



**A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!**

Welcome back to Sunquam. I hope everyone had a restful and peaceful vacation. 2020 is here and we are off to a great start!

As we forge ahead into the New Year, we have the opportunity to move beyond mistakes that we've made and redouble our efforts to make each day a great one. As Sunquam's Student/Parent handbook reminds us, "Sunquam is a family of students, teachers, staff and parents...It is our hope that all members of the Sunquam family will keep our school a safe and happy place in which to learn." Toward this end, it is the perfect time to review our roles and responsibilities. Please take a few minutes to review the Sunquam Handbook with your child. While there are many expectations listed, they all underscore the importance of behaving safely, treating others with respect, and taking responsibility for one's own actions. By working together, we can encourage all our children choose to make it a great day.

~Ms. Littell©

**Special Areas Update - Art**

Students in Mrs. Berkes' Art class have been busy getting creative! Kindergarten artists are currently creating a Winter Landscape inspired by the book, *A Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats. First grade students are learning how to create self-portraits, after listening to the book *The Colors of Us* by Karen Katz. Robert Indiana's LOVE Sculpture was the subject of a recent second grade project. Students studied images of famous Pop Artist Robert Indiana and then created their own United States Postage stamp in his style. Hot Cocoa Mugs were also a big hit with the third graders who completed a still life drawing of a mug and then used their imaginations to add patterns, color and details to their art! Fourth Graders learned about the Northern Lights or Aurora Borealis and then created a winter landscape using both chalk and oil pastels to create their own Arctic Landscape. Shoes! Were the subject of the most recent fifth grade project. Students learned about Contemporary Digital Pop Artists Craig & Karl and created their own shoe drawing inspired by Craig & Karl's style. A selection of work from each grade level is on display in the showcases outside of the gymnasium. Have a Creative & Happy New Year!



**SCHOOL WEEKLY EVENTS & FIELD TRIPS**



**January 7** – Arts in Education – “Supermarket Science”

**January 8** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Winter Celebration – 10:45 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

– 4-I – Discovery Center

**January 9** – 3-Di – Discovery Center

**January 10** – 3-P – Discovery Center

**January 13-17** – Kindergarten Registration

**January 13** – 3-Di – Planetarium

– 3-Mc & 3-F – Discovery Center

**January 14** – 3-Mc & 3-F – Planetarium

**January 15** – 3-I – Planetarium

**January 16** – 3-P – Planetarium

**January 20** – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – SCHOOL CLOSED

**January 23** – Kindergarten Nursery Rhyme Show – 9:30 – K-G; 10:00 K-K & K-S

**January 27-31** – Hills on Stage Tech Week

**January 31** – PTA Executive Committee Meeting – 9:30 a.m.

**PTA MONTHLY NEWS**

We hope everyone had a happy new year, a wonderful holiday, and restful winter break. 2020 will be a busy year!

Kindergarten registration will be held from Monday, 1/13/20 – Friday, 1/17/20.

If anyone has a child who will be entering Kindergarten in the fall, please remember to register them. (And please tell your friends to register their kids, too.)

There is no PTA meeting in January. The next PTA meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 5, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.

**THOUGHTS FOR PARENTS**

**One of the best ways to help children learn to be responsible is to give them responsibilities of their own. For example:**

- **Create a chore list, involving your child in the process.** Assign age-appropriate tasks that your child can do himself/herself. Let him/her choose some of the jobs he/she would like to do.
- **Keep track of your own responsibilities** with a “to-do” list to model and encourage your child to keep a list of his/her own as well.
- **Don't re-do his/her work for him/her.** If he/she hasn't done something correctly, show him/her how to do it again. Then, let him/her do it—by himself/herself.
- **Allow your child to take some risks.** Don't automatically assume that he/she can't do something.
- **Be prepared for mistakes.** Talk about what went wrong and how your child can learn from the experience.
- **Praise your child when she demonstrates responsibility.** On the other hand, don't rescue him/her when he/she doesn't. Let him/her learn what happens when he/she fails to complete school assignments, do his/her chores or honor his/her commitments.
- **Be patient.** According to research, it takes 21 repetitions for an action to become a habit.

**WEBSITE OF THE WEEK**

<https://www.hhh.k12.ny.us/sunquam-home/student-parent-handbook>

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

***"Look at a day when you are supremely satisfied at the end. It's not a day when you lounge around doing nothing; it's when you had everything to do, and you've done it."***

~Margaret Thatcher