STAFF NEWSLETTER

PS189M Magnet School of Inquiry and Expression

October 2019

Important Events/Dates

1 – No School – Rosh Hashanah
3-4 – iReady Math (3-5)
4 – Open House
4 – Family Friday
7 – iO Classroom Training PD
7 – Bullying Awareness & Prevention (wear blue)
9 – No School – Yom Kippur
12 – 2nd Annual Kickball Tournament
14 – No School – Columbus Day
18 – Open House
18 – Breast Cancer Awareness
(wear pink - STAFF only)
21 – School Theme/Vision PD
24-25 – Picture Day
28 – PD Cycle 1 begins
31 – Crazy Hat Day – hat's created at home

Principal's Note

As we embark on another school year, we face new opportunities and challenges in advancing our mission. It is essential that we build our community's support for PS189 and the important work that we do. We must show off all the exciting things happening in our school and help families see why their children, or grandchildren, nieces and nephews, neighbors or other children in the community, should attend PS189. Everyone must play a key role in this effort.

As we go through the year, I invite you to join me in celebrating the great things happening in our school in your daily interactions with students, parents, other family members and everyone in our community.

Let families know that we are challenging their children to reach their full potential and working to actively engage them in their learning. Share how we are equipping students with the tools and skills they need for future success, starting the day they enter school. Explain how we are working hard to build a safe, supportive and welcoming learning environment where all students are treated fairly and with respect.

We are a community of professionals, and I feel privileged to be a part of it.

Begin data chats with students' I-Ready diagnostics results. – see Mr. Gonzalez

Be a part of the next PBL unit! Afterschool per session planning is available. – see Ms. Alten

Class Dojo
preK-5th grade

Over 50 staff members have signed up for Class Dojo. This program helps create a positive classroom community and shares moments with parents. – see Ms. Swelam to set up an account

School Happenings

New Partnerships

BeamWorks

Kayla Miller will collaborate with cluster teachers to create hands-on projects aligned to your units of study that engage students and make learning the units more tangible.
BeamWorks provides a process for project planning and implementation that leads to a more exploratory student experience and creates a culture of creation, collaboration, and inspiration.

City Technology

Gary Benenson, Project Director and Professor of Mechanical Engineering at the City College of NY, is working with 3rd graders on STEAM!
His units integrate engineering, science, math, literacy and art, in the context of children designing their own toys, cards and books.

Center for Technology and School Change

Karen Kirsch Page and Lucy Smith will be working with 2nd and 4th grade teachers to create innovative learning environments for our students. They will work alongside teachers and support staff to create opportunities for students to be at the center of their own learning, leveraging digital tools that enable teachers to facilitate student inquiry.

School4One

Ali Oakley and Jackie Hollander will provide a technology platform for 1st grade students and teachers to make the classroom more streamlined. Through this software on our iPads, learning will be more visible and easier for both teachers and students.

Sports and Health in the City

Coach D. is pleased to announce our 2nd Annual Kickball Event on Saturday, October 12th @ 3pm. The purpose of the event is to raise money for the PS189 boys' and girls' basketball teams. You can contribute by playing and/or purchasing shirt. – see Ms. Craig

Best Practices

Ms. Weinberger, Ms. Flanagan, Ms. Zappier, Ms. Diaz, Ms. La Plume and *Ms. Swelam* learn how to integrate technology into their math lessons to improve student learning.

Ms. Lambros & Mr. Rodriguez collaborate to design projects aligned to our PBL units.

Ms. Ramirez took a deep dive into the NewsELA & Flocabulary resources to make learning accessible to all her students.

Ms. Thomas, Ms. Ayala, Ms. O'Donnovan and Ms. Arriaza facilitated STEM lessons on iSTEM Day to expose students to the engineering design thinking.

5th and *2nd Grade Teams* organized field work to correlate with their units of study and provide students with another entry into their learning.

3rd and *4th Grade Teams* analyzed data from their assessments to target strategic vocabulary intervention and shared resources with one another to guide their instruction.

1st Grade Team has embraced math talks and provided students an opportunity for deeper understanding through expression.