

YORKVILLE EAST NEWS

Academic Rigor | Student Voice | Collaboration | Self-Direction | Empathy

Upcoming Events

Monday

- Open Gym @ 8am
- M.Y. After-School

Tuesday

- PTA Coffee & Chat @ 8:30am
- M.Y. After-School

Wednesday

- Open Gym @ 8am
- M.Y. After-School

Thursday

- Open Gym @ 8am
- M.Y. After-School

Friday

- Open Gym @ 8am
- M.Y. After-School



End of 2nd Marking Period

As today marks the halfway point in the school year, we would like to reflect on all of the hard work that our students have done over the past few months. They continue to impress us with their diligence and empathy for others. Keep up the great work!

PTA Announcements

Tuesday, 1/29 Coffee & Chat @ 8:30am. Join us next week for Coffee & Chat in the PTA Office - we plan to discuss the class parent role and auction planning. Hope to see you there!

Thursday, 2/7 @ 6pm Won't You Be My Neighbor! The MS177 PTA would like to invite you to a screening of the Producers Guild Award winning documentary based on the life and impact of Fred Rogers. In the spirit of spreading kindness



and caring throughout our school community, please join us on Thursday, February 7th at 6pm for snacks and the movie. We will also be joined by members of our neighborhood, the PS 158 community. We are very lucky to have the film's producer for a Q&A after the film.

Thursday, 2/14 Valentine's Day Bake Sale - Back by popular demand, the PTA will be having a Valentine's Day Bake Sale before school and during the lunch period. Please donate baked goods and snack items (nut free and individually wrapped). Email us at pta@ms177.org if you are available to volunteer the day of the Bake Sale.

Wednesday, 2/27 @ 8:45am. Save the date for our next PTA General Meeting in the Auditorium.

Annual Spring Auction - Our largest fundraiser of the year is fast approaching and will likely be held in early May. We are eager to start planning this important event that raises critical funds for our school! Donation forms will be available shortly. In the meantime, please let us know if you are interested in chairing/co-chairing and/or participating in the planning committee.

MS177 YEMS Annual Fund. Count yourself in and help us reach our goals of 100% family participation and \$15K! Without these funds, the PTA cannot support educational materials such as books, math curriculum, test prep materials, and JupiterEd - basics that our children need to learn. Not to mention, the teacher development and parent engagement that the PTA also supports to ensure our children receive the best education and opportunities possible. Let's come together for our students' future and as a community! Spread the word and donate today!!

As always, please go to the school website to donate at www.ms177.org/giving and to learn more about the PTA at www.ms177.org/pta.

Getting to Know Your Adolescent

Cell Phone Addiction

In an effort to be constantly connected to friends, many middle schoolers become addicted to their cell phones. In addition to possible increases in anxiety, this addiction can also trigger physical effects such as insomnia, change in diet, and difficulty focusing.

According to a Common Sense Media's survey, 50% of teens admitted to being addicted to their cell phones and 72% felt the urgency to immediately respond to texts and social media posts.

Here are a few tips to help your child navigate a healthy relationship with technology:

- Work with your child to create family rules and regulations about usage. As your child builds trust, be open to augmenting the rules in their favor.
- If necessary, set a limit on available data and internet usage on the monthly plan. You can also limit



screen time on a daily basis by utilizing such apps as unGlue, familytime, and qustodio.

- Devise an after-school schedule to accommodate extra curricular activities and completion of homework before screen time.
- Lead by example. Do not look at your phone during family meals and gatherings. Emphasize this is a time to be spent together without any technological distractions.

Sources: pumpic.com and digitaltrends.com

Class Corner

Students at Yorkville East accomplished a lot this week! Over dinner or while walking to the subway, be sure to ask your child about what they are learning in school!

6th Grade:

ELA: This week in ELA we continued reading to analyze issues in characters' relationships. We also began writing literary essays on book club books. Students chose to describe a main character using a specific character trait, and they used evidence and analysis to support their claim in a five paragraph essay.

Social Studies: In sixth grade Social Studies, students analyzed a variety of different sources in order to participate in their first debate about who built the Great Pyramids of Giza.

Math: 6th graders are starting ratios. We've made lemonade, mixed paint, and analyzed pound cake!

Science: We explored and discussed different ecological relationships.

Spanish: In Spanish, students are learning to describe clothing and conjugate verbs.

Physical Education: Students recently completed their fitness circuit and are gearing up for the FITNESSGRAM.

Art: 6th grade artists are drawing objects from observation using contour lines.

7th Grade:

ELA: This week in 7th grade ELA, students learned additional writing techniques to incorporate in their argumentative essays before final publication. Afterwards, they had the opportunity to read their peers' argument essays and provide positive feedback as well as opportunities to grow their argument writing in the future. Today we started a new unit on social issues!



Social Studies: In seventh grade Social Studies, students examined the process of how a bill becomes a law by researching current bills that Congress is developing.

Math: 7th graders are learning how to simplify algebraic expressions.

Science: 7th grade is looking at different perspectives regarding space travel.

Spanish: In Spanish, students are learning to describe clothing and conjugate verbs.

Physical Education: Students recently completed their fitness circuit and are gearing up for the FITNESSGRAM.

Art: 7th grade artists are learning that one point perspective is a technique to show space and depth.

8th Grade:

ELA: In 8th Grade ELA, we began our argument unit. This week, we learned about and completed some ethical research about equity in schools. Students gathered research on the topic to try to develop an evidence-based position.

Social Studies: In eighth grade Social Studies, students examined the connections between imperialism, power, and race in the 19th and 20th centuries by looking specifically at the colonization of Africa and the Spanish American War.

Math: In Algebra I, students worked this week learning strategies to solve systems of equations and inequalities. We have been graphing on paper and using the graphing calculator, and we have learned about substitution and elimination methods.

Science: We explored and discussed the history of the field of genetics.

Spanish: In Spanish, students are learning to describe clothing and conjugate verbs.

Physical Education: Students recently completed their fitness circuit and are gearing up for the FITNESSGRAM.

Art: 8th grade artists are finishing their Spirit Animal project, focusing on the principles of emphasis and contrast.

Health: Students recently started their unit on violence and injury prevention.

