



Young Scholars Newsletter

Young Scholars of McKeesport Charter School

JANUARY 2017

Volume 1, Issue 6

Holidays & Awareness Dates

New Years Day (1)
National Popcorn Day (19)
No Name Calling Week (16-20)
National Mentoring Month

Dr. MLK Jr. Day (16)
Chinese New Year (28)
Mental Wellness Month

Things to do in January

Pittsburgh Restaurant Week: January 9 - January 15

Pittsburgh Zoo: Saturdays and Sundays (below 50*):
Penguins on Parade

McKeesport Library: 1/28/17 Disney Trivia @ 11am

Let's clean up for the New Year and for Our Health!

By: Nurse Rachel

Everybody makes New Year's resolutions. They aren't the easiest things to keep, but when it comes to making ourselves and our families healthier, that is a good incentive to keep up with them! Some ideas for healthy resolutions are:

- Clean up the house! Pay close attention to areas that may need repaired or remediated like peeling paint or moldy areas. Also look for fall hazards!
- Get yourselves moving! 60 minutes of exercise a day may sound like a lot, but you can make it fun by involving the entire family! Go for walks, play active games, or get involved in activities at the local Y that are tailored to everyone's ability.
- Get some sleep! Make sure that you and your children are getting the recommended amount of sleep each night. The body can't be productive if it hasn't had time to recharge!
- Eat fresh! Check out some fruits and vegetables that are best to eat during the winter. Brussel sprouts, citrus fruit like clementines, oranges and grapefruit, pears, pomegranates, turnips and a variety of squash are at their prime during December, January and February.

When we include the entire family in making healthy decisions, we are more likely to stick with our New Year's resolutions than if we try to take them on by ourselves!

Fun Fact about Nurse Rachel: She has never been on ice

January Birthdays

Ta'lon L.
Sincere H.
Queen F.
Nyaira S.

Kiree E.
Sincere E.
Canaan B.
Genevieve H.

Brandi C.
Oronde S.
Lawrence J.
Ms. Dogru



Kindergarten A Spotlight

By: Ms. Ceylan and Ms. Morford

Happy New Year!

We hope everyone had a fantastic and relaxing holiday! We would also like to say a big "thank you" for all the thoughtful holiday cards and gifts. What an amazing Kindergarten community we have!

We had a brilliant first term; our scholars have come along really well in their learning and have been even more enthusiastic about school after the break. 2017 will be as great as our kinders transition into first grade!! 😊

KA will be reading a lot more in January while continuing to work on letter sounds, blending sounds to make words, rhyming words and so on... You'll also see improvement in their writing, as they are beginning to form sentences.

In Math, we are finishing off our unit on measuring by multiple attributes, and will begin to learn about 3D shapes and comparing. Our Science experiments get only better when we make it rain & snow inside! We've learned about types of weather, how seasons change and the rest of January we'll cover the water cycle and conduct experiments to enhance our learning.

Now, KA is off to learning -> hoping you stay warm throughout the winter!

Don't Forget!

Parent-Teacher Conferences
on January 18th!



4th Grade Corner

By: Mrs. Andes

Happy New Year!

In 4th grade we are focusing on multiplication and division skills, and we are definitely learning that practice is a big key to success! Knowing our math facts is a huge help in understanding the bigger concepts, especially now that we're about to start fractions! Our current writing topic is all about persuasion. The students are writing about their favorite place to visit while trying to encourage the reader to want to visit that place too! Taking your time and rereading your work helps create very well written work. As always, reading class focuses on comprehension skills. This month, cause and effect and point of view are the key skills we are working on identifying within a story. 4th grade Young Scholars are very bright students. With a little motivation and hard work, I can't wait to see what all they are able accomplish these next few months!

5th GRADE SPOTLIGHT

By: Mrs. Black

Happy 2017! I wish all families a happy and healthy New Year. Science is one of my favorite subjects, which is why I am sharing with you a frozen theme slime recipe! Is slime a solid or liquid? Tell me what you think and why!

Supplies:

White washable glue
Liquid starch
Water
Blue food coloring
Measuring cup
2 bowls
A spoon
Glitter
Optional: snowflake buttons and sparkly beads

Recipe:

1. In one bowl, mix 1/2 cup of water and 1/2 cup of glue. Mix well to combine completely
2. Add blue food coloring and glitter
3. In the other bowl measure 1/2 cup of liquid starch
4. Slowly mix the glue/water mixture into the starch with a spoon, make sure to get all glue out of the bowl
5. Switch to mixing with hands for a few minutes until you feel it come together
6. Put in a clean, dry contain or on a plate

Enjoy!!

Reading Club Updates

By: Ms. Morford

The students in Reading Club have been doing fantastic for the first half of the school year. There has been a ton of improvement in their reading skills! The students in first, second, and third grade are becoming more fluent in their reading! The students in Kindergarten are beginning to sound out words and even begin to read simple stories. I am very impressed by the progress they are making and extremely proud of each one of them! I think that some of the students are even a little bit more excited to read! I am looking forward to what I will see from the students during the second half of the school year!

The School Counselor Corner!

By: Mrs. Shatten



5th Grade students enjoying "Wacky Wednesday" before Winter Break!

This month in Character Education, we are expanding our horizons with the Positive Action Curriculum and introducing students to "Operation Respect". For the past few months, students have learned about positive actions, self concept, and many other terms, so "Operation Respect" complimented their prior knowledge!

Theme I is what we are working on in January, which involved expressing our feelings! Lesson 1,2, and 3 are all about The "Don't Laugh at Me" Song, the theme song of this section! Students analyzed the original song by Peter, Paul & Mary, and also were able to listen to a modern rap version, which they enjoyed!

We will continue Operation Respect's theme I for the rest of January, which includes a feelings temperature, "How would you feel if...?", The Torn Heart, and Peace Place.

If you would like to see what we're doing, visit: <http://operationrespect.org/> on top of our Positive Action Curriculum, which we will intertwine with Operation Respect.

WE ARE OFF ON MONDAY, JANUARY 16TH. DO YOU KNOW WHY?

By: Mrs. Buban



It's Martin Luther King Jr. Day!

Martin Luther King Jr. Facts and Quotes for Kids

- Martin Luther King Jr. was an important leader and activist in the Civil Rights Movement.
- He was born Michael King Jr. on January 15th 1929 in Atlanta Georgia.
- Martin Luther King Jr. skipped 9th and 12th grade and entered college at the age of 15.
- Martin Luther King Jr. first attended Morehouse College and received a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology. He then went to Crozer Theological Seminary and received a degree in Divinity (religious studies), later he received a doctrine at Boston University.
- On October 14th 1964 Martin Luther King Jr. became the youngest man (age 35) to receive a Nobel Peace Prize for combating racial inequality through non-violence.
- Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated on April 4th 1968 on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel in Memphis Tennessee.
- On November 2nd 1983 President Ronald Reagan signed a bill to declare Martin Luther King Jr. Day in remembrance of all the great things he did to fight for civil rights.
- He was the first African American to be granted a national holiday.
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day is celebrated the third Monday on January.
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day is celebrated in January because his birthday is in January.
- Martin Luther King Day was celebrated for the first time on January 20th 1986.
- All 50 states did not recognize Martin Luther King Jr. Day at a paid day off holiday until 2000.
- Utah was the last state to declare Martin Luther King Jr. a holiday.
- Over 1,000 streets are named after Martin Luther King Jr

Martin Luther King Jr. Quotes

“If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do keep moving forward.”

“Only in the darkness can you see the stars.”

“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.”

“Intelligence plus character-that is the goal of true education.”

“I have decided to stick with love. Hate is too great a burden to bear.”