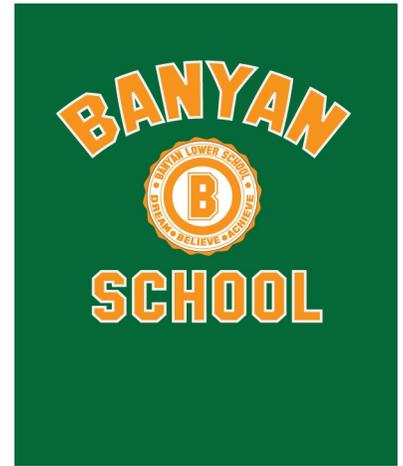


Banyan School

12 Hollywood Avenue – Fairfield, NJ 07004

banyanschool.com



Upcoming Events

Event:	For:	Date:	Time:
No School	Students	March 16	All Day
Early Dismissal	Students	March 20	12:30 PM

SOCIAL SKILLS

This month's Social Thinking strategy is mind and body in the group. With any given task, we have to focus on what needs to be done. To do this we have to remind ourselves what the task is and filter out any thoughts that are unrelated. This can be hard for our students with attention difficulties.

A strategy we use is creating a visual. On the board we would write "Group Plan" and everything we are going to cover that day. We then draw a "thinking bubble" around it with a stick figure of every person in the group. This represents that we are all thinking about this topic. If the student goes off topic, we can redirect them to this visual.

We also may take a "brain break" during a session. We know that we can have individual thoughts that would interrupt our focus. We have the students each state what their individual thought is, anything that is not related to our group plan. This allows them to notice and have awareness of their minds, and then push those thoughts to the back of their brain.

If we notice the student going off topic, we can prompt them with "is your brain in the group?". This allows them to refocus. At home, use these terms. You can also use the visual of the group plan to show what tasks need to get done.

Dr. Rick

Due to recent precautions, there will be no bowling this Friday and no Life Skills Trip to Target



MRS. MICHEL'S CLASS NEWS

In the month of March the science students are learning about famous women scientists like Sally Ride who was the first American women to go into space and Marie Curie who was the first women to win two Nobel Prizes in Physics and Chemistry.

In social studies class the students are learning about famous women who impacted history like Harriet Tubman who devoted her life to fighting slavery and Elizabeth Cady Stanton who was a proponent for women's rights.

SPEECH SUITE

Some great ideas coming into the Speech Suite!

In place of guys group next week, Wednesday, March 18, we will be hosting a BEY BLADE GUYS GROUP.

Sign up in Ms. Gross' room – the following students have already shown interest:

Captains: Tommy and Derek

Players: Tommy, Derek, Daniel C., Nick P., Roman, Manny, Brody, Richie

MRS. MARTIN'S CLASS NEWS

This week in writing class we finished writing our couplets and reviewed rhyming words. Also, we reviewed parts of speech and started working on adjectives. We will work on identifying adjectives in sentences and coming up with adjectives when given a picture. Once we have worked on adjectives we will start writing our descriptive paragraphs.

MS. ZATUROSKA'S CLASS NEWS

Periods 1, 4, 9: We finished learning about the Revolutionary War and completed our final hands on project of Washington Crossing the Delaware in Trenton, NJ! Since it's Women's History Month, we read a nonfiction text about Helen Keller and watched a video about her life. We talked about the problems Hellen Keller faced and how she overcame adversity.

Period 5 and 8: We completed our unit on the Lenni Lenape Indians.

MRS. WILSON'S MATH NEWS

Math groups have been learning about circles and all their interesting properties as part of their math work this week--all leading up to Pi Day on Saturday, March 14th. Look for a flyer in today's take-home folder that gives some interesting information on this mathematical day!!!

MRS. ONSDORFF'S CLASS NEWS

My TMC classes have been working on becoming aware of their Nurtured Heart relationship focus for the month of March – “Kindness.” Over the past several months, the TMC classes have been reading stories related to the unkind treatment of others throughout the 1950’s and the 1960’s in the United States. Watching videos of the treatment of others during this time period has really touched them and made them realize the importance of treating others with kindness. The students have decided to become more aware of their relationship with others through actions. As a group, they did some brainstorming to come up with ideas to show kindness to others in all aspects of their lives. Each time they share something nice that they did for someone else, the students put a shamrock up on our kindness board. Research shows that being kind increases happiness, and that kindness can lead to increase in peer acceptance.

The students have shared kind notes as a surprise to someone. They are also sharing sticky notes with encouraging compliments. “You’re awesome” “You can do this” “You’re a good friend.” They are becoming more and more aware of saying thank you to people they come across each day such as: the bus driver, the nurse, the secretary, and a friend. They keep track of people who smile at them through the day and report it the next day. The more kind acts that the students witness and become aware of, the more ideas they will have for kind acts of their own. Try to include your child in something that you do at home like bagging clothes to donate to others or assisting a neighbor with a chore. Every act, no matter how small, makes a difference. Help your child engage in kind acts every day.