

Check out what's going on in Team 403 this week!

In The Classroom

- ❖ In **math workshop**, students will begin reviewing multiplication facts to practice for instant recall. They will each have a bag of fact triangles that should be used to practice at home as well. Then, we will also spend some time breaking down whole numbers into factors and finding common factors or the greatest common factor shared by two whole numbers.
- ❖ In **reading workshop**, students will continue discussing what makes a good reading response. They will spend some time reading short texts and then practicing on how to write a three-paragraph reading response using a checklist.
- ❖ In **writing workshop**, students will be deciding on which narrative to publish. From this point forward, they will be making revisions on that draft. Students will be focused on using details to vividly describe the setting and adding transition words to help move their readers to the important part in their narrative.

Upcoming Events

- ❖ **Wed. October 16** **Picture Day!** (Class Photo & Individual Photos taken)
- ❖ **Mon. October 21** Parent Workshop @ 7:52-8:30am, Hosted by Mrs. Ciravolo & Ms. Ho
(Reinforcing Learning through Interactive Computer Games)
- ❖ **Fri. October 25** Scholastic Book Clubs Orders due (One-time Activation Code: M7JRY)
Halloween Fundraiser Party @ 3-5:30pm (Hosted by PS/IS 217 PTA)
- ❖ **Mon. November 4** Math Project due
- ❖ **Thurs. November 7** Homework Party

Announcements & Reminders

- ❖ To encourage students to study for their word study quizzes and to reinforce the correct spelling of the previous week's list, students will be asked to write the words they misspelled 5x each in addition to the regular Monday spelling homework (looking up definitions).
- ❖ Due to holidays and half days, the first 3rd-5th Grade Homework Party will be held on November 7. A letter about it can be found on the second page of this week's newsletter.
- ❖ The directions for the first math project (Planning a Birthday Party) were sent home last Friday. This project will serve as a review of previous math skills and will be due on November 4. Please keep an eye out that students are working on them over the weekends!

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to backpack a note to school or email me at kho@schools.nyc.gov!

Thank you,
Kelly Ho

October 15, 2013

Dear 3rd – 5th Grade Families,

Homework is an important part of elementary school. Not only does homework provide children an opportunity to plan ahead and practice the skills taught in the classroom—it also establishes a routine that they will need in middle school, high school, and college. In order to reward students who regularly complete homework assignments, we will be having a homework party at the end of each month during the school day.

Students will be expected to complete their homework each day to the best of their ability. After three times of missed homework or incomplete homework, students will not be invited to the homework party. Instead, they will use this time to complete any missed assignments. Those invited to the homework party will decide which room they want to celebrate in depending on the room's theme activity (e.g., board games, movie, arts & crafts, yoga). Each month students will have a new opportunity to attend the homework party. We hope that this will encourage students to be more responsible when completing their work.

Please help your child establish a routine at home for completing homework and organizing their backpacks so they will not forget to bring it back to school. As always, thank you for your support.

Sincerely,
The 3rd – 5th Grade Teachers