## Grant School

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## **THIRD GRADE NEWS: Mrs. Yoon and Ms. Fenton**

As third grade is now more than halfway done, we are proud to see how much growth and progress our students have made! In reading, we truly enjoyed reading, Third Grade Angels, by Jerry Spinelli. Students learned many essential reading comprehension strategies through this enriching novel and had lively discussions. Students learned that a good author can help the readers to make connections to the stories they write. Our students are publishing their original realistic fiction stories after learning the traits of good realistic fiction from, Third Grade Angels. We are proud of their work! In math, students have learned much about the concept of multiplication and many strategies for problem-solving. Also, they did a great job learning the concepts and skills of division. We find that students who know their multiplication facts did well in the recent chapters pertaining to division. Therefore, it is imperative that all students know their multiplication facts at home. In social studies, we continue to learn much about democracy, government, the Olympics, and the early history of our country more through our new information-rich curriculum. Science has us examining Physical Science units in which students learn about measurement, forces, and motion. We wish you a wonderful Valentine's Day and a wonderful Presidents' Day weekend!

## FOURTH GRADE NEWS: Mrs. Dinkjian & Ms. Mastellone

Extra! Extra! Read all about "Incredible People" in the hall of the second floor! The fourth grade classes read biographies of Incredible People throughout history. The subjects of the biographies included scientists, artists and musicians, authors, activists, and politicians. Our students created multi-layered, multi-step projects that included non-fiction reading, writing, technology, art, poetry, creative design, and oral presentations. By utilizing the skills taught through the Readers' Workshop, each student read a biography of their choice, then close read and took notes relating to the subject. Each student created a timeline of the Incredible Person's life. When writing, special attention was paid to the sequence of the events, including obstacles overcome and achievements accomplished in these Incredible People's lives. Lastly, using the skills taught through the Writers' Workshop, each student began writing to inform their audience. Student pre-wrote, drafted, re-drafted, edited, re-edited, and proofread their reports until they felt their writing was ready to be published because: Writing is a process; it's an on-going work in progress. During class, students were taught how to use the Chrome Books to create the proper format of an informational writing piece. Once the writing was published, each student created an acrostic poem relating to the subject of their biography. Then they designed and produced a model of that person using chenille stems (pipe-cleaners), oaktag, yarn, and fabric. Oral presentations will be given by each student with the hope of encouraging others to request an opportunity to read more biographies of "Incredible People."

