

November Newsletter for Ms. Nellie's class

Hello families! This month we're developing our critical thinking and observation skills with this warm up activity "What's going on in this picture?"

<https://www.nytimes.com/column/learning-whats-going-on-in-this-picture>

It's a series of photographs published by the New York Times. We answer these three questions in our notebooks: *What's going on in this picture? What do you see that makes you say that? What more can you find?* Then we discuss them as a class. I'm encouraging students to add details to their writing using evidence from the photographs. It's been a great opportunity to learn about geography as well because the photographs are taken all around the world.

After our warm up, we dive into reading our unit book. In the next few weeks I will be introducing options for final projects. **One of our advanced learner goals is to choose a project based on their learning preference and self-monitor progress toward completion.**

Current reading list:

3rd grade-Anne of West Philly. Next we will be reading The Green Book.

4th grade-Alvin Ho. Next we will be reading The Secret Garden on 81st street.

5th grade-I am Malala. We are learning about Malala's early life in Pakistan and discussing similarities differences between children in Pakistan/children in Minnesota.

I'm sorry if I missed the chance to connect with you at conferences-my daughter got sick so I had to leave early. Please reach out via email if you have questions or concerns. I work at Sullivan on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Take care,

Nellie