I Survived books. Once we come back from the break, we will start a new book. We will continue to use our techniques of visualizing and verbalizing the text. In my period 5 Reading class, we have begun our newest novel The One and Only Ivan. This book is great and the students seem to be enjoying the first few chapters as we talk about the characters. In my period 7 TMC class, we have spent some time applying the structure words as we read short stories. We are working on picking out the main idea and are also spending some time discussing cause and effect with certain events. In my period 8 reading class, we are moving along in our book Afternoon on the Amazon. We are making great predictions and summarizing the chapters as we read. We are also learning about the rainforest and the different animals that live there. In my period 9 math class we are working with multiplication. We are learning our times tables facts and applying them to problem solving. Fridays are devoted to working on improving our skills with time and money. Our next Saturday school will be held on January 11. Permission slip will be going out in the next Banyan News. I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday and a Happy New Year!