



FEBRUARY 2022

LAUNCH BLAST

Monthly Newsletter of Launch Expeditionary Learning Charter School

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Happy Black History Month

Launch is a school where all students are seen and celebrated, while Black History Month is an opportunity to uplift Black joy and achievement, we celebrate Black history everyday! #BlackHistory365

#TogetherWeLaunch

STAY IN THE KNOW

Please text YES to **67587** to opt in to receive messages from the Launch communication system.

A Message From The Principal

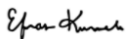
To Our Launch Community,

We are more than halfway through this school year and students are well on their way toward getting prepared for success in the next grade level and, for our 8th graders, a transition to a new school!

The month of February is filled with celebrations of Black History, Black Excellence and Black Futures at Launch. This year, we have a broad range of presentations and events planned for our students and community. We kicked off with the Black Lives Matter at School National Week of Action which included impactful Crew lessons about the national demands, a grade level "Get-Together" assembly, themed spirit days, and field trips. We concluded the week with an **unforgettable poetry slam with our partners at SOS Crown Heights**. At Launch, we learn about Black History and celebrate Black Excellence all year round, but at this special time of year, our focus is amplified even more.

This month, we are also taking our Practice State Tests to prepare for the upcoming NY State tests at the end of March and April. **We will share data with students and utilize it to support our test prep units in ELA and in Math.** Please continue reinforcing for your child the importance of putting their best effort forward on our state tests and preparation for them.

Feel free to reach out to myself or any member of the Launch Crew anytime. We are your partners!



Efrat Kussell
Principal
ekussell@launchschool.org
(718) 715-1180



A Message from our Family Engagement Coordinator

Greetings Launch Community,

Our **Parent Association Meeting was on Feb 15, 2022 @6pm**. If you have not already done so please complete the Parent Association Survey that was sent in your email.

Standardized tests in ELA will be taken in March, Math will be in April and Science (for 8th grade) in June. We would love for parents to email words of encouragement to their students, crew teachers or me at Sdavis@launchschool.org.

As soon as you can so that we can have an overflow of positive affirmations for all of our students.



Poetry Slam: Love is Louder

On Friday, February 4th, Launch collaborated with our long-time partners at **SOS Crown Heights** to host a Poetry Slam centered on Black Futures as part of the National Black Lives Matter Week of Action in Schools.

Launch students, staff, alumni, families and the SOS community shared original poems. Full video is available in the "Highlights" section of our website.



A Message From Our Director of School Operations

UPDATED DOE COVID POLICIES

As a reminder provided by the DOE and NYS, **anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 must isolate.** This means the individual cannot go to school or work and should not leave their home, except to seek medical care.

Staff, Students in K-12 Classrooms: The isolation period for all staff and students in kindergarten and above who test positive for COVID-19 has been shortened to five days (from ten), regardless of age or vaccine/booster status. Individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 do not need a negative COVID test to return to school or work on Day 6.

- **If an individual has COVID symptoms and tests positive (on any kind of COVID test),** the individual must isolate for a minimum of five days with Day 0 being the day that symptoms started. After five days the individual may return to school/work so long as they have been fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication and symptoms are improving.
- **If an individual has no symptoms but tested positive (on any kind of COVID test),** the individual must isolate for five days, with Day 0 being the day the test was collected. If symptoms develop within five days of testing positive, the five-day isolation count must restart, with Day 0 being the day symptoms started.
- **If an individual has COVID-like symptoms and is awaiting a test result,** the individual must isolate until the test result is received OR for five days, whichever comes first. If the test result is negative, the individual can end isolation. If the test result is positive, the individual must complete the five-day isolation period and may return to school/work so long as they have been fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication and symptoms are improving.

Staff, Students in K-12 Classrooms: All staff and students in grades Kindergarten and higher, when exposed to COVID-19 at school, do not need to quarantine and should continue to use the home test kits provided by their schools. Following an exposure at school, an individual should test that evening and test again five days later.

- **If an individual is not fully vaccinated and exposed to COVID-19 outside of a school setting,** the individual must quarantine for five days; this has been reduced from ten days. An unvaccinated student who is exposed in the home must continue to quarantine for an additional five days after a household member's isolation period has ended, if the household member and student are staying in the same home during that time.

Please note that if a staff or student has recovered from COVID-19 within the last three months, they do not need to quarantine or receive an at-home test kit following exposure unless they become symptomatic (new fever of 100 degrees F or higher, new cough, new sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, new shortness of breath).

Health & Safety Measures

In an effort to support our student and staff community, we are reaching out to families to ask for support in reinforcing our health and safety standards and structures here at Launch. **To ensure that we minimize the spread of COVID-19, we ask parents to talk with students about the importance of mask wearing and being socially distanced throughout the day (in and outside of our building). Reinforcing the importance of being/staying safe and being cautious around others is a practice that we want students to embody.** We will continue to support/remind students to practice safe and responsible actions and welcome the support from our parents and partners to further these conversations at home!

A Message From Our Director of School Operations (cont'd)

VEGAN FRIDAYS

New York City public school cafeterias are going vegan on Fridays as part of a new policy from Mayor Eric Adams that starts this week. **It means foods like macaroni and cheese, pizza, and mozzarella sticks will be off the menu.**

"Plant-based options in schools means healthy eating and healthy living, and improving the quality of life for thousands of New York City students," said Adams, who is vegan himself. "Plant-based meals are delicious and nutritious, which is why I previously called for vegetarian and vegan options in schools. I'm thrilled to see that all students will now have access to healthy foods that will prevent debilitating health conditions."

Missing Student Records & Information

During the month of February, the Operations Team will be reaching out to families to collect the following Items: updated COVID-19 consent forms, proof of residency, handbook confirmations, immunization records and birth certificates. **Students will be sent home with forms that specify what items are missing from their files. Please return the form with the associated document to the Main Office as soon as possible. In addition, if you have any questions, please reach out to Mr. Joseph - Director of School Operations - at SJoseph@launchschool.org or call the Main office at (718) 715-0548.**

Immunization for School Year 2021-2022

As a reminder, if you haven't already, please reach out to your medical provider to update your child's Immunizations for the 2021-2022 school year. **6th grader students must receive a Tdap shot while 7th grader students must receive their meningitis immunization from their medical provider.** If you have questions related to immunizations or other student records, please reach out to SSavage@launchschool.org.

Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) Food Benefits

The Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) is part of the U.S. government response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Through P-EBT, eligible school children receive temporary emergency nutrition benefits loaded on EBT cards that are used to purchase food. Children who would have received free or reduced-price meals under the National School Lunch Act if their schools were not closed or operating with reduced hours or attendance for at least 5 consecutive days are eligible to receive P-EBT benefits. P-EBT also provides benefits to younger children in households participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) whose covered child care facility is closed or operating with reduced hours or attendance, or who live in the area of schools that are closed or operating with reduced hours or attendance.

HEALTHY SMILES DENTAL PROGRAM

Healthy Smiles is an innovative leader in children's dental care that visits schools throughout New York State. Healthy Smiles, in collaboration with the NYC Dept. of Health and the NYC Dept. of Education, provides preventative dental care by highly trained dental staff. The services provided include a screening, gentle cleaning, fluoride treatment and sealants. Healthy Smile also provides an interactive educational workshop teaching children how to maintain proper oral hygiene. All treatments are noninvasive and done in the school under the direct supervision of the school staff. A follow up report will be sent home explaining whether the child has any cavities and if they need to visit their primary dentist for further care.

All students are welcomed to participate in the onsite dental program happening on March, 3rd and 4th. Permission slips for this service werel passed out to students on December 2nd, 2021. Please return this permission slip back by January 4th, 2022 to secure your child's spot.

6TH GRADE UPDATES

Message from the Grade Level Chair

Our 6th graders are half-way through their first year as Launch students! **They are half-way to becoming 7th graders.** It has been thrilling to see the growth they've made so far this year. As we transition into Quarter 3, we continue to expect **MORE** from our 6th graders! More responsibility, more maturity, and more achievement! At this point, Launch 6th graders should be doing an outstanding job embodying **Launch's Habits of Heart and Mind: kindness and collaboration, integrity and stewardship, dedication and practice, and spirit and imagination!** It has been incredible to see our 6th graders step up during this month's Black History Month celebrations - with so many students presenting their poetry at our Love is Louder Slam Poetry presentation! **Shout out to Naturi, Nazdur, Crystal, Amari, and Shane B for their amazing poems!**

MATH

WOW! We've learned SO MUCH already this year - and we're only halfway done! Students recently took their MAP assessment, and we saw exciting growth! **Shout out to Milan who made the MOST GROWTH in 6th grade with 18 points of growth!** On February 10th we took the **Practice State Exam.** It's been a while since students may have taken a state exam, so we want to remind them of the keys to success as we near the REAL state exam. **Use your mathematician's plan! Annotate and interpret each question. Show and check your work! And as we continue to learn more and more, take time to review past work so it stays fresh!** This is why we have students keep their work packets - so they can use them to study.

Please remember: Students have math homework EVERY TUESDAY AND THURSDAY and a quiz EVERY FRIDAY! Completing and preparing for these will ensure your student has an awesome grade!

SCIENCE

In 6th Grade Science, students will be **"taking a trip"** through Space as we explore the Solar System, planets, the Moon and the Sun. **Students have been researching a planet and will be collaborating with each other to create a project that showcases their creativity and understanding.** As we move through Space, students will learn about the phases of the Moon, reasons for the seasons and the scale of planets and distance between.

During our Black History Month celebration, we have learned about the amazing scientific contributions of Mae Jemison, Guy Bluford, Katherine Johnson, Neil Degrasse Tyson and Wangari Maathai.



ELA

We are so proud of our 6th graders. They finished reading Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief as well as completed a multimedia presentation. They had an opportunity to listen and give feedback to each other. The projects were awesome. **We are currently in our 3rd unit and we are reading My Name is Seepetza by Shirley Sterling.** The topics that have been discussed have already motivated students to participate and share their points of view. **Before we leave for the mid winter break we will have a socratic seminar.** We know that the discussions will be insightful. Please ask your child about some of the topics. They will be assigned to work on a project during the break; this is the end of the unit task. They will have to write an OP ED. We will send a detailed email with more specifics. **Please continue to encourage independent reading every night for at least 30 minutes.**

SOCIAL STUDIES

Over the past month, we have been diving into Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky by Kwame Mbalia. Using this book, **we have explored how African culture is portrayed in American culture and to children.** Students were able to find connections to what we have learned in the novel, determine its significance in both the book and in African culture, and connect it back to our everyday lives. Over the next week, we will be focusing on the concept of a Storybox, a representation of told and untold stories of Africa. Students will be creating their own Storybox full of stories of their choosing that connects to African culture, history, and traditions. **Shout outs to Jacob Bailey, Aldrick David, and Jamel Baxter who have been knocking it out of the classroom with their inferences making and contributions to classroom discussions.**

Please remember: Students should keep their work packets - so they can use them to review and study. Students consistently have homework at least twice a week! Completing and preparing for these will ensure your student has an awesome grade!

CELEBRATIONS

2022 BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

This month will be full of beautiful, memorable and celebratory events to uplift Black history, culture and excellence. We kicked-off our Black History Celebration by joining hundreds of schools nationwide to celebrate the National Black Lives Matter Week of Action in Schools! Special shoutout to Nefertiti H. for designing our 2022 Black History Month Celebration t-shirts.



2022 UPCOMING EVENTS

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

- FEB 7-11** BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION
THEME THIS WEEK IS AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURE
WE WILL CELEBRATE DURING SEL AFTERNOONS
- FEB 14-18** BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION
THIS WEEK'S THEME IS AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURE
- FEB 14** LIBRARY LOVERS DAY
WEAR PINK OR RED. FUN ACTIVITIES FOR THE LOVE OF READING!!!
- FEB 18** BLACK HISTORY MOVIE NIGHT
WE WILL CELEBRATE BLACK MOVIES VIRTUALLY AT 6PM VIA ZOOM
- FEB 21-25** BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION
HEALTH & WELLNESS- VIRTUAL WEEK
- FEB 23** BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION
VIRTUAL MEDITATION SESSION AT 11 AM

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT MS. WELCH IN THE RJ ROOM 309B

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LAUNCH PRIDE

Special shoutout to the basketball team for winning their 2nd game of the season (2-1). Congratulations to the entire team and our top notch coaching staff. Stay tuned...We have more to come



LAUNCH PRESENTS

FOR THE LOVE OF READING

LIBRARY LOVERS DAY

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH

WEAR PINK OR RED

Join us for a day of sharing joy and love in the name of READING! Community, wear red or pink next Monday! Also, please join us in sharing books. If you would like to donate books, drop offs will be in the RJ ROOM. Students will be escorted to our library festivities during lunch, at 1pm on 2/14!

If you would like to learn more about our festivities during lunch next Monday, please check in with Ms. Duran, Ms. Leake, or Ms. Welch.

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7TH GRADE UPDATES

Message from the Grade Level Chair

After a successful week of online learning, our 7th graders were able to welcome in the New Year together by returning to in-building classes. **Our 7th graders have been working to keep our community safe by consistently wearing our face masks.** They have acted as leaders in our school and have set the example for our younger students. **Our 7th graders will continue striving to be role-models as they work to tighten up their transitions between classes.** Students completed their MAP assessments this month, and will complete their PSTs. We loved to see the academic growth our 7th graders have made so far this year and **we look forward to seeing them continue to grow as scholars!**

ELA

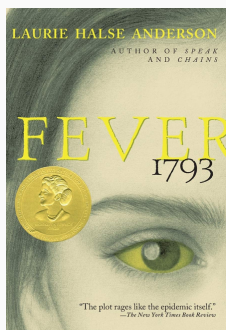
Our 7th grade readers have been exploring the **Harlem Renaissance this month!** After learning about the Great Migration and the history behind the Harlem Renaissance, our readers analyzed poetry, songs, and artwork from the time period. Our readers were able to explore the works of the Harlem Renaissance and master their analysis skills of poetic devices along the way! Students ended the unit by writing an essay analyzing the major themes and works of the Harlem Renaissance. **We have loved seeing our readers tackle poetry in this unit. Keep up the good work, readers!**

SOCIAL STUDIES

Woohoo Social Studies unit *We The People Who?*

will soon be coming to an end. For our product of learning students will write a 4-5 paragraph informational essay. **Students have already been exploring different resources about their chosen constitutional case.** They have been utilizing the Bill of Rights to identify which rights were not protected with those involved in their cases and what are possible solutions to prevent these specific issues from reoccurring in the future. We are looking forward to reading these amazing writing pieces.

Moving forward. Student historians will begin reading **FEVER!!!** Fever is a book about an epidemic that happened in Philadelphia over 200 years ago – called yellow fever. We are all still living through COVID-19 pandemic. While pandemic means that it's happening globally or in a wide geographic area, an epidemic is a disease that is affecting a specific area or community – in this case, Philadelphia. **Students will compare the detrimental spreads and learn about historical events that took place during this time.**



MATH

7th grade mathematicians kicked off the new year by exploring how to calculate the percent of a number as well as the percent increase and decrease. This is so practical in many real-world situations such as shopping, sports, and business. Mathematicians also investigated scale drawings and even created their own! In February, we will kick-off our first geometry unit by learning about the circumference and area of a circle. This is a fun unit that allows students to investigate all kinds of circles found in our everyday lives.

Huge shout out to the Math Students of the Month: Jamie G (December), Tatiana C. (January), and Nylaih B. (January). Also, special shoutout to this week's Math Superstars: Saniyah B., Oldany C., Leslie P., Stephanie L., Rodney C., Mohammed A, Hamid F.

Important Upcoming Dates:

Every Friday - Weekly Quiz

SCIENCE

7th Grade Scientists have been working their way through our Thermal Energy Unit. Students are working to understand heating, cooling and discover that temperature change is explained by molecular movement and the facilitation of kinetic energy transfer from one thing to another. **We unfortunately have had to pause our Egg Drop Experiment given the need to go virtual in the beginning of January, but we have every intention to complete the project as soon as feasible.**

Superstar shout-outs to both **Saniyah Barrett** from 7.1 and **Joshua Pabon** in 7.3. They have shown a firm grasp of the unit concepts, vocabulary and have been of great assistance explaining and somewhat teaching their peers during our week of remote learning.

Chapter Quizzes for Chapter 1 - Understanding Temperature and Chapter 2 - Temperature and Energy have also taken place with an eye towards the Chapter 3 Quiz in the coming weeks.

High School

Launch Charter School, are coordinating with Bedford Academy's Math Department and Principal Dr. Muhammad, to help prepare their 8th grade scholars for the June Regents Examination. What a wonderful way for Ms. Logan to pay it forward. Before they began their first session with math teacher, Ms. Rabina, Dr. Lavache spoke to them upon their arrival.

All High School Applications have been submitted by Launch on behalf of all 8th grade students/families. Acceptance Letters will go out and be announced in early June.



Alumni Feature

Meet Samantha

Samantha is now a sophomore at Princeton University anticipated to major in Neuroscience and obtain a Certificate in French. She has a passion for the performing arts and even participated in a program where the cast wrote and performed their own original musical titled "In Tune." **Samantha credits education as "one of my most important personal values and many of my educational values are rooted in what I learned at Launch: The Habits of Heart And Mind -- these stood as the cornerstone of not only my academic character, but students' personal character as well. I am forever grateful that I am a part of such an amazing community!"**



College Awareness

HBCU Night Barclays Center and Brooklyn Nets The HBCU Night Opportunity for Students/Families: **FREE Panel/Fair/Food/Game for first 500 registrants**

Tickets to Nets v. Celtics game

This invites your students to attend HBCU Night's (FREE) pregame events at Barclays Center on 2.24.22. The HBCU Night scholars have received over \$52M in scholarship offers to-date and our mission hasn't changed! Contact Ms. Logan @ TLogan@launchschool.org if you are interested.



8TH GRADE UPDATES

Message from the Grade Level Chair

As we transition into Quarter 3, we would like to **celebrate the growth our 8th graders have made this year**. In January, our students took their MAP Assessments and demonstrated their **Dedication and Practice**. This quarter, our students will be taking their Practice State Tests, in preparation for the New York State Exams administered in the spring. This month we engage in our **Black History Month celebration**, where we uplift and celebrate Black and Brown stories throughout the community. We had a strong kick off and it was a joy to see our students participate in events such as Dress for Your Future Career and Rep Your Culture Day.

MATH

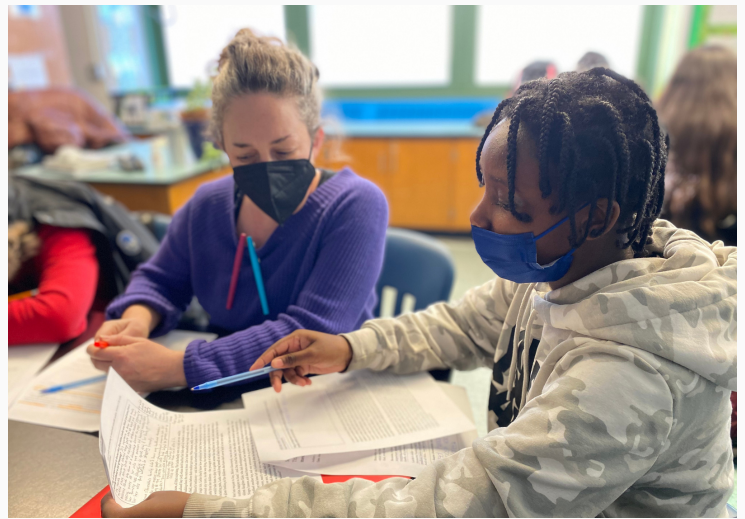
In Math, students have finished Quarter 2 with our Slope unit. This directly relates to the work they will engage in for Quarter 3, as we move into your Functions unit. Students have demonstrated their ability to identify functions and determine whether a function is linear or nonlinear. As we examine linear functions, students will solve real world problems that highlight how math content can be used in daily scenarios.

For continued success in Math, students should establish a study routine and utilize resources such as Khan Academy for additional Math explanation videos. Quizzes are given each Friday and students receive Math homework each week.

SCIENCE

Students have been showing advanced scientific skills in their work with microscopes! Students recently investigated microorganisms and what bacteria is living around us in our environment in a recent lab. We are currently learning about plant and animal cells. During this unit students will continue to learn about the specialized cells in our bodies and branch out to learn more in depth about the structures and functions of human anatomy.

Students will be engaged in weekly labs. A quiz is given every other Thursday. All classwork is posted and updated weekly on Google Classroom.



ELA

Students have hit the ground running in 2022. We finished our study of *The Omnivore's Dilemma* with a persuasive essay in which students created food rules that everyone should follow in order to be healthy and sustainable eaters. **Students conducted research on their chosen rules and explained to their audience why their rules matter and should be followed.**

We began our study of graphic memoirs. **Students are in book club groups that will be studying at least three graphic memoirs over the next few weeks.** These texts come from a variety of places around the world, and all are centered on the experience of growing up in times of upheaval or conflict. Groups are working to self-manage—they are choosing their own texts, setting their own reading calendars, and working more independently on their classwork each day. **This is to prepare students for increased independence and responsibility in high school!**

On the horizon, we have our test prep unit in advance of the NYS ELA test, which will be held on March 30 and 31. In preparation, **a practice state test was administered on February 9th.**

SOCIAL STUDIES

Students have finished up this quarter with a bang by completing their Narratives for our Westward Expansion Unit. Where they were able to out themselves in the shoes of the Natives

This week we have just started our mini Unit on the Black Experience of the 19th century. We will be discussing the role of Slavery in American History. **We will dive into the origins of Slavery, history of Slavery in America. We will do this by analyzing the 13th Amendment, rebellions of enslaved peoples in America, Black Authors, Activists, and abolitionists, and many other historical events that have been motivated by or effected by the enslavement of Africans in America.**

We will continue to have 1-2 Homework assignments per week as well as one quiz per week.

Message from our Counseling Team

Ubuntu! (I am, because we are)

As we lean into all the pride and excitement of Black History Month, The Counseling Team would like to emphasize the value and importance of our Ubuntu ideals.

Ubuntu is a community principle that highlights humanity and interconnectedness for people of African descent. As counselors, we recognize the impact on our community when some members are not performing at their best.

Here are **11** signals that your child may need additional support:

1. Drastic Changes in behavior such as: little to no appetite, decreased interest in prior hobbies, sleeping more frequently
2. Increased negativity in casual conversation or comments online
3. Increased agitation and/or excessive worrying
4. Withdrawn from social interactions
5. Poor upkeep of personal hygiene
6. Increased Negative Phone Calls home
7. Extreme Mood Swings
8. Engaging in risky behaviors: substance use and sexual activity etc
9. Harming themselves/Disregarding personal safety
10. Excessive Lateness or avoidance of class
11. Not returning phone calls

Announcements:

8th Grade Families **RE:** Working Papers
Here's what you need to know:

- **If your child is 14 yrs old or (turning 14 before 7/1/2022) they will be eligible to receive a Blue Working Card**
- **Applications were given to eligible students on 1/28**
- **Counseling Team will be hosting Career Planning Workshops in the Spring, More info to follow**

Please complete Section 1 and Send back to school

If you have questions please email counselingteam@launchschool.org

AT-18
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12234

Nonfactory Employment Certificate
Valid for Lawful
Employment of a Minor 14 or 15 Years of Age
Enrolled in Day School When Attendance
Is Not Required

(This certificate expires the day preceding the minor's sixteenth birthday)

Number _____ Date of Issuance _____

Name of Minor _____

Date of Birth _____ Social Security Number _____

Signature of Minor in Presence of Issuing Official _____

(School Building and Public School District) _____

Signature of Issuing Official _____

Rev. 9/91 C. F. Williams & Son, P.O. Box 828, Albany, N. Y. 12201



Message from our Restorative Practices Coordinator

We are in the second half of the school year, and want to remind our students the importance of showing up to school on time. As we lean into our Restorative practice each day, **we would like to lean on our partnerships with families that have students who have been struggling to get to school on time.** Our hope is to find solutions that will allow those students to make it to school on time and be productive in their first period class.

The RJ team will be hosting a Tardy room for those students who are late, to reach out to families and create the space to find solutions.

We also want to take time to celebrate our student leaders for taking the initiative to lead the work in supporting the community by engaging in Restorative practices as the Student RJ Council!!!!

Ubuntu,
Mr. Antoine
Restorative Practice Coordinator
wantoine@launchschool.org
718-559-9064

MULTI-SUBJECT UPDATES

Message from the Grade Level Chair

Hello Multi-Subject Launch Families,

Once again we have been celebrating our students in Multi-Subject. Our students have been recognized in Quarter 2 by receiving Awards, Certificates and Shout Outs from their peers. **Our students have been working hard and deserve the recognition. We just ended Quarter 2 and we are entering into Quarter 3 strong.**

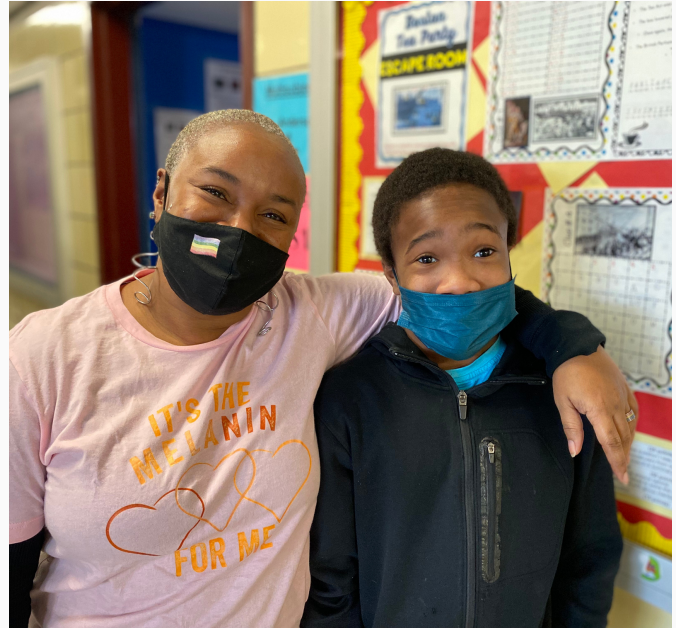
Thanks goes out to our strong Multi-Subject Team.



STEM

We are excited to take a deep dive into our Earth History Unit and explore the earliest known history of our Earth! Students have a new found love for our Earth with the interesting facts that they have discovered! **Students have already taken virtual tours using Google Earth to learn about different landforms across the world with amazing aerial images and have used descriptions to bring them to life!**

In STEM Math, Students are beasts at Beast Academy as we are opening our new unit of study around problem solving by drawing pictures and word problems. **We ask that you continue to encourage your child to log on to i-Ready nightly so that they can complete the personalized lessons to strengthen their skills.**

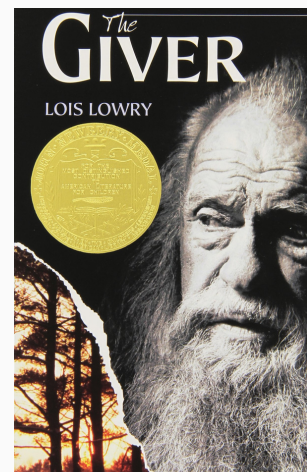


HUMANITIES

Happy Black History Month, families,

Pardon the cliché, but reading really is fundamental. We are midway through the dystopian novel *The Giver* and our students are really enjoying it as we explore themes like freedom and choice, the importance of individuality over conformity, and the value and limitations of memories. **While students don't take these books home, please encourage them to read on their own. They should be reading at least 15 minutes a night.** They can read their own books (and they are welcome to take books from our classroom library). **They can also read in I-Ready and GetEpic. (Want to join them? You can access GetEpic at <https://www.getepic.com/> The class code is yrs7858.)**

In history, we continue to dive into the complexities of American History. Currently, we are exploring the foundation of U.S. Government—the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and more.



February 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 School Closed - Lunar New Year	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Board of Regents Renewal Vote	15 Virtual PA Meeting 6PM - 7:30PM	16	17	18	19
20	21 School Closed - Mid-Winter Break	22 School Closed - Mid-Winter Break	23 School Closed - Mid-Winter Break	24 School Closed - Mid-Winter Break	25 School Closed - Mid-Winter Break	26
27	28					

Do you know any 5th graders?

The Launch application for the 2021-2022 school year is open! Please spread the word and check out our website (www.launchschool.org) to find the application and recruitment event information.

VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

This is an opportunity to learn more about Launch culture, our program, and what makes our school unique. Enjoy presentations from our leaders, Parent Coordinator, Student Ambassadors and other Launch staff.

Launch Recruitment Open House #6 ~ Wednesday, March 16th 6:00pm - 7:30pm

If you refer a family who applies, please let us know. We love to thank your current families for spreading the word.

Questions?

Contact Ms. Rubin at 718-715-1191



LAUNCH

A NYC Outward Bound School



Achieve More

APPLY TODAY FOR 6TH, 7TH OR 8TH GRADE

1580 DEAN STREET AT THE CORNER OF TROY | WWW.LAUNCHSCHOOL.ORG

Every Launch student thrives in school because they feel like they belong and can succeed.



LAUNCH'S HABITS OF HEART & MIND



INTEGRITY & STEWARDSHIP



IMAGINATION & SPIRIT



KINDNESS & COLLABORATION



DEDICATION & PRACTICE