



IMPORTANT DATES AND REMINDERS

Week of February 15th-19th
February Break ~ No School

Week of March 1st
Hybrid K0-3rd graders scheduled to return (A/B cohorts)

Wednesday, March 3rd
Family Conferences All Day
(Classroom teams will reach out with schedule prior to this date)

February 12, 2021

Volume 24, Issue 18

Feedback and Action Steps

Dear Mission Hill School Community,

Over the past 6 weeks we have been analyzing a wide range of data in order to improve instruction and strengthen our practice. We have a platform now, called [Panorama](#), that allows us to compare data over time and from multiple sources. We have school-specific information where we can compare MHS attendance; responses to student, staff and family surveys, and academic information to other BPS K-8 schools. Generally, we are faring as well as other BPS K-8 schools. That does not mean we are fully satisfied.

Pinpointing our action steps on individual, grade bands, and schoolwide levels has been a critical part of the work. Here are just some action steps we are working on:

- Increasing student engagement and equity of student voice. This includes crafting questions and tasks that include more higher-level thinking (strategic thinking and extended thinking), increasing our culturally responsive texts and tasks.
- Shifting weekly meeting schedule to ensure every grade band has a full hour of common planning time to focus on instruction.
- Creating school wide and individual attendance plans to increase engagement.
- Analyzing and action-planning for literacy instruction based on the interims.
- Expanding opportunities for family connections on Zoom. Jenerra and I will host weekly coffee hours for families during March (and will continue through April and May if families want) and the Family Council is working on creative ways to gather.

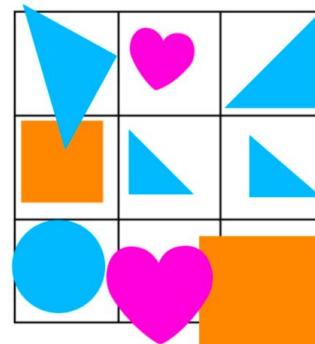
And on Wednesday, March 3rd - soon after we return from February break, families will be conferencing with their classroom teams. This will be an important part of our data-collection and feedback. Families will help teaching teams shape students' experience and plan for success.

As always, we are committed to working in partnership.

Wishing you all a safe and restful break,

Geralyn

K0 Quilt Art inspired
by artist Faith Ringgold



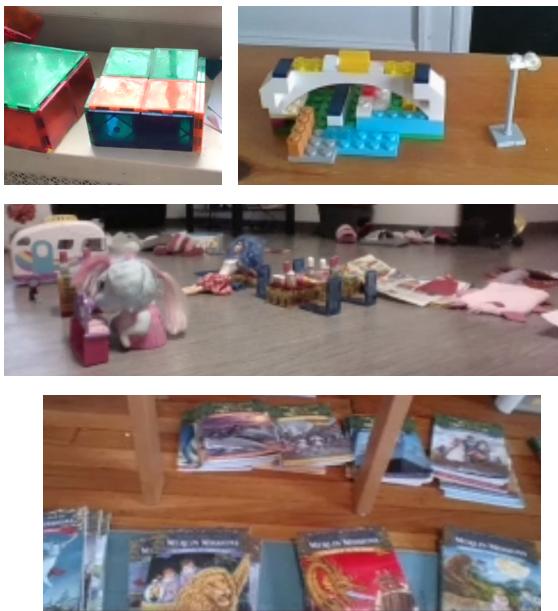


February 12, 2021

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Grades 1&2 Room 210 - Ashleigh, Ayla & Stephanie

Rowan, Sabina, Esmeralda, and Miles constructed different types of markets from materials they had at home. Can you find the market that sells books? Can you find the markets that sell food? What would you sell at a market?



Grades 1&2 Room 217 - Allison & Alana

Staying engaged during Zoom lessons all day has been feeling pretty difficult lately! During our breaks in between lessons, the Hedgehogs have been challenging one another with riddles! Some have been riddles that we've read in a book or heard from someone else, and some we've made up on our own! We have also realized that sometimes we're clever enough to come up with multiple answers to a riddle. See below for some we've tried out with our class. Flip upside down to see an answer that works for each riddle!

1. *What word becomes shorter when you add two letters to it?*
2. *What has lots of keys but can't open any doors?*
3. *What letter has the most water in it?*
4. *What holds water but is full of holes?*

Grades 1&2 Room 216 - Danny & Felicia

Words cannot say how good it felt to have students back in person this week. It's been nearly four months since we last had students in the building, and in Ayla's words it was "way too quiet around here." I especially enjoyed seeing former students in their 3rd and 4th grade classrooms, some having grown half a foot taller since I last saw them! Imagine the feelings we have coming back from summer but multiplied by ten.

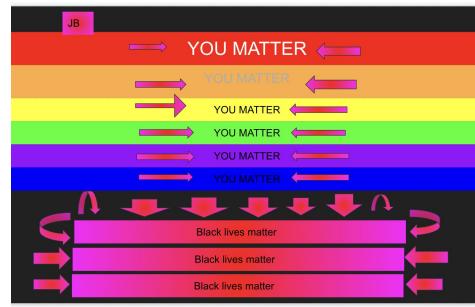
Of course, this is not a return to normal. Students sit far apart from each other, wear masks at all times, and can't share Project Time supplies. It is quite difficult to support in-person learning while making sure students learning remotely have everything they need, but it all feels worth it when I hear and see the joy our students bring to this building. One student shared today that his favorite part of the day was "when I got to see all of my friends." We look forward to welcoming back even more students in the beginning of March!



*Back to School
by The Happy Suninjas*
*Stuck at home
Pack it up
We're finally going back to school.
The sunny sun
Boop Boop Beep Beep
We're on our way!*

ANSWERS:

- | | | | |
|----------|------------|--------|-------------|
| 1. short | 2. A piano | 3. "C" | 4. A sponge |
|----------|------------|--------|-------------|



February 12, 2021

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Grades 3&4 Room 212 - Cleata & Ms. Amaya

This month started off with the Academians listening to voices of young activists and reading about works by activists in the fight for equality for African Americans. We spent the past few days just observing other young people sharing their knowledge about African American history and learning about who has been their inspiration for change. My aim is to get students to form their own opinions so that they are ready to join in on discussions as we approach our next unit on African American History and the African American experience.

Nikaye shared this week while in class, "Ms. Cleata I am reading about Martin Luther King Jr!" She was so excited that I couldn't help but smile back at her. I hope that giving students the resources, the space and opportunity to read, listen, ask questions and form their perspective about their world will help them start their own activism.

Grades 3&4 Room 207 - Amanda & Amina

Last week, The Fire Tigers took time to learn more about the Black Lives Matter at School week of Action. Here are some thoughts about what "Black Lives Matter" means to Jaslene, who is a third grader in our learning community.

"Black Lives Matter" means to me that I matter! My life in this world matters and other people of color. It is important to remember that Black Lives Matter today and everyday because my life is important. Everyone's life is important regardless of the color of their skin. Everyone needs to remember that people of color are humans too and deserve to live and get respect like non people of color.

Grades 3&4 Room 215 - Leila & Kat

Last week, Angelina heard some very scary news about a nine-year-old in Rochester, NY being hurt by police officers. We had just had several discussions about the importance of Black Lives Matter, and Angelina decided to share what she had heard with the class. The Arctic Wolves were horrified and decided to take action right away. One student proposed writing letters to the police. Another suggested writing notes to the nine-year-old to let her know that we care about her. We wound up doing a combination. The Arctic Wolves put together [slides](#) full of hope and love and a reminder that, although her name is anonymous, the nine-year-old girl matters. We sent the slides as a PDF to the mayor of Rochester and the chief of police, and asked them to forward to the 9-year-old's mother. You can see their responses below.

CH Herriott-Sullivan, Cynthia Yesterday
RE: Message to Ms. Elba Pope's daughter in Rochester
To: Leila Parks & 2 more Details

Ms. Parks,

I have forwarded to a staff member that will ensure it gets to the young lady's mother.

Cynthia Herriott-Sullivan
Rochester Police Department - Chief of Police

City of Rochester (Web Page) Information Yesterday at 12:17 PM
RE: Message to Ms. Elba Pope's daughter in Rochester
To: Leila Parks

As the Mayor and as a Mother, I am furious and share your outrage about the treatment of one of Rochester's children last Friday. That's why I ordered our police department to suspend the officers involved, and immediately make public the body worn camera footage of what happened.

I understand that more must be done. That is why I am leading our City's efforts to reimaging policing along side our City Council, Police Accountability Board, and our faith and advocate community. This continues my leadership of reform efforts, including bringing body worn cameras to Rochester, creating a police accountability board and proposing a residency requirement for newly-hired police officers.

I also believe that until we change our culture and address historic racism and inequity we will not fully heal our community and ensure tragic events like this never happen again. That is why I have also proposed my Equity and Recovery Agenda to provide housing, emergency assistance and job opportunities to all who need them. Only when we ensure that everyone has a fighting chance at life and that your zip code doesn't determine your destiny will we finally created a brighter day for all of our families and children.

I encourage you to find a way to help in this effort by volunteering for those in need, continuing to advocate for change and setting an example for all of our community to follow.

God bless you and our city.
Sincerely,
Mayor Lovely Warren



TRAVEL POLICY REMINDER:

We want to remind everyone of the [City's travel policy](#) and to be mindful during this February vacation to follow all requirements to keep yourself safe and all of us safe.

February 12, 2021

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ADDITIONAL UPDATES

Free Tax Preparation Help

[Boston Tax Help Coalition](#) is a program developed by the Mayor's Office of Financial Empowerment, with virtual and neighborhood tax preparation sites. The program offers free tax preparation and filing for folks who earned less than \$57,000 in 2020. The web site provides details, including further eligibility requirements for those who are single and married.

BPS Mental Health Hotline

BPS will offer a mental health hotline during February vacation. English: [MH Flyer](#). Arabic, Caboerdean, French, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, Somali, Spanish, & Vitenamese can be found her: [Folder with MH Flyer translated](#)

Free February Break Opportunities

Click [here](#) to check out programs during February Recess.

Timeline for Returning to In-Person Learning

Monday, March 1 & Thursday, March 4: Students in K0 - Grade 3 (Groups A & B)

Monday, March 15 & Thursday, March 18: Students in Grades 4 - 8 (Groups A & B)

Monday, March 29 & Thursday, April 1: Students in Grades 9 - 12 (Groups A & B)

Keep up to date at bostonpublicschools.org/reopening

Geralyn Bywater McLaughlin and
Jenerra Williams,
Co-Teacher Leaders

Deborah Meier, Founder
Ayla Gavins, Former Principal
Dr. Brenda Cassellius, Superintendent

Mission Hill K-8 School
A Boston Public Pilot School
WWW.MISSIONHILLSCHOOL.ORG

This newsletter, and an archive of past newsletters, is on our website.

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FECHAS Y RECORDATORIOS IMPORTANTES

Semana del 15 al 19 de Febrero
Vacaciones de Febrero ~ No hay clases

Semana del 1 de Marzo

Los estudiantes de K0-3er grado híbridos tienen programado regresar
(cohorte A / B)

Miércoles 3 de Marzo

Conferencias familiares todo el día
(los equipos del salón de clases se comunicarán con el horario antes
de esta fecha)

Febrero 12, 2021

Volumen 24, Edición 18

Comentarios y Pasos de Acción

Estimada comunidad escolar de Mission Hill:

Durante las últimas 6 semanas hemos estado analizando una amplia gama de datos para mejorar la instrucción y fortalecer nuestra práctica. Ahora tenemos una plataforma, llamada [Panorama](#), que nos permite comparar datos a lo largo del tiempo y de múltiples fuentes. Tenemos información específica de la escuela donde podemos comparar la asistencia de MHS; respuestas a encuestas de estudiantes, personal y familias, e información académica a otras escuelas de BPS K-8. En general, nos está yendo tan bien como otras escuelas de BPS K-8. Eso no significa que estemos completamente satisfechos.

Identificar nuestros pasos de acción a nivel individual, de grados y de toda la escuela ha sido una parte fundamental del trabajo. Estos son solo algunos pasos de acción en los que estamos trabajando:

- Aumentar la participación de los estudiantes y la equidad de la voz de los estudiantes. Esto incluye la elaboración de preguntas y tareas que incluyen un pensamiento de más alto nivel (pensamiento estratégico y pensamiento extendido), aumentando nuestros textos y tareas culturalmente receptivos.
- Cambiar el horario de las reuniones semanales para garantizar que cada grupo de grados tenga una hora completa de tiempo de planificación común para centrarse en la instrucción.
- Crear planes de asistencia individual y para toda la escuela para aumentar la participación.
- Análisis y planificación de acciones para la alfabetización en base a los intermedios.
- Ampliando las oportunidades para las conexiones familiares en Zoom. Jenerra y yo organizaremos horas de café semanales para las familias durante marzo (y continuaremos hasta abril y mayo si las familias lo desean) y el Consejo de Familia está trabajando en formas creativas de reunirse.

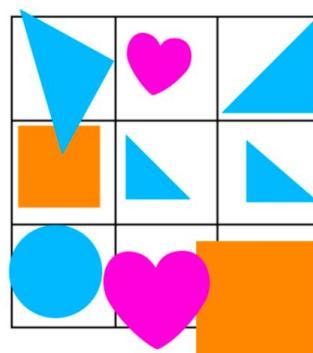
Y el miércoles 3 de Marzo, poco después de que regresemos de las vacaciones de Febrero, las familias se reunirán con sus equipos de aula. Esta será una parte importante de nuestra recopilación de datos y comentarios. Las familias ayudarán a los equipos de enseñanza a moldear la experiencia de los estudiantes y planificar su éxito.

Como siempre, estamos comprometidos a trabajar en asociación.

Les deseo a todos un descanso seguro y reparador,

Geralyn

K0 Quilt Art inspirado
por la artista Faith Ringgold



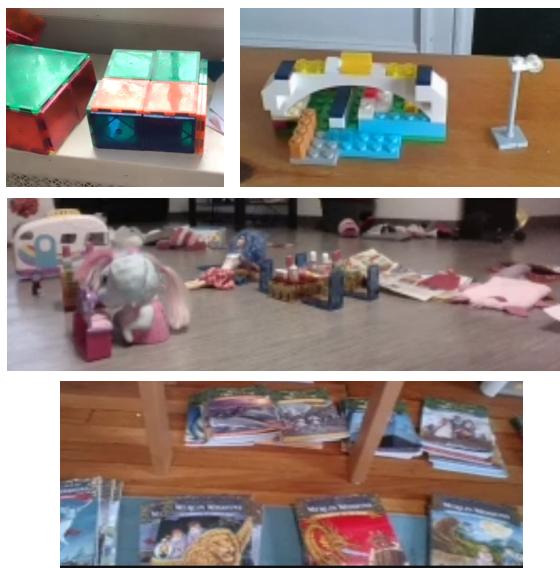


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Grados 1&2 Salon 210 - Ashleigh, Ayla & Stephanie

Rowan, Sabina, Esmeralda y Miles construyeron diferentes tipos de mercados usando materiales que tenían en casa. ¿Puedes encontrar el mercado que vende libros? ¿Puedes encontrar los mercados que venden comida? ¿Qué venderías en un mercado?



Grados 1&2 Salon 217 - Allison & Alana

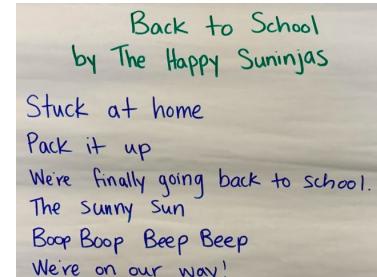
¡Mantenerse involucrado durante las lecciones de Zoom todo el día se ha sentido bastante difícil últimamente! Durante nuestros descansos entre lecciones, ¡los Hedgehogs se han estado desafiando unos a otros con acertijos! Algunos han sido acertijos que hemos leído en un libro o escuchado de otra persona, ¡y algunos los hemos inventado por nuestra cuenta! También nos hemos dado cuenta de que a veces somos lo suficientemente inteligentes como para encontrar múltiples respuestas a un acertijo. Vea a continuación algunos que hemos probado con nuestra clase. ¡Dale la vuelta para ver una respuesta que funcione para cada acertijo!

1. *Qué palabra se vuelve más corta cuando le agregas dos letras?*
2. *¿Qué tiene muchas llaves pero no puede abrir ninguna puerta?*
3. *¿Qué letra tiene más agua dentro?*
4. *¿Qué retiene el agua pero está lleno de agujeros?*

Grados 1&2 Salon 216 - Danny & Felicia

Las palabras no pueden expresar lo bien que se sintió tener a los estudiantes en persona esta semana. Han pasado casi cuatro meses desde la última vez que tuvimos estudiantes en el edificio y, en palabras de Ayla, estaba "demasiado tranquilo por aquí". Disfruté especialmente ver a ex alumnos en sus aulas de 3er y 4to grado, ¡algunos habían crecido medio pie más desde la última vez que los vi! Imagínense las sensaciones que tenemos al volver del verano pero multiplicadas por diez.

Por supuesto, esto no es un regreso a la normalidad. Los estudiantes se sientan muy separados unos de otros, usan máscaras en todo momento y no pueden compartir los suministros del Tiempo de Proyectos. Es bastante difícil apoyar el aprendizaje en persona mientras se asegura de que los estudiantes que aprenden de forma remota tengan todo lo que necesitan, pero siento que vale la pena cuando escucho y veo la alegría que nuestros estudiantes traen a este edificio. Un estudiante compartió hoy que su parte favorita del día fue "cuando pude ver a todos mis amigos". Esperamos poder dar la bienvenida a más estudiantes al comienzo de Marzo.

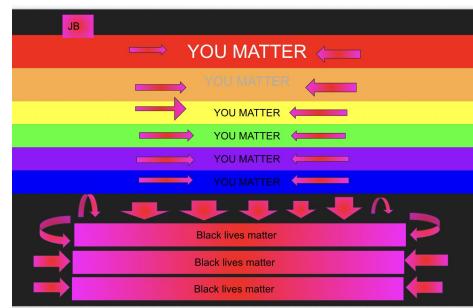


Back to School
by The Happy Suninjas

Stuck at home
Pack it up
We're finally going back to school.
The sunny sun
Boop Boop Beep Beep
We're on our way!

1. Coto
2. Un piano
3. Un "C"
4. Una espuma

Respuetas:



Febrero 12, 2021

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Grados 3&4 Salón 212 - Cleata & Ms. Amaya

Este mes comenzó con los Académicos escuchando las voces de los jóvenes activistas y leyendo sobre las obras de los activistas en la lucha por la igualdad de los Afro Americanos. Pasamos los últimos días simplemente observando a otros jóvenes compartir sus conocimientos sobre la historia Afro Americana y aprendiendo sobre quién ha sido su inspiración para el cambio. Mi objetivo es lograr que los estudiantes formen sus propias opiniones para que estén listos para participar en las discusiones mientras nos acercamos a nuestra próxima unidad sobre Historia Afro Americana y la Experiencia Afro Americana.

Nikaye compartió esta semana mientras estaba en clase, "Sra. Cleata ¡Estoy leyendo sobre Martin Luther King Jr!" Estaba tan emocionada que no pude evitar sonreírle. Espero que darles a los estudiantes los recursos, el espacio y la oportunidad de leer, escuchar, hacer preguntas y formarse una perspectiva sobre su mundo les ayude a comenzar su propio activismo.

Grados 3&4 Salón 207 - Amanda & Amina

La semana pasada, Los Tigres de Fuego se tomaron un tiempo para aprender más sobre la semana de acción Las Vidas Negras Importan En La Escuela. Aquí hay algunas ideas sobre lo que significa "Las Vidas Negras Importan" para Jaslene, quien es una estudiante de tercer grado en nuestra comunidad de aprendizaje.

"Las Vidas Negras Importan" significa para mí que yo importo! Mi vida en este mundo importa y la de otras personas de color. Es importante recordar que Las Vidas Negras Importan hoy y todos los días porque mi vida es importante. La vida de todos es importante independientemente del color de su piel. Todos deben recordar que las personas de color también son humanos y merecen vivir y recibir respeto como las personas que no son de color.

Grados 3&4 Salón 215 - Leila & Kat

La semana pasada, Angelina escuchó una noticia muy aterradora sobre una niña de nueve años en Rochester, Nueva York, herida por agentes de policía. Acabábamos de tener varias discusiones sobre la importancia de Black Lives Matter (Las Vidas Negras Importan) y Angelina decidió compartir lo que había escuchado con la clase. Los lobos árticos estaban horrorizados y decidieron actuar de inmediato. Un estudiante propuso escribir cartas a la policía. Otro sugirió escribir notas a la niña de nueve años para hacerle saber que nos preocupamos por ella. Terminamos haciendo una combinación. Los lobos árticos armaron diapositivas llenas de esperanza y amor y un recordatorio de que, aunque su nombre es anónimo, la niña de nueve años es importante. Enviamos las diapositivas en formato PDF al alcalde de Rochester y al jefe de policía, y les pedimos que se las enviaran a la madre de la niña de 9 años. Puedes ver sus respuestas a continuación.

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RECORDATORIO DE LA POLÍTICA DE VIAJES:

Queremos recordarles a todos de [La política de viajes de la ciudad](#) y de ser conscientes durante estas vacaciones de Febrero y seguir todos los requisitos para mantenerse y mantenernos todos a salvo.

Febrero 12, 2021

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ACTUALIZACIONES ADICIONALES

Ayuda Gratuita Para La Preparación De Impuestos

[Boston Tax Help Coalition](#) es un programa desarrollado por la Oficina de Empoderamiento Financiero de la Alcaldía, con sitios de preparación de impuestos virtuales y de vecindario. El programa ofrece preparación y presentación de impuestos gratis para las personas que ganaron menos de \$57,000 en 2020. El sitio web brinda detalles, incluyendo requisitos de elegibilidad adicionales para quienes son solteros y casados.

Línea Directa De Salud Mental De BPS

BPS ofrecerá una línea directa de salud mental durante las vacaciones de Febrero. Inglés: [MH Flyer](#). Árabe, Caboverdiano, Francés, Criollo Haitiano, Portugués, Somalí, Español y Vietnamita se puede encontrar en la: [Carpeta con MH Flyer traducido](#)

Oportunidades Gratuitas Para Las Vacaciones De Febrero

Haga clic [aquí](#) para ver los programas durante las vacaciones de febrero.

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