# THE QUARLES' BUZZ

A MONTHLY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2022 • ISSUE 7

## WHAT'S INSIDE

Administrator's Message

Notes from the School Nurse

Pre K Spotlight

Kindergarten Spotlight

Related Arts & Specialists' Corner

Spring is approaching and learning is in full swing here at Quarles! It won't be long before the warm weather arrives, and our end of year activities begin! Quarles students were very busy this March! Many classrooms were visited by leprechauns, some classrooms even designed leprechaun traps! Our Quarles students were celebrated on March 18 for Incredible Kid day! We hope you enjoy all the articles in our newsletter supporting our students' achievements !

Please continue to make school a priority for this is the time which students make the most academic and social improvements. It is important that our students arrive to school on time everyday . Thank you for supporting our teachers and administration!

Best wishes for a wonderful Spring ahead!

Quarles Administration

## NOTES FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE, MRS. JULIE KLAPPER

**“March comes in like a** **and out like a** **.”**

With the change of weather, allergy season is fast approaching. Allergies are best managed early in the season; when there is less need for strong medication and before causing secondary infections. Many symptoms can be avoided/managed via a regimen prescribed by your doctor. In most cases, that may include a daily medication given at home, in the morning, before school starts, providing all day relief and avoiding the need for in-school intervention. This is the preferable mode of treatment. In the event that a student is experiencing uncomfortable symptoms, or forgot to take their allergy medication at home, **please be informed that the school nurse cannot dispense medications without the following:**

1. **Physician orders cosigned by a parent and updated yearly.** Please use the Medication Authorization form that can be found on our school website.
2. A home-supplied quantity of the needed medication in the original container and labeled with your child’s name.

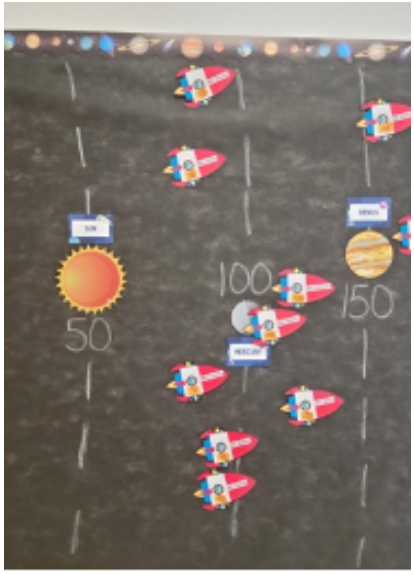
With your assistance, and with the guidance of your child’s pediatrician/allergist, we can help your child have a more comfortable and productive school experience.

If you have any questions, I can be reached at 201-862-6112 or via email at jklapper@epsd.org

# PRE-K SPOTLIGHT

## MS. THOMAS' CLASS

March was an Incredible month! We celebrated Read Across America, Incredible Kid Day and kicked off our Read-A-Thon! We were busy reading and celebrating all the Incredible kids in our class!!



# PRE-K SPOTLIGHT

## MS. ANDERSON'S CLASS

During the month of March, the students learned about different types of signs. They identified and created many signs that they see around them every day. Students also had fun listening to stories read to them by our Celebrity Readers during our "Read Across America" celebration week. Many thanks to or wonderful Celebrity Readers; Ms Ng, Ms Edone, Ms Salazar, Ms Kimble, Ms Madrid, Dr. Land and Ms Mohn. Students spent a lot of time in the library interest area looking through books independently and developing skills that are needed for writing and reading. They identified familiar pictures in books and showed great progress in language development and literacy. We also celebrated "Absolutely Incredible Kid Day," and parents sent letters which were read to the students on their very special day at school.

**Reading is FUN**!

**Signs are everywhere.**

**We are absolutely incredible kids!**

# KINDERGARTEN SPOTLIGHT

## MS. ROSENZWEIG'S CLASS

March is a busy time in kindergarten. Our reading, writing, and math skills have blossomed and we are becoming much more independent in our learning. At home, encourage your child to read books on their reading level everyday (the RAZ kids app on our iPads is a great resource for 'our level' books)!

We celebrated Absolutely Incredible Kids Day on March 18th. The kids in C2 did a lot of talking about what it means to be incredible. We decided we could see our incredibleness on the outside and inside of our skin (our feelings and our character traits). To show our outer and inner traits we created self-portraits using mirrors so we wouldn't miss the tiniest of details and then we turned ourselves into SuperKids with special eye masks and listed some of our inner, incredible traits like kindness, caring and being a good friend.

# Reading is A Blast!

During March our school held a Read-A-Thon. Students were encouraged to read books at home and bring in their reading logs to count the books toward the class total. Students read a total of 6,940 books for the month. Thank you to all who participated.

Pictured below are the students who read the most books.

Charlee Rae Rollins
Pre-K

Jamileth Rivera Lopez
Kindergarten

Pictured below are the classes who read the most books.

Ms. Bedoya's Class
Pre-K

Ms. Borowski's Class
Kindergarten

# A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words

## by Tara Nukk

A pre-reading strategy many teachers use in school is called a **Picture Walk**. The purpose of a picture walk is to establish interest in the story and to set up positive expectations about what is to come. As children look through the pictures and talk about what they think is happening in the pictures, they begin to build their reading skills. They discover that the book is either a story that has meaning or a source of information about the world.

Picture walks can also be easily done at home. Engaging in a picture walk before reading a story with your child, allows you to:

- Create interest in reading the story and activate prior knowledge about the topic
- Explore how your child sees and interprets the illustrations
- Help your child discuss and predict elements of the story from the visual cues (pictures)
- Help your child connect visual images to his/her own experiences and knowledge
- Actively involve your child in problem-solving

**How to Do a Picture Walk with Your Child:**

**1. Begin with the cover.** Read the title and ask your child, "Look at the picture on the front cover. What do you think this story is about?

**2. Flip through the book**. Do not read a single word. As you and your child flip through each page, model language and ask questions that will encourage your child to make inferences. Examples of the types of questions you can ask include:

- Who do you think this is?
- What is happening on this page?
- This is just like when you _____. An experience I had was...
- When does the story take place?
- Where does the story take place?
- Turn the page. What do you see? What do you think is happening?
- What do you think will happen next?
- Why do you think this character looks excited/scared/tired/happy?
- Here we are, almost at the end of the book. How will the story end?
- What are you curious to know more about in the story? I wonder if...

**3. Read the book aloud.** When finished with the picture walk, read the story with your child to see if the story turns out like he or she predicted it would. While reading, continue to prompt your child by asking the suggested the higher-order thinking questions listed above.

# Building Social Skills at Home

## by Venus Rose, School Counselor

Spending time with other children who are the same age is the best way for your child to develop good social skills. Time spent with peers teaches children how to solve problems, share ideas, cooperate with others and develop conversational skills.

Below are tips to encourage social skills and initiate and maintain healthy friendships.

-Provide social opportunities. Find children with similar interests.

-Plan activities that give your child the opportunity to play and interact with other children, such as playdates and going to the park.

-Play games that help children learn to take turns and how to win and lose.

-Provide adult supervision to help keep interactions positive. Try to let children solve their own differences, but stay close so that you can model problem solving behavior if needed.

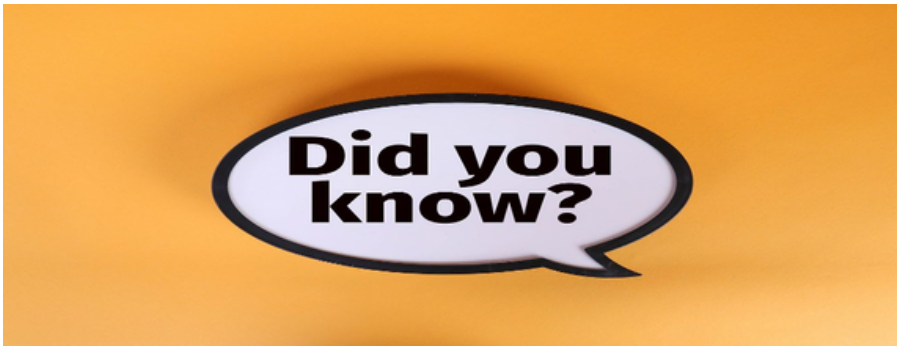
-Encourage your child to be friendly to everyone. Smile and strike up conversations by giving a compliment or asking a question.

-Teach your child how to express his/her feelings using words.

-Role play situations your child may encounter with other children and adults.

-Join a group or activity in the local community.

-Praise your child when you see him/her using good social skills.




## Greetings Quarles Families!

This month I'd like to give you information on PSE&G's initiative to help families get back on track with their energy payments.

Your family can enroll in a PSE&G Deferred Payment Arrangement (DPA) by visiting: https://nj.myaccount.pseg.com/viewmybill/deferredpaymentarrangementpublic; or calling 800-357-2262. When asked, "what would you like help with today?" say, "payment arrangement."

In addition to this, your family can apply for additional state energy assistance found on nj211.org. Just navigate to this link for more information: https://www.nj211.org/utility-assistance-programs.

If you have any questions on these, or any other community resource, I am only an email away: zpena@epsd.org.

Talk soon!

**Zulema Peña-Cordova**
Community and Parent Involvement Specialist, Pre-K
Trabajadora Comunitaria y de Familias, Pre-K