

# MS 354 Times



## Hello

# April



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**APRIL EVENTS**

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**& HIGHLIGHTS**

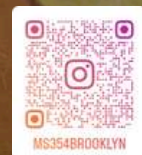
**TEACHER & STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS**

**PARENT CORNER**

**DR MONIQUE CAMPBELL, Principal**  
**KIMANI SMITH, Assistant Principal**  
**CYLANN PHILLIPS, Assistant Principal**  
**MAXINE GRIFFITH, School Counselor**  
**ELROY CORMACK, Parent Coordinator**  
**Amanda Bernadine, Counseling In Schools**  
**Handel Barclay, New York Edge**

# 2024

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
**PLEASE VISIT OUR**  
**WEBSITE OR CALL US**  
**MS354.COM, 718-774-**  
**0362**

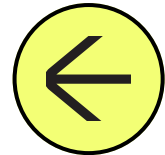


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**INSTAGRAM**  
**@ MS354BROOKLYN**



# EVENT

# RUNDOWN



**APR 11-12**

**NYS ELA STATE TEST**

**PANTRY**

**SAT APR 13, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

**WED APR 17, 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM**

**APR 8**

**Total Eclipse**

**APR 11**

**NYS ELA STATE TEST**

**APR 15-19**

**Spirit Week GRADE 8 ONLY!!**

**APR 17**

**Climate Action Day**

**APR 18**

**PTA MEETING**

**APR 22**

**EARTH DAY**

**APR 22-30**

**SPRING BREAK**

**MAY 1**

**RETURN TO SCHOOL**

# Principal's Message

**As we step into the month of April, I want to take this moment to express my appreciation for each and every one of you. Your dedication to learning, resilience in the face of challenges, and positive contributions to our school community do not go unnoticed.**

**April is a time of growth and renewal, a time to embrace new opportunities and continue to strive for excellence in all that we do. As we approach the final stretch of the school year, I encourage you to stay focused on your goals, remain committed to your studies, and continue to push yourselves to new heights.**

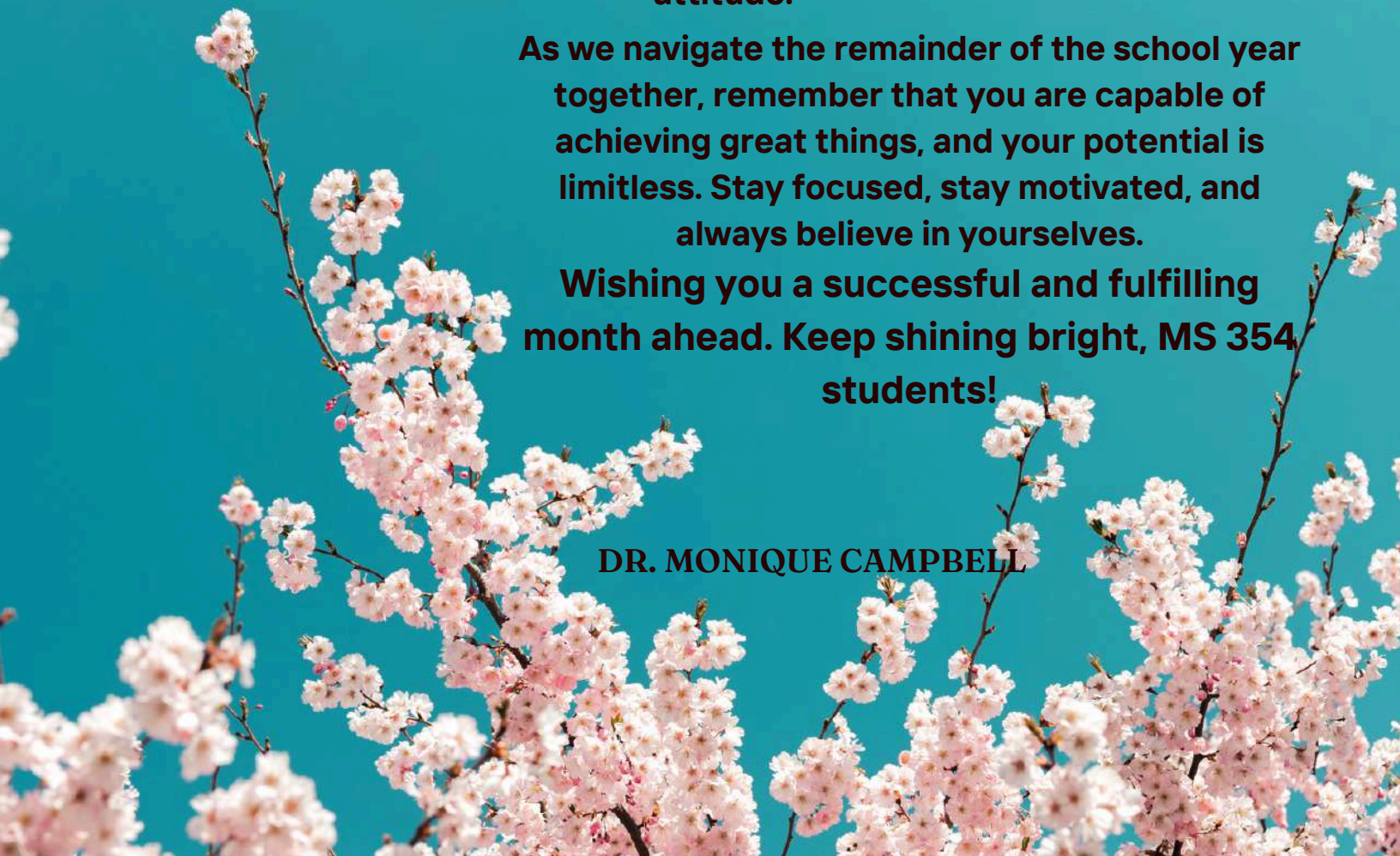
**Remember that your education is a journey filled with endless possibilities, and each day presents a chance to learn, grow, and make a difference. Whether you are working on a project, preparing for exams, or participating in extracurricular activities, give it your all and never underestimate the power of your efforts.**

**I am proud of the hard work you have put in so far this year and the progress you have made. Let's continue to support and uplift one another, celebrate our achievements, and face any challenges with determination and positive attitude.**

**As we navigate the remainder of the school year together, remember that you are capable of achieving great things, and your potential is limitless. Stay focused, stay motivated, and always believe in yourselves.**

**Wishing you a successful and fulfilling month ahead. Keep shining bright, MS 354 students!**

**DR. MONIQUE CAMPBELL**



# STAFF SPOTLIGHT

The School of Integrated Learning  
MS 354

## Donovan Sutton

SENIOR  
LUNCH  
HELPER



MR. Donovan is an integral part of the MS 354 school community. He is considered the “heavy duty man behind the scenes”. He provides excellent service by greeting students, teachers, and staff with a friendly demeanor, answering questions about menu items, and accommodating special dietary needs.

He has worked for the DOE for the past 26 years at various cafeterias in Brooklyn. He is part of a team that arrives before the rest of the school community at 6:30AM to ensure that students receive breakfast.

He shares that he is part of a team that plans ahead to anticipate busy periods, prepare food items in advance, and streamline processes to minimize wait times and maximize efficiency in the cafeteria.

He prides himself in being a team player—who collaborates with other kitchen staff, supervisors, and administrators to coordinate meal planning, special events, and initiatives to enhance the dining experience of the students.



April 2024

# Student Spotlight

GRADE 6

VIOLET BRYSON

## INTERESTS:

I like being on my phone and chatting with my friends, karate (I'm almost a black belt).

## FAVORITE SUBJECT:

ELA - because I love to read. My teacher Ms. McLawrece makes class interesting, and makes sure that we learn new things. I also like MATH. My teacher Mr. Maitre shows us how to solve problems step-by-step.

## FUTURE CAREER:

Veterinarian - because I would love to work with animals.



GRADE 7

OLIVIA MILLS



## INTERESTS:

Playing piano, math, reading and dance.

## FAVORITE SUBJECT:

I love MATH! My teacher Mr. Maitre makes learning math fun. He gives us extra exercises to practice, and he explains when things are difficult.

## FUTURE CAREER:

When I grow up I would like to become an engineer, because I love all things technical. I also like robotics.

## INTERESTS:

I like to read romance and drama in Spanish because English is still difficult for me to understand. **[Me gustar como a leer romantico las cuentas.]**

## FAVORITE SUBJECT:

Social Studies - because I am not native to the US and I am learning about the history of this country. My teacher Ms. Mitchell gives me materials in Spanish and works with me one-on-one. **[Estudios sociales es mi materia favorita.]**

## FUTURE CAREER:

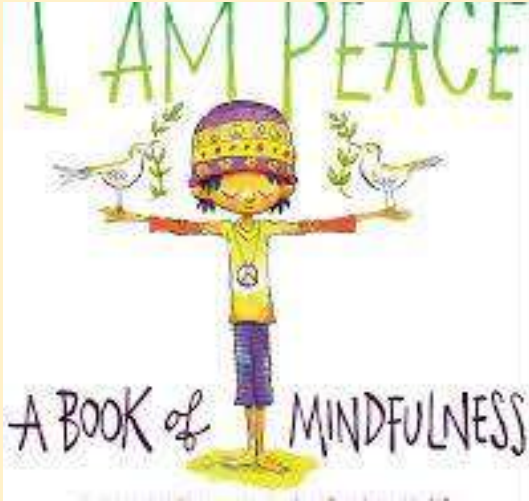
Teacher - because I would like to work with little kids and do activites with them. **[Me gustaria ser un maestro.]**

GRADE 8

GABRIELA GARCIA



# SEL THEME/ BOOK OF THE MONTH



## I Am Peace

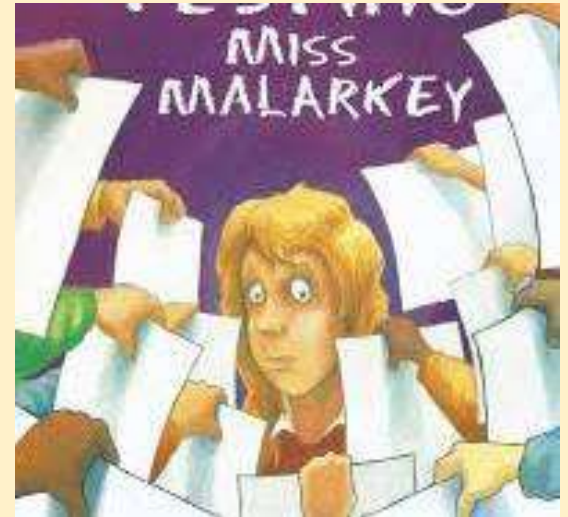
by  
Susan Verde

Children can learn how to manage their emotions, make good choices, and balance their busy lives by learning to be mindful, express emotions through speech, find empathy through imagination, and wonder at the beauty of the natural world.

## Testing Miss Malarkey

by  
Judy Finchler

"Testing Miss Malarkey," by Judy Finchler is a story that demonstrates the silliness of standardized testing from the perspective of both students, teachers, and school administrators. The story follows Miss. Malarkey's class as they prepare for 'THE TEST,' along with the aftermath.



# Say no to Test Anxiety.



"Take a deep breath and try all over again."

## Learn relaxation techniques

To help you stay calm and confident right before and during the test, perform relaxation techniques, such as deep breathing, relaxing your muscles one at a time, or closing your eyes and imagining a positive outcome.

## Don't forget to eat and drink

Your brain needs fuel to function. Eat the day of the test and drink plenty of water. Avoid sugary drinks such as soda pop, which can cause your blood sugar to peak and then drop, or caffeinated beverages such as energy drinks or coffee, which can increase anxiety.

## Establish a consistent pretest routine.

Learn what works for you, and follow the same steps each time you get ready to take a test. This will ease your stress level and help ensure that you're well-prepared.

## Talk to your teacher

Make sure you understand what's going to be on each test and know how to prepare. In addition, let your teacher know that you feel anxious when you take tests. He or she may have suggestions to help you succeed.

## Get plenty of sleep

Sleep is directly related to academic performance. Preteens and teenagers especially need to get regular, solid sleep.



# Parent Corner

Kids

If you don't listen *eagerly* to the little stuff when they are little, they won't tell you the big stuff when they are big, because to them,

**ALL OF IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN BIG STUFF.**

C.M. Wallace



**listen!!**

When you listen with interest you show a child that you care. You also model to children how to listen, and by doing that, you begin to see this attitude reflected back when you need attention paid to you.

Really listening also means that you're mindful of not multitasking because in that moment you know that connecting with your child by making eye contact and your presence is what REALLY matters.

Listening with interest means giving your child the time and space they need to fully express themselves because often it takes kids much longer than you think for them to get their feelings out.

@create\_kids-edu



# BARBER SHOP

At MS 354 we're fostering a sense of self-worth & building confidence!!!!!!



In the bustling mornings of a household, between sips of coffee and packing school lunches, there's a poignant moment every parent recognizes. It's that instant when our child, freshly coiffed, takes that final approving or disapproving glance in the mirror before heading out. It's more than just about vanity.

A great haircut has the power to completely transform your look and boost your confidence. It can make you feel like a whole new person and give you a fresh start. Whether you're looking for a subtle change or a dramatic makeover, finding the right haircut for your face shape and personal style is key.



# ALGEBRA FOR ALL COMPETITION AT BROOKLYN TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

*Hosted by Brooklyn Tech Future  
World Vision Consortium*

## Mathematicians



- Grade 7**
- Aiden Thomas**
- Malick Amao**
- Jeremiah Lyken**
- Joshua Alleyne**
- Jelani Francis**
- Razack Amao**
- Olivia Mills**
- Jared D'Haiti**
- Grade 8**
- Jose Ramirez**
- Janelle D'Haiti**

MS 354 came in second in the Algebra for All Competition 3/16/24.

## Congratulations Scholars!!!!

Aiden Thomas placed in the top 4 for the individual portion of the competition, and Jose Ramirez placed in the top 8.



**Thanks you  
Dr. Matt Mandery  
& Brooklyn Tech  
Alumni Foundation!**



May 21, 2024,  
Brooklyn Children's  
Museum, from 5-7:30 PM.

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# ART EXHIBITION



**Trianna  
James**

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**Congratulations! Trianna James's artwork titled, An Illustration of Oprah Winfrey, has been accepted into the 10th annual Brooklyn Arts Festival. There were over 400 artworks submitted, and we are pleased to announce that MS 354 will be proudly represented at the festival.**

# Hello April

## Fun Facts

Did you know that April is the best month of the year to watch meteor showers? You have the Lyrid meteor shower and the Eta Aquariids.

The first day of April is April Fools Day, when children and grown-ups play jokes on one another.

Born in April were Leonardo da Vinci, Shakespeare and Queen Elizabeth II.

George Washington was inaugurated as the First President of the United States on April 30, 1789.

The phrase "April Showers bring May Flowers" comes from a poem from the 1500s by Thomas Tusser.



# APRIL THEMES

## National Poetry Month



Launched by the Academy of American Poets in April 1996, National Poetry Month reminds the public that poets have an integral role to play in our culture and that poetry matters. Over the years, it has become the largest literary celebration in the world, with tens of millions of readers, students, K-12 teachers, librarians, booksellers, literary events curators, publishers, families, and, of course, poets, marking poetry's important place in our lives.

## Autism Awareness Month

Autism Awareness month is celebrated in April to highlight the need to help improve the quality of life of those with autism so they can lead full and meaningful lives as an integral part of society.



## EARTH DAY

Earth Day is an annual celebration that honors the achievements of the environmental movement and raises awareness of the need to protect Earth's natural resources for future generations. The first Earth Day was held April 22, 1970.



## World Health Day

World Health Day (WHD), held every year on 7 April, marks the anniversary of the founding of the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1948 and each year focuses on a specific public health concern.





## SPARK

by Janelle D'Haiti

A lamp shines, bright like the sun.

It shines all day, helping everyone around it,  
Allowing them to see—  
Being useful.

But, without fuel, it begins to fade—slowly.

You didn't notice a difference until it was too late.

The light is now dim, leaving you in the dark and lost.

You thought you didn't need the fuel;

That it was electric and would shine all day.

But there is no moving forward unless you have a foundation.

Now you sit in the dark wondering—

“How can I get my spark back?”



Student Author

# JELANI FRANCIS



Jelani Francis is a 7th grader at MS 354. He is currently writing a novel named Rebellion Model Delta: Abnormal Shape Hunter. Here is an excerpt from his novel.

*Excerpt from original text*

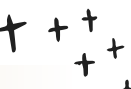
# REBELLION

## MODEL DELTA: ABNORMAL SHAPE HUNTER

# The New World

(Excerpt from Chapter 1)

"At last, my final creation is done!" said robotics engineer Dr. C. Kenneth, standing near a capsule where a robot was sealed in. Kenneth dedicated his life to making solutions to conflict by creating robots specifically designed for the situation. It was the year 3485, and talked to his robot, Square: Model Delta. "Listen carefully, Delta. I have created you for the sole purpose of helping the people of the 36th century. I will meet my end very soon, and I have no one to carry on my work. I have had a wonderful life, and I believe someone will release you to the world where you will grow and develop." Dr. Kenneth coughed and began to close the capsule. He said, "Good luck, Model Delta." Approximately 35 years later, another robotics engineer, Dr. T. Caesar, discovered the lab Dr. Kenneth created Delta. "Well, if all my research is correct, then this should be the place. The passage of time sure has made its job here, but it is impressive how most of this lab is still standing. I wonder if there are still some pieces of technology that can still be recovered." He walked up to the garage of the lab and pressed a button, which had opened the door. He was in shock to see what was inside. Then, a screen turned on to play a message from Dr. Kenneth. "This is a message for the future. I am Kenneth Clark. If you see this, that is because I am no longer in this world. If things are still in their place, you might see a capsule nearby. It contains my last and greatest creation. Square: Model Delta is a robot with capabilities never seen before, but he must go under a 30-year process to calibrate his final adjustments. If the time lapse has not been accomplished, do not bother the capsule. Otherwise, it is up to you to decide if you want to activate it. As I created him to be guardian for the future."





**HAPPY**

*Birthday*

**GRADE 8**

Janelle D. 804 04/16  
Jayden D. 811 04/29  
Rohan J. 803 04/30

**GRADE 7**

Kalyani H. 703 04/19  
Tahmid J. 711 04/01  
Maykel C. 711 04/20  
Selbert C. 711 04/22

**GRADE 6**

Angelize S. 604 04/24  
Jonathan H. 603 04/05  
Jesus M. 611 04/17  
Carlito B. 611 04/06  
Jayquan B. 610 04/20







# CIS CORNER

new york city  
**COMMUNITY**  
schools

MS 354  
The School of Integrated Learning

Connecting In Schools

HKNC Helen Keller NATIONAL CENTER for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults

**The School of Integrated Learning  
MS 354  
ANNUAL VISION SCREENING**  
Tuesday April 2, 2024  
Auditorium from 8:30 AM-2 PM

WE ENCOURAGE FAMILIES TO MAKE SURE THAT STUDENTS ARE IN SCHOOL TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2024 SO THAT THEY CAN ALL BE VISION TESTED FREE OF CHARGE.

STUDENTS THAT ARE IN NEED OF GLASSES WILL PICK THEIR FRAMES OUT AND RECIEVE THEM WITHIN 30-60 DAYS.

On Tuesday, April 2, Counseling in Schools held its annual vision screening for students attending M.S. 354, in collaboration with the Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults.

Parents and guardians were encouraged to ensure that their child was in attendance on this day to receive a free vision test.

Students who were found to need glasses were given the opportunity to select frames, and are expected to receive their new glasses free of charge within the next 30-60 days.





# CIS CORNER

**ZERO ABSENCES, ZERO LATENESSES**

**CLASS 603**  
 RAZACK AMAO  
 JEDIAH CHARLES  
 DEYANA CURTIS  
 JARED D HAITI  
 YEHOU-NIC ISEMAR  
 ALEXIS MOMPLAISIR  
 TAYVON ROBERTS  
 DONNELL SAMUELS JR  
 REON SANCHEZ

**CLASS 604**  
 IZAIHAH ADAMS  
 HOUDOU BAH  
 VIOLET BRYSON  
 AALIYAH FERGUSON  
 SARAI GIL LOPEZ  
 KHALIQ OVID DAVID  
 KHELISIE PIERRE  
 FELIX WAY

**CLASS 610/710**  
 JAHQUE THAMES  
 OUMAR TRAORE

**CLASS 611**  
 CARLITO BEAUVIL  
 CHRISTIAN CHARLES  
 TRISTAN CHRISTOPHE  
 WOROKIA DIALLO  
 TORIE FINDLAY  
 SAHIDA KIMBA  
 SHERANIE PATTERSON  
 NICHOLAS POPO

*"CHIP CHIP HOORAY!  
 WE APPRECIATE YOU EVERY SINGLE DAY!"*

**ZERO ABSENCES, ZERO LATENESSES**

THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS HAVE BEEN AWARDED MARCH'S PERFECT ATTENDANCE AWARD ..

**ZERO ABSENCES, ZERO LATENESSES**

**COOKIE DAY!**

WEDNESDAY  
 APRIL 17, 2024

TIME  
 LUNCH PERIOD

LOCATION  
 MAIN LOBBY

*"CHIP CHIP HOORAY!  
 WE APPRECIATE YOU EVERY SINGLE DAY!"*

**ZERO ABSENCES, ZERO LATENESSES**

**CLASS 704**  
 JAYDEN ALEXANDRE  
 RIVIEEM LAWRENCE  
 OLIVIA MILLS

**CLASS 711**  
 JELANI FRANCIS

**CLASS 803**  
 NEKHI ALLEYNE  
 KHALIA BURGESS  
 NEHEMIE PACAUD

**CLASS 804**  
 RUDDAINA ABUALI  
 JANEEL D HAITI  
 INIYAH PABARUE  
 JOSE RAMIREZ  
 OSHANDO STEWART

**CLASS 810**  
 JEANETTE BROWN  
 ALLISSON GIL-LOPEZ  
 AXEL GIL-LOPEZ  
 ANIAH WATKINS

**CLASS 811**  
 JALNIYA CESAR  
 JAYDEN DAVID  
 BRYCE ROBINSON  
 SAADIYA SEALEY

*"CHIP CHIP HOORAY!  
 WE APPRECIATE YOU EVERY SINGLE DAY!"*

We are pleased to announce that on Wednesday, April 17, we will be rewarding the students who had perfect attendance for the month of March with a Cookie Day. We would like to take this opportunity to recognize the students listed above for their dedication and commitment to attending school every day and being on time.

**KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!**



# NYEdge

## Technology at

### MS 354



The learning environment is more dynamic than ever before. As a result, today's students learn in ways that are very different from how our educational system was originally designed. Here at MS 354 we are substituting traditional resources with educational technologies to keep up with our students' digital learning needs.

#### **Access to information and resources**

Students are taught how to access information digitally by using digital tools that allow them to explore various subjects, conduct research, and access educational materials.

#### **Connects the classroom experience to the real world**

Technology removes the physical barriers and connects the curriculum with the real world and those areas of academic focus that can genuinely enrich the students experience.

#### **Prepares students for the modern workplace**

To thrive in the 21st-century workplace, students need more than a working knowledge of current technological tools. At MS 354 we are ensuring that our students gain exposure to the tools and skills they will likely encounter in the modern workplace.

#### **Adds a fun factor to learning**

Outside the classroom, students use technology in all aspects of their lives. Within the classroom, technology can make learning fun and exciting.

Here are some fun ways that we incorporate technology into our classroom activities:

- Educational Games and Quizzes
- Coding and Programming
- Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR)



**WE BEGIN WITH YOU**

# YOGA FOR KIDS



## Discovering peace and balance

Yoga is not just for adults! In fact, it can give children very important life skills that can help them succeed in the world.

1. Yoga helps children manage their anxiety. The breathing exercises and relaxation techniques learned from practicing yoga can help children with stress management. Teaching children how to reduce stress in a healthy way is an important life skill that will help them as children and as adults.
2. Yoga improves children's emotional regulation. Another benefit of yoga for children is that it helps children learn to be in the present moment while relaxing and gaining a peaceful state of mind, which ultimately improves their emotional regulation.
3. Yoga boosts children's self-esteem. Yoga for kids can do wonders for their self-esteem. Perfecting a pose or improving their balance and flexibility can give young children a sense of personal empowerment.
4. Yoga enhances children's concentration and memory. One of the top benefits of kids' yoga is that the different types of moves requires children to focus and work on their memorization skills—both of which can translate over into their academic performance.
5. Yoga teaches discipline and reduces impulsivity. Yoga can reduce challenging behaviors in the classroom by providing a physical outlet for children to express themselves. It also teaches children about discipline as they work on clearing their minds and perfecting their poses.

# HEY, STUDENT!

## STUDENT OF THE MONTH MARCH

**603**

ELA  
SS  
MATH  
SCI  
PE  
MATH SKILLS  
ARTS

KIERRA KIDD  
KIERRA KIDD  
KIMARA WARREN  
DEYANA CURTIS  
YEHOU NIC ISEMAR  
JEDIAH CHARLES  
JEDIAH CHARLES

**703**

ELA  
SS  
MATH  
SCI  
PE  
MATH SKILLS  
ART

ROZLYN ESPINAL  
SAVITRI GIRWAL  
ROZLYN ESPINAL  
ROZLYN ESPINAL  
ROZLYN ESPINAL  
ROZLYN ESPINAL  
JUWANDA CAMPBELL

**803**

ELA  
SS  
MATH  
SCI  
PE  
MATH SKILLS  
SPANISH

NEHKI ALLEYNE  
ZION JAMES  
MAAEM SAMUELS  
DOMINIC JOHNSON  
DOMINIC JOHNSON  
MARISA DOPWELL  
KHALIA BURGESS

**604**

ELA  
SS  
MATH  
SCI  
PE  
MATH SKILLS  
ART

VIOLET BRYSON  
MIYLON WHITE  
VIOLET BRYSON  
DESTINY PETERS  
BENJAMIN MARTIN  
KELWIN SEYMOR  
EMPRESS WADE

**704**

ELA  
SS  
MATH  
SCI  
PE  
MATH SKILLS  
ART

NATHANIEL GREN  
OLIVIA MILLS  
OLIVIA MILLS  
TRIANNA JAMES  
CHERISH THOMPSON  
AIDEN THOMAS  
TRIANNA JAMES

**804**

ELA  
SS  
MATH  
SCI  
PE  
MATH SKILLS  
SPANISH

KILEY BERNARD  
KILEY BERNARD  
RUAINA ABUALI  
KAILEI BISHOP  
SOPHIA JOHNSON  
DIMITRIUS BROWN  
DIMITRIUS BROWN

**611**

ELA  
SS  
MATH  
SCI  
PE  
MATH SKILLS  
ART

SARIAH HENRY  
KEZIAH BERNARD  
TRISTAN CHRISTOPHE  
JESUS MERCADO  
SARIAH HENRY  
SERIAH HENRY  
ANISSA PETERS

**711**

ELA  
SS  
MATH  
SCI  
PE  
MATH SKILLS  
ART

AMILAH DAVIDSON  
TEY ANNA BURRELL  
JESSENIA STREETE  
SELBERT CORDIS  
PARIS GRANT  
ARMANI POLLACK  
SAVANNAH CHIN

**811**

ELA  
SS  
MATH  
SCI  
PE  
MATH SKILLS  
SPANISH

MAYA PENDARVIS  
CASSANDRA WATKINS  
BRYCE ROBINSON  
JOHARYS DE LOS SANTOS  
ROHAN JAMES  
MAYA PENDARVIS  
JOSHUA WHITE

**610/710**

ELA  
SS  
MATH  
SCI  
PE  
MATH SKILLS  
ART

RASIEL MARTINEZ  
CRISTAL MABLE  
RASIEL MARTINEZ  
MELANIE GRANVILLE-PARKE  
GISSELLE PUGERO  
JAHQUE THAMES  
AMIR CUBERO

**810**

ELA  
SS  
MATH  
SCI  
PE  
MATH SKILLS  
ART

ZEPHANIAH WALKER  
JEANETTE BROWN  
ALLISON GIL-LOPEZ  
JEANETTE BROWN  
ALEX GIL-LOPEZ  
ALLISON GIL-LOPEZ  
AXEL GIL-LOPEZ



# Digital Platforms

## I-READY



To see the For Families report, parents will need to log into their students' dashboard and use the access code to see the students' results; Parents can also find resources at the Family Center link

[i-ready.com/familycenter/](https://www.i-ready.com/familycenter/)

**FAMILY REPORT CODE**

**PNT81B**

## JUPITER



Parents may login anytime to check grades and homework.

To login to Jupiter please use the username and password that was provided by your child's teacher. Parents can also login by using the Student ID#, or they can use the student's full name.

[jupiterED.com](https://www.jupitered.com)

## NYCSA



NYCSA Parent Portal

You can sign up for an account by entering a few basic details.

- See students grades, test scores
- Take classes in Parent University
- Report Bullying
- Access forms for your child
- Reset your child's DOE account password
- Access SupportHub

<https://www.schoolsaccount.nyc/>



For more information contact our Parent Coordinator Mr. Cormack 718-774-0362 [ecormack@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:ecormack@schools.nyc.gov)