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Principal's News

A letter from Dana

Dear Parents,

Happy December! It is a big month for our students at WCSS. Our Winter Arts Festival is just around the corner on **December 11th** and our students are so excited to show off their talent and art. Doors open at 5:00 and the first set of performances (Pre-K - 2nd grade) begin at 5:15. Our second set of performances (grades 3-5) will begin around 6:15PM. We are so excited for this night and we are looking forward to seeing ALL of our WCSS Families on this night!

Recess is a very important social and active time for our students. It is very important that our students wear sneakers every day. Additionally, please note that rough housing is **NOT** allowed during recess or during the school day. If this does occur, it gets brought to either my attention or Katie, our AP and gets handled immediately. Students who rough house can have consequences such as lunch detention or missing out on their enrichment clusters. We would love your cooperation with encouraging our children to keep their hands and feet to themselves at **ALL** times, which is part of our schoolwide rules and kindness initiative.

The Kindergarten application period for the 2018-19 school year will open soon - we are waiting for dates from the Department of Education. If your child was born in 2014, you can apply for our **zoned** Kindergarten program one of the following ways:

- Online at <https://prod.semsnycdoe.com/parentsite/>

Principal: Dana Gerendasi

Assistant Principal: Katie McGillicuddy

Parent Coordinator: Zoraida Quiles

- Over the phone by calling 718-935-2400
- In person at a NYC Department of Education Family Welcome Center

We will be offering parents four (4) open house dates to learn all about our school and our Kindergarten program. We will also visit our Kindergarten classrooms. Please choose a date that works best for you. All sessions begin at 8:45AM:

Wednesday, November 28th
Monday, December 3rd
Friday, December 14th
Monday, January 7th

2019 Testing Schedule

NYS ELA - Wednesday, April 2nd and Thursday, April 3rd

NYS Math - Wednesday, May 1st and Thursday, May 2nd.

WCSS REMINDER: If you need to pick your child up early from school, please either let your child's teacher know ahead of time or please call the school. If we know ahead of time, we can have your child ready for when you come. If you come without notifying early and your child is at lunch, you will have to wait until after our lunch period is over since this is also lunchtime for the teachers and their classrooms are locked. Additionally, our school aides are out with our kids so getting your child during recess/lunch is not the best time. If you notify us ahead of time, we can avoid your wait if your child is at recess/lunch. Thanks for your cooperation.

I want to take this time to wish ALL of our WCSS families a wonderful holiday season filled with peace, joy and love.

With warmest regards,

Dana

All WCSS lessons are Common Core Learning Standards (CCLS) aligned moving into Next Generation Learning Standards. For more information, please visit:

www.corestandards.org

<http://www.nysed.gov/next-generation-learning-standards>

<http://www.engageny.org>

Great site to prepare for the NYS CCLS ELA and Math Exams

<http://www.pta.org/commoncore>



“Education is
the most
powerful
weapon which
you can use to
change the
world.”

~Nelson
Mandela

Kindergarten News

Reading: Readers Use Super Powers!
Reading with Print Strategies and
Sight Word Power

Writing: Writing for Readers

Word Study: Letter and Sound Study

Go Math: Chapter 5 - Addition

Amplify Science: Forces

Social Studies: Cultures, Holidays, and
Celebrations

Ongoing Centers in phonics, word study,
reading, writing, math and science and

Trip: Puppetworks 12/6

**Kindergarten Holiday Show - 12/19 at
8:30AM**

First Grade News

Reading: Learning about the World
through Non Fiction

Writing: Non Fiction Chapter Books

Go Math: Subtraction Strategies

Amplify Science: Animals and Plants

Social Studies: Families and Communities
are Important

Trip: Kingsborough Community College -
The Nutcracker 12/11

Ongoing Centers in phonics, word study,
reading, writing, math and science and

Second Grade News

Reading: Studying Characters

Writing: Gripping Stories

Go Math: Multi Digit Subtraction

Amplify Science: Plant and Animal
Relationships

Social Studies: New York City Over
Time

Residency: Guggenheim Museum

Third Grade News

Reading: Reading to Learn: Grasping
Main Ideas and Text Structures

Writing: Information Writing

Go Math: Multiplication Facts
Understanding Division

Amplify Science: Balancing
Forces/Gravity

Social Studies: Cultures Around the
World

Residency: NYC Ballet - The Nutcracker
Project

Fourth Grade News

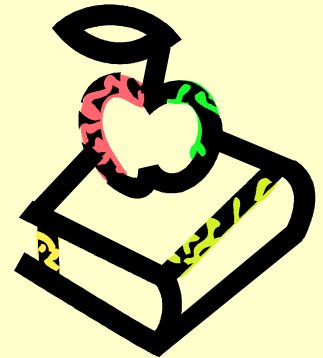
Reading: Historical Fiction

Writing: Literary Essay

Go Math: Fractions - Equivalent and Comparison

Amplify Science: Electricity and Magnetism

Social Studies: Exploring the various Native American Tribes that helped shape the state of New York. As we move forward, we will start to learn about lifestyle, culture, different nations and their contributions - **MOVING INTO** Colonialism



5th Grade News

Reading: Up the Ladder - Moving up Levels in Nonfiction and Tackling Text Complexity

Writing: The Lens of History: Westward Expansion

Go Math: Multiplication and Division of Decimals

Amplify Science: Ecosystem Restoration

Social Studies: Westward Expansion

Pre-K News

Reading: Good Readers use pictures to tell a story

Author of the month is Leo Lionni

- Swimmy
- Frederick
- Inch by Inch
- Alexander and the Wind Up Mouse

Writing: Good writers use shapes to draw pictures

Building Blocks Math: Number Recognition, Patterning, Recipes, and Shapes

Science: Watching our Amaryllis Grow, Weather, Seasons Changing, Freezing, and Melting

Social Studies: December Holidays, Cultures and Traditions, Families

Pre-K Enrichment Yoga Clusters every Friday

Continuous center time based on students learning needs.

Families: WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT! Please don't forget to collect Box Tops for our school and send it in with your child. Box Tops are an easy way for us to raise money for our school community. See the complete listing of products that have Box Tops on their packaging attached to this newsletter.



Don't forget to connect with us on BLOOMZ! If you need help with logging on, please email watersidesteam@gmail.com

The Leader in Me

Habit #3
PUT FIRST THINGS FIRST
work first, then play

- I do the things that I have to do before I do the things that I want to do.
- I stay focused on what I'm doing. I try to minimize distractions and regroup if I get off task.
- I spend my time on the things that are the most important.





PTA Corner

Greetings WCSS Families,

Thank you very much for all of your support! It was great to see so many of you at our last meeting. We hope it continues. Our next meeting is on **Friday, December 7th at 9:30AM.** Our next PTA event, will be our WCSS Winter Wonderland on **Friday, December 7th at 6:00PM.** The cost will be \$5.00 per person before 12/3. Anything after will be \$7.00 at the door - cash only please. Looking forward to seeing our families then.

The Worlds Famous Chocolate Bars are in. You must pre-pay for the chocolates in order to receive a box. The cost is \$60.00 a box. 5th grade families can sell the chocolates to lower their cost for graduation dues. For all other families, proceeds for the sale go towards future PTA events.

With warm regards,
WCSS PTA

Upcoming Events



- ◆ **12/3** Kindergarten Open House - 8:45AM
- ◆ **12/6**- Kindergarten Trip to Puppetworks
- ◆ **12/7** Family Friday - 8:30-9:20
- ◆ **12/7**- PTA Meeting - 9:30
- ◆ **12/7** WCSS Winter Wonderland (PTA Event) - 6:00PM
- ◆ **12/11** - 1st Grade Trip to Kingsborough Community College - The Nutcracker
- ◆ **12/11** SLT Meeting 2:30PM
- ◆ **12/11**- **WINTER ARTS FESTIVAL (doors open at 5:00) Showtime is 5:15PM Pre-K-2nd Grade 6:15 - 3rd-5th Grade**
- ◆ **12/14** Kindergarten Open House - 8:45AM
- ◆ **12/19** Kindergarten Winter Performance - 8:30AM
- ◆ **12/24 - 1/1/19 - WINTER RECESS - STUDENTS RETURN BACK TO SCHOOL ON MONDAY, 1/2/19**



P.S. 317

190 Beach 110th Street
Rockaway Park, NY 11694

(718) 634-1344

(718) 634-3884 (Fax)

Have questions or need more information?

Check us out on BLOOMZ



Email: watersidecss@gmail.com

We're also on the Web!
www.watersidecss.org



WCSS Grading Policy

- Classwork - 40%
 - Assessments/Quizzes/Tests - 40%
 - Class Participation - 15%
 - Projects - 5%
- 65% or below = Level 1 (significantly below grade level standards)
66% - 79% = Level 2 (below grade level standards)
80% - 89% = Level 3 (on grade level standards)
90% - 100% = Level 4 (above grade level standards)

