

P.S. 133

The Bellerose School of Excellence
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P.S. 133 School Community,

January 2026

Happy New Year! We hope the holidays brought joy, health, and happiness to you and your loved ones. As we step into 2026, we remain committed to our school priorities of **Rigorous Instruction** and a **Supportive Environment** for all students.

Rigorous Instruction: Focusing on Growth

Our mission is to ensure every student reaches their fullest potential. This month, our instructional focus is on collecting meaningful data and providing targeted, rigorous learning experiences.

- **Mid-Year Assessments:** Throughout January, all K–5 students will participate in our Middle-of-Year Universal Screeners (i-Ready and Acadience). These assessments provide the most accurate, up-to-date information about each student's progress in Literacy and Mathematics.
- **Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports (MTSS):** Using the MTSS framework, we address the individual needs of every child. This allows us to deliver targeted support or enrichment based on the specific standard, topic, or skill each student needs to continue moving forward.
- **Curriculum Implementation:** P.S. 133 is proud of our collective efforts in the way we implement NYC Reads (HMH Into Reading and Foundations) and NYC Solves (Illustrative Mathematics). Our teachers continuously engage in professional learning to strengthen their instructional practice, share best practices, and ensure high-quality, rigorous instruction occurs daily with their students.
- **Celebrating Success:** We are thrilled to see tremendous growth in student literacy, particularly in the sophisticated vocabulary students are using in their writing and classroom conversations
- **Parent Workshops:** We are supporting families with a variety of workshops and family events in January, so please calendar and reach out for more information.
 - 1/9 - Writing Workshop (Grades 3-5, 8AM - Library)
 - 1/13 - NYS Supporting Children and Families (All Grades - Auditorium - 8AM)
 - 1/14 - Writing Workshop (Grade 3-5, 5PM - Zoom)
 - 1/16 - Supporting Your Child at Home (Grades K-2, Auditorium/Classrooms - 12:30PM - 2PM)
 - 1/27 - Family Workshop (Time Management, Organization, Focus) - 2:30PM (Library)
- Please remember to utilize our [Family Success Plan](#) and the at-home resources available on the i-Ready platform to support your child's individual learning journey.

Supportive Environment: Building Character

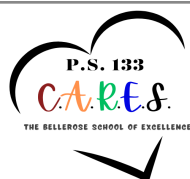
A safe, respectful, and supportive school environment is the foundation on which academic rigor thrives. Our character-building work continues to focus on supporting the social and emotional development of all students.

- **Respect For All & Social-Emotional Learning (SEL):** Our CARES program remains central to our collaborative school culture, offering character education opportunities for students from 3K–5. In addition, our continued work with CASEL and MindUP provides students with strategies, lessons, and activities that help them recognize, regulate, and take ownership of their emotions.

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- **The Owl's Nest Leaders:** Our Owl's Nest students, as well as those recognized for Student of the Month with our "Owl on the Prowl" initiative, continue to shine as role models throughout the building—demonstrating leadership, kindness, and respect.
 - We look forward to maintaining a school environment where all spaces are respectful, safe, fun, and welcoming for every student each day.
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Safety First: A Shared Responsibility

Although rigorous instruction and a supportive environment are essential, safety will always remain our top priority at P.S. 133. All TEAM members are encouraged to support our overall collective efforts with the following:

- **Traffic & Arrival/Dismissal:** Please follow all posted traffic and parking regulations to ensure a safe commute and transition for students. Give yourself extra time both in the morning and afternoon.
- **Shared Spaces:** Students are expected to follow established safety protocols in the cafeteria, recess and bathrooms (e.g., walking at all times, respecting others' privacy and personal space).
- **Community Awareness:** Safety does not end at the school gates. Please encourage students to practice safe habits as they travel to and from school each day, as well as engage with one another after school in the school yard.
- And remember—**Hootie is always watching, because "The Owl is on the Prowl!"** We appreciate your continued cooperation in keeping P.S. 133 safe for everyone.

See below for some exciting upcoming school experiences on the horizon at P.S. 133.

- 1/5 - School-wide MindUp Day
- 1/6 - Middle of Year Diagnostic Assessments (I-Ready, Acadience)
- 1/6 - Queens North Spelling Bee
- 1/7 - C.A.R.E.S Assemblies
- 1/9 - 3K Ball Family Engagement
- 1/9 - P.S. 133 Family Workshop - 8:00AM (Writing Strategies for Grades 3-5) - Auditorium
- 1/9 - PTA Movie Night - 4:00PM
- 1/13 - P.S. 133 Family Workshop - 8:00AM (OHEL Children Home and Family Services) - Auditorium
- 1/14 - P.S. 133 Family Workshop - 5:00PM (Writing Strategies for Grades 3-5) - Zoom
- 1/16 - Basketball/Cheer at P.S. 213 - 10:00AM
- 1/16 - Flushing Town Hall Dance Assembly - Grades K-2
- 1/19 - NO SCHOOL (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)
- 1/20 - CASA Afterschool Family Sharing - 3PM
- 1/23 - Grade 4 to Francis Lewis HS - Arts Performance
- 1/23 - Queens Soapbox Showcase
- 1/27 - Family Workshop (Time Management, Organization, Focus) - 2:30PM (Library)
- 1/28 - 5th Grade Graduation Photos and Retakes
- 1/30 - P.S. 133 Participatory Voting
- 1/30 - PreK Family Engagement - 9:30AM

As ongoing communication and feedback continues to be a priority at P.S. 133, you are all invited to attend our in-person **SLT** meeting each month, being held this month on **Monday, January 12th in the P.S. 133 Library at 5:30pm**. Additionally, we hope you are able to attend our monthly **PTA Meeting**, taking place on **Tuesday, January 27th at 6:00PM** via Zoom. Lastly, to ensure all families are able to have any questions, concerns or wonderings asked, I will be hosting a **Coffee and Conversation** for families on **Friday, January 30th at 8:00AM**.

We look forward to a great start to the new year. Thank you for your continued support of our entire school community.

Sincerely,
Matthew Paolano, Principal