

Principal: Dana Gerendasi
Assistant Principal: Katie McGillicuddy
Parent Coordinator: Zoraida Quiles



Principal's News

A letter from Dana

Dear Parents,

Welcome to March! There is so much going on at WCSS this month so please make sure you check the calendar and your child's red homework folder.

Please note that our school doors open at 7:30AM. The school building is closed before that time. For your child's safety, please drop your students off by 7:30AM or after. Thank you to ALL of our families who have been so supportive in helping us tighten up our arrival and dismissal safety procedures!!

On Thursday, March 14th, we will be holding our Spring Parent/Teacher Conferences. On this day, you will receive your child's report card and be able to discuss with your child's teacher how he/she is progressing in school. **Dismissal on this day will be at 11:20AM** with two sessions you can choose from to meet with the teachers. Session 1: 12:30-2:30 and Session 2: 4:30 - 7:30. We hope that we will see ALL of our families on this day!!

The NYS ELA and Math exams are right around the corner for our students in grades 3, 4 and 5.

NYS ELA - April 2nd and 3rd

NYS Math - May 1st & 2nd

Our students have been working really hard on getting ready for the exams. We are proud of how our students try their best at all times. To support our families, there will be a grade 3-5 family testing workshop on Monday, March 11th at 9:00AM.

If your child is in one of our many after school enrichment activities, please make sure you pick your child up on time. If you are unsure of what time the program ends, please call Ms. Quiles for more information.

Afterschool Enrichment Programs are scheduled on the following days:

Tuesday's - Dance Team, 2:20-3:35

Tuesday's - Soccer 7:00AM - 8:00AM

Wednesday's - Soccer 2:20PM

Wednesday's - Art Club, Grade 1, 2:20 - 4:00

Thursday's - Art Club, Grade 2, 2:20 - 4:00

Thursday's - STEAM Club Grades 2-5 2:20 - 3:50

Thursday's - Band, 2:20 - 3:50

Friday's - Dance Company, 2:20 - 3:50

ESL/ENL After School

K-2 Wednesday's 2:20 - 3:30

3-5 Thursday's 2:20-3:30

WCSS works very hard to communicate with our families. Bloomz is our wonderful APP that we as a school use where parents and teachers can communicate on an ongoing basis. Besides Bloomz, please see below the other ways in which we communicate to our families:

- School Website - watersidccss.org
- Like us on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/Waterside-Childrens-Studio-School-348728655196144/>
- Curriculum Night - September
- Curriculum and Coffee with Dana - October
- Parent Teacher Conferences - November and March
- Student Led Conferences - January
- Monthly Progress Reports - Oct, Dec, Feb, April, and May
- Email
- Monthly Newsletter from Dana
- Monthly Calendar
- Phone Blasts
- Parent Workshops

With warmest regards,

Dana

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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.parenttoolkit.com/>

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

Kindergarten News

Reading: Growing Expertise in Little Books-Reading for Information

Writing: All About Books

Go Math: Subtraction

Amplify Science: Pushes and Pulls

Social Studies: Families Change Over Time

Trip: Wonderpark (Movie) 3/21

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



“Education is the key to unlock the golden door of freedom.”

~George Washington Carver

First Grade News

Reading: Readers Get to Know the Characters by Performing Their Books **and** Readers Have Big Jobs to Do: Fluency, Phonics, and Comprehension

Writing: Writing Reviews

Go Math: Comparing Numbers and 2-Digit addition and subtraction

Amplify Science: Animal and Plant Defenses

Social Studies: Families in Communities

Residencies: NYC Ballet- Ballet Tales

Trip: Trolls Experience 3/12

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

Second Grade News

Reading: Bigger Books Means Amping Up Reading Power **and** Reading Nonfiction Cover to Cover: Nonfiction Book Clubs

Writing: Poetry: Big Thoughts in Small Packages **and** Lab Reports and Science Books

Go Math: Measurement

Amplify Science: Properties of Materials

Social Studies: Urban, Suburban and Rural Communities

Residency: Guggenheim Museum Art Project

Trip: Queens College 3/21

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

Third Grade News

Reading: Test Sophistication

Writing: Test Sophistication

Go Math: Fractions **and** Measurement, Time, Length, Volume and Mass

Amplify Science: Inheritance and Traits

Social Studies: Case Study of China

NYS ELA - April 2nd and 3rd

NYS Math - May 1st and 2nd

Field Trip - Hall of Science 3/25

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

Fourth Grade News

Reading: Test Sophistication

Writing: Test Sophistication

Go Math: Topic 11 - Angles

Topic 12 - Relative Sizes of Measurement Units

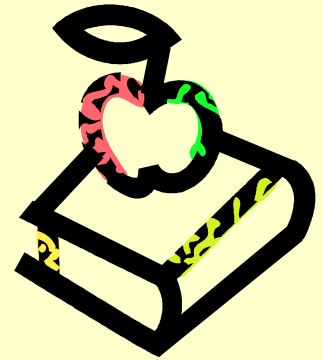
Amplify Science: Vision and Light

Social Studies: The Revolutionary War

NYS ELA - April 2nd and 3rd

NYS Math - May 1st and 2nd

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



5th Grade News

Reading: Test Sophistication

Writing: Test Sophistication and Literary Essay

Go Math: Multiplication and Division of Fractions and Test Sophistication

Amplify Science: Ecosystems

Social Studies: World War I

NYS ELA - April 2nd and 3rd

NYS Math - May 1st and 2nd



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

Pre-K News

Reading: How do good reader's act out the story?

Author of the month is Dr. Seuss

- Green Eggs and Ham
- Hop on Top
- Ten Apples Up on Top

Writing: How do writers use writing to express a feeling?

Building Blocks Math: Why is it important to know what is heavy and light? Measuring and 1:1 Correspondence.

Science: Water

Social Studies: Community

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.





PTA Corner

Greetings WCSS Families,

Happy March! Our next PTA meeting will be on **Tuesday, March 12th at 6:00PM.** Senior dues are due on March 15th for all 5th grade activities. If you have not started payments, please do so as soon as possible. If you have any questions about senior dues, please contact Ms. Quiles. Have a great month!

With warm regards,
WCSS PTA

Upcoming Events



- ◆ **3/1 - Family Friday - 8:35AM - 9:30AM**
- ◆ **3/4 - 3/12- WCSS BOOK FAIR**
- ◆ **3/4- Pre-K Open House - 8:45AM**
- ◆ **3/11 - Parent Workshop on the NYS Exams - for Families in Grades 3-5 - 9:00AM**
- ◆ **3/12 - 1st Grade Trip to Trolls Experience**
- ◆ **3/12- SLT Meeting - 2:30PM**
- ◆ **3/12 - PTA Meeting - 6:00PM**
- ◆ **3/14- Parent Teacher Conferences - Dismissal is at 11:20AM - Two Sessions: 12:30PM - 2:30PM or 4:30PM - 7:30PM**
- ◆ **3/20- 4th Grade Trip to Jamaica Wildlife Refuge**
- ◆ **3/21 - 2nd Grade Trip to Queens College**
- ◆ **3/21- Kindergarten Trip to Wonderpark (Movie)**
- ◆ **3/25- 3rd Grade Trip to Hall of Science**
- ◆ **3/27 - Last Day of Academic After School for Select Students**
- ◆ **4/2 - NYS ELA EXAM - DAY 1 (GRADES 3-5)**
- ◆ **4/3 - NYS ELA EXAM - DAY 2 (GRADES 3-5)**

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR - March 4th - March 12th

Waterside Children's Studio School

P.S. 317

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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)

