

Mrs. Ponte's Weekly Newsletter

Dear Families,

Thank you to everyone who attended a student led conference over the last couple weeks. I enjoyed meeting with each of you and your students. An issue that came up several times was handwriting. Based on that feedback, we'll be starting (very brief) cursive practice in the next week or so. Cursive helps with fine motor skills, neural connections in the brain, as well as improving handwriting legibility. Plus, students will be able to read the Declaration of Independence by the time we get to our Revolutions unit. 😊

Important Dates

September 17th: Falcon Wear orders due

September 23th: No School

October 7-11th: Fall Break

Learner Profile Trait of the Month:

Inquirer: Inquirers develop their natural curiosity. They acquire the skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research and show independence in learning. They actively enjoy learning and this love of learning will be sustained throughout their lives.

Notice and Note – Some questions to ask at home as students are reading:

During our conferences, your students talked about looking for “signposts” in the books they’re reading. Here are some questions to ask your child about the “signposts” they are finding in their reading. All students should know what each Signpost means, so these questions should help support students once they’ve noticed a signpost.

Unit of Inquiry: How the World Works

Central Idea: Interactions are a catalyst for change.

Focus of Inquiry: Students are tuning in to our central idea. We played a tag game and observed interactions last week. We also watched an example of a [Rube Goldberg Machine](#) and observed causes/effects. This week we will engage in some science experiments and read about different states of matter.



1. Contrasts and Contradictions: Why would the character act (feel) this way?
2. Aha Moment: How might this change things for the main character or the plot?
3. Tough Questions: What does this question make me wonder about?
4. Words of the Wiser: What’s the life lesson and how might it affect the character?
5. Again and Again: Why might the author bring this up again and again?
6. Memory Moment: Why might this memory be important?