

# February Newsletter

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

### Important Information:

We are SO proud of how hard the students worked on ACCESS, the annual language proficiency assessment, these past few weeks. We know it was a lot of testing, but they gave their best and showed their full potential.

We also want to highlight African American History Month as well as the Lunar New Year. For African American History Month, you can access resources through [NASA: Black History Month](#), [Share America Black Composers: Shaping America's music](#), and [The National Gallery of Art: Meet an Artist: Alma Thomas](#).

For the Lunar New Year, [The Smithsonian National Museum of Asian Art](#) has valuable resources as does the [National Geographic's Lunar New Year](#) site.

### Kindergarten

Kindergarteners just started unit 6 which focuses on **Native Americans**. They will focus on the following skills:

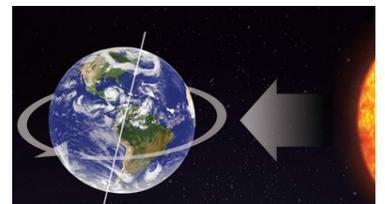
- identify items needed by all Native Americans for survival
- identify and describe environments in which Native Americans lived
- design and describe Native American clothing
- explain a process using the linking words *first*, *next*, *then*, and *finally*
- use past tense and present progressive tense (*-ing*) verbs



### First Grade

The students in first grade will begin unit 6, which focuses on **Astronomy**. They will learn the following language skills:

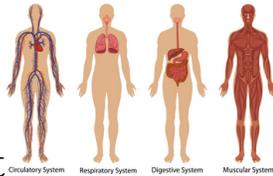
- categorize items as being in outer space or not in outer space
- add prepositional phrases to describe location
- record and discuss observations and facts about daytime
- recognize and use verb tense to convey time
- compare and contrast literary and informational texts



## Second Grade

Second graders will finish up their research unit about **Cycles in Nature**, and will move into unit 10, **The Human Body**. They will work on the following skills:

- record information about the circulatory, respiratory, digestive, and muscular systems
- add details to sentences by using adverbs and adjectives
- label drawings of cells, tissues, organs, and systems
- write about healthy habits using a checklist



## Third Grade

Third graders will continue learning about **Astronomy** in unit 7. They will focus on the following language skills:

- share information about the Big Bang Theory using sequence words
- identify celestial bodies in our solar system
- apply an understanding of suffixes to determine the meaning of new or unfamiliar words
- use possessive nouns in written and spoken word



## Fourth Grade

This month, 4th graders will finish unit 4: **Eureka! Student Inventor** and begin unit 5: **Geology**.

Currently, students are analyzing objects and situations in the world around them, identifying



problems, and creating evidence-based solutions throughout unit 4

In unit 5, students will learn how heat and pressure affect earth's layers, creating geological features such as mountains, volcanoes, and trenches.

## Fifth Grade

Fifth graders will begin unit 5: **The Renaissance** in which they will learn how travel and trade led to wealth, power, and influence, allowing merchants and businessmen to support artists.



Students will learn about the accomplishments in architecture, sculpture, and painting.

They will conduct research about a famous Renaissance artist in order to compose a biography.