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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>

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

Principal's News

A Letter from Dana

Dear Parents,

It's state exam time! The dates for the exams are:

NYS ELA EXAM

Tuesday, April 2nd

Wednesday, April 3rd

NYS MATH EXAM

Wednesday, May 1st

Thursday, May 2nd

- Make sure our students get a good night's sleep - having adequate rest is beneficial for test performance and anxiety

- Fuel up - Eat a nutritious breakfast before the test and pack smart snacks for ongoing energy. Look for foods that offer a steady stream of nutrients, rather than a sugar high followed by a crash. Our breakfast is from 7:30-7:55.

- Please make sure your child comes to school on time (preferably before 7:55AM). Late students will not be allowed in class when testing starts. Feeling rushed will only amp up the anxiety. Pack everything you need for the exam the night before and set the alarm, so you can get out the door on time.

We are already so proud of all of our students and our teachers have been working so hard in preparing them to try their best on the exam. Wishing all of our amazing test takers good luck - you got this!!

Congrats to our Shakespeare Enrichment Cluster who will be performing their rendition of Cymbeline at the NYC Student Shakespeare Festival at the Lucille Lortel Theatre in Manhattan on April 18th.

Attendance is a very important part in your child's academics. Every day your child misses school, they miss a big piece of their learning. **Please have your children in school every day and on time at 8:00AM.**

Just a reminder, if you change your phone number or address, you must notify the school immediately so that we can update your information and be able to contact you should we need to reach you.

If you are having difficulties helping your child at home with his/her homework, please reach out to us so that we can support you and ensure that you feel comfortable helping your child at home. You can also call the NYC DOE homework helpline at 212-777-3380 Monday – Thursday from 4:00 – 7:00 for more immediate support and guidance.

Mark your calendars now!!! Our Spring Arts Festival will be Thursday May 16th!!!!

Looking forward to seeing you ALL at future WCSS events!

With warmest regards,

Dana



"Education is
the key to
unlock the
golden door of
freedom."
- George
Washington
Carver

Kindergarten News

Reading: Growing Expertise in Little Books

Writing: All About/Opinion Writing

Go Math: Teen Numbers and Counting Beyond 100

Amplify Science: Earth Systems

Social Studies: Geography, People and the Environment

Ongoing word study centers that are differentiated to meet ALL of our Kindergarten student's needs.

Field Trip - Peter Pan 4/16

First Grade News

Reading: Be the Boss of your Own Reading

Writing: Opinion going into Realistic Fiction

Go Math: Adding 10's and 1's

Amplify Science: Adaptations

Social Studies: A Working Community

Residency - NYC Ballet- Ballet Tales Performance - April 12th - 8:30AM

Field Trip - Penguins the Movie - 4/18

Second Grade News

Reading: Reading Nonfiction Cover to Cover: Nonfiction Book Clubs

Writing: Lab Reports and Science Books

Go Math: Measurement and Data

Amplify Science: Properties of Materials

Social Studies: Urban, Suburban, and Rural

Residency - Guggenheim

Field Trips

Brooklyn Botanical Gardens - 4/9

Guggenheim - 4/29

Third Grade News

Reading: Research Club

Writing: Writing about Research

Go Math: Test Sophistication/Area and Perimeter

Amplify Science: Traits

Social Studies: World Cultures

ELA Exam: April 2nd and 3rd

Math Exam: May 1st and May 2nd

Fourth Grade News

Reading: American Revolution

Writing: Journalism

Go Math: Test Sophistication

Amplify Science: Test Sophistication and Experiments

5th Grade News

Reading: Fantasy Book Clubs: The Magic of Themes and Symbols

Writing: Research Based Argument Essay

Go Math: Test Sophistication and Conversions

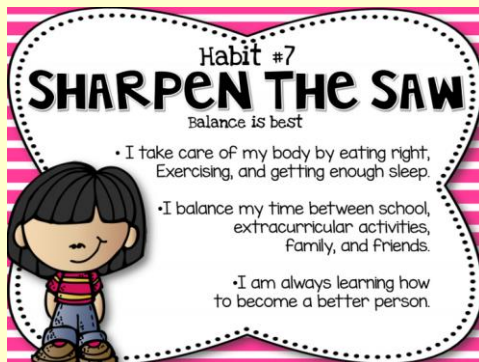
Amplify Science: Exploring Eco Systems

Social Studies: World War 1

ELA Exam: April 2nd and 3rd

Math Exam: May 1st and May 2nd

The Leader in Me



Social Studies: American Revolution

ELA Exam: April 2nd and 3rd

Math Exam: May 1st and May 2nd

Pre-K News

Reading: How do good readers make a plan?

Author of The Month: Denise Fleming
Books include:

- In the Tall Tall Grass
- Count
- Barnyard Banter
- Lunch

Writing: How do good writers use pictures and labels to teach others about a topic?

Building Blocks Math: Counting to and back from 10 and beyond and adding small numbers with manipulatives

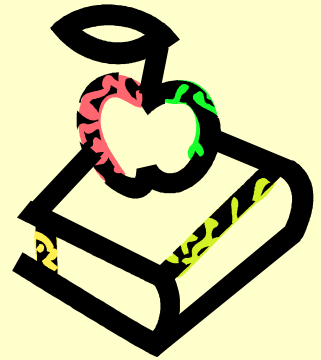
Science: Dinosaurs, Spring, Farm Animals, Planting Seeds, Weather, and Butterflies

Social Studies: Spring, Earth Day, recycling, pollution, time of day

Continuous center time based on students learning needs.



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



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

Hello WCSS Families,

Happy April! The Red Apple Fundraiser is happening! All money should have been returned to the school. 5th Grade families, payment for graduation activities are past due. If you have not paid yet, please get in touch with Ms. Quiles ASAP. We look forward to seeing you at our next PTA meeting on Friday, April 5th at 9:30AM after Family Friday. We really need your support and to hear your ideas, so please make sure you come to our next PTA meeting. Have a great month!!

With warm regards,
WCSS PTA

Upcoming Events



- ◆ **4/2** - Day 1 of the NYS ELA Exam - Grades 3, 4, and 5
- ◆ **4/3** - Day 2 of the NYS ELA Exam - Grades 3, 4, and 5
- ◆ **4/3**- No Art Club
- ◆ **4/5**- Family Friday (Not for 1st Grade) - 8:30AM - 9:15AM
- ◆ **4/5** - PTA Meeting - 9:30AM
- ◆ **4/9**- 2nd Grade Trip to Botanical Gardens
- ◆ **4/9** - SLT - 2:30PM
- ◆ **4/12** - 1st Grade Family Friday - Ballet Tales Performance 8:30AM
- ◆ **4/16** - Kindergarten Trip to Peter Pan
- ◆ **4/18** - 1st Grade Trip to Penguin the Movie
- ◆ **4/18** - Shakespeare Cluster to NYC Student Shakespeare Festival at the Lucille Lortel Theater
- ◆ **4/19 - 4/26 SPRING BREAK**
- ◆ **4/29**- Students Return Back to School
- ◆ **4/29**- 2nd Grade Trip to the Guggenheim Museum
- ◆ **5/1** - Day 1 of the NYS Math Exam - Grades 3, 4, and 5
- ◆ **5/2** - Day 2 of the NYS Math Exam - Grades 3, 4, and 5

Mark your calendars now!!! Our Spring Arts Festival will be Thursday May 16th!!!!

Waterside Children's Studio School

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)

