



**Stewart School**  
Garden City, NY

February/March 2018  
Volume 1, Issue 2

## What's happening at Stewart School?

### Second Grade

Second grade students embarked on their first field trip this month. They visited the Long Island Children's Museum. This was a STEAM oriented trip where the students engaged in activities that involved simple machines, engineering and the proper use of woodworking tools. The students also had the opportunity to interact with different species of wildlife. As we prepare to enter our spring STEAM unit of study, students practiced working cooperatively at the museum to build structures and anticipate outcomes.

### Third Grade

Experts! Experts! Read all about it! The third grade students have been diligently researching topics of interest to create Feature Articles. Using Microsoft Publisher, their amazing written work alongside captivating non-fiction text features has the potential to be published in the next Time for Kids Magazine. In addition to writing, third graders have been reading nonfiction text through biographies focusing on character traits, setting, and the important influence each person may have had in our world today.

How about a little shrimp on the barbie? Well, maybe not in school, but as we continue to explore communities around the world, our travels now have us in the land down under. Using Google Earth, the children have had the opportunity to see some of the amazing landmarks of Australia and have spent time comparing Australian culture to others.

The day wouldn't be complete without fractions. The children have now progressed to comparing fractions using models, reasoning and number lines and are ready to tackle the concept of equivalent fractions.

### Art

The art room is busy creating a 'Kindness' rock garden which is inspired by the book Only One You written by Linda Kranz. The students are talking about the importance of being kind to one another. Each student at Stewart School is painting a rock which represents their own creative style. These rocks will then be displayed by the vegetable gardens as a daily reminder to be kind to one another and to celebrate our own uniqueness.

### Fourth Grade

Olympic fever hit the fourth grade as they completed their Winter Olympics STEAM activity. It was a huge success! Each fourth grader chose an Olympic event and was given a STEAM challenge to complete with a group. Events included curling, snowboarding, ski jumping, bobsledding, and many more! Upon completion of the challenges, students shared their creations with their class during a "mini" Olympics. Each group was able to present their work to the class. Students then took turns trying out all of the projects.

Fourth grade has also made the shift to Physical Science, starting a unit on measuring matter. Throughout this unit students will be exploring properties of matter, the states of matter, and physical and chemical changes. They will also be utilizing their lab skills while balancing scales and using graduated cylinders to measure mass and volume of both regular and irregular objects.

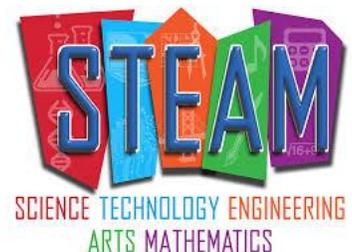


### Fifth Grade

The fifth graders continued to perfect their ballroom dancing skills and were so excited for the Dancing Classrooms culminating performance! Fifth grade parents and siblings attended the event which included students dancing the Merengue, Foxtrot, Rumba, Tango, Swing and Waltz. It was an exciting journey to watch as students worked on their dance skills while also practicing the essential skill of social interaction.

Grade 5 enjoyed their trips to the DNA lab in Cold Spring Harbor in which they were able to make connections between what they had previously learned in science. Students examined DNA, mutations and cells through some fun hands-on activities.

Finally, for Project Pride, Officer Rich is visiting the fifth grade classes. He explained that PRIDE stands for Peer Resistance Instruction Drug Education. By the end of the program students will be able to define the word peer pressure, discuss the process of making healthy decisions and describe the role self-esteem contributes to making good choices.



## Choose Kind!

Stewart School's February Choose Kind assembly recognized students caught choosing kind! Students also wore our school-wide Choose Kind t-shirts for the very first time! We will continue to wear these shirts as a school every Friday to show we are united in our efforts to choose kind each and every day! Classes are finishing up building their kindness snowmen and continue their service learning through our Pennies for Patients campaign this month!



## DASA Buzz Words!

"Choose Kind" & "Be an Updstander!"

### Recycling

Fourth grade students in Mrs. Lehan's class have initiated a water bottle recycling effort throughout the school!



### Quest

Fourth and fifth grade students recently completed their STEM Expo presentations for the Toshiba ExploraVisions contest. Our fourth grade team won Honorable Mention! In celebration of the baseball season beginning, students will start a new design unit, completing scale/ratio models of a semi-professional baseball stadium so they can write a bid to bring the team to Garden City! Third graders are working diligently on their toy design project. They are in the prototype development stage and learning about costs and marketing expenses!

### Book of the Month

Our February book of the month was *Only One You* written by Linda Kranz. In partnership with PARP's "One School, One Book," our March book of the month is *Be Kind*, written by Pat Zietlow Miller and illustrated by Jen Hill. Ms. Norton and Mrs. Bell read this book aloud to students on March 16<sup>th</sup>!



## FLES

Fourth grade students have been working on days of the week. Students are able to recognize the questions ¿Qué día es hoy? ¿Qué día será mañana? and ¿Qué día fue ayer? They can also answer them! Up next, the months of the year.

Fifth grade students are finishing working on a physical and personal characteristics unit by using their puppet or by creating a monster and describing it. Students are presenting their projects in the puppet theater or on shadow puppet.

## SAFETY!

Drivers utilizing the Clinton Road parent drop circle should remain in their cars when dropping off their children. All children must exit on the passenger side of the car. School personnel will assist students crossing the bus circle. We encourage all students who qualify for bus service to ride the bus on a daily basis.

**Pedestrian Crossing:** For safety reasons, when crossing Clinton Road, please cross in the crosswalk and abide by the traffic light and pedestrian crossing sign.

## ENL

In second grade, students are studying nonfiction texts, biographies, and will be using Raz Plus for reading, writing and discussion. In the third grade, students have working on nonfiction research articles while exploring text features. Fourth graders have been working on persuasive writing and creating shadow puppets to showcase their writing. Fifth graders are working on opinion writing about chocolate milk. Do you think Chocolate Milk Should be Banned in Schools? In writing, students are focusing on opinion words, transition words, and providing 3 reasons to support their side of the debate with examples and explanations.

## Library

Second graders have learned and practiced searching for books on the OPAC computers in our library. They have, and will continue to practice title, author and subject searches. Third graders have been reading and listening to nonfiction stories about the Titanic disaster. Fourth graders have been discussing what good readers do and have had some wonderful book discussions. They have also been busy working on a Web Quest about the history of candy, a fun and sweet activity! Fifth graders are traveling to our amazingly beautiful National Parks through books and videos while learning about the geography, animals and fun activities for tourists!

## Notes from the Health Office

March is **NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH!**

Stop by the health office to see the bulletin board about the "Choose My Plate" initiative. It's all about making healthy choices for everyday life. All food choices matter!

- \*Choose foods low in saturated fats, sodium and sugars
- \*Make small changes for lasting effects
- \*Make half your plate fruits and vegetables and the other half divided between whole grains and protein
- \*Drink plenty of water and low-fat dairy

You can visit [choosemyplate.gov](http://choosemyplate.gov) to discover games, pamphlets and to read more about it.

## PTA News & Music

The fifth graders are looking forward to their trip to the Metropolitan Opera House. They will be studying Massenet's *Cendrillon* (Cinderella) in music class prior to seeing the performance! We'd like to thank the PTA for sponsoring this trip!