



From the Desk of  
Principal Karin Kelly



Public School 174  
William Sidney Mount  
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Dear Families of PS 174:

Our school was again named as a *Reward School* for 2015 by New York State for our strong academic achievements in both ELA and Mathematics, a direct result of our high expectations! We continue our mission with fully integrated and engaging projects –full **S.T.E.A.M.** ahead! The acronym **S.T.E.A.M.** stands for **Science, Technology, Engineering, Art** and **Mathematics**. This July, Mrs. Alperstein and I accepted awards for *Excellence in Technology* during the *NYC Technology Summit* and we look forward to continuing and expanding access to our students. Many of these projects, materials and programs come to us through grants (NYC Council; *Donors Choose*; *Exxon/Mobil* Technology grants; and private as well as competitive grants.)

In **Science** we look forward to:

Continued partnership with the *Hall of Science*, *CASA Grant* from *New York City Council*. Expanded use of the *A+ Portable Science/Technology Lab*; *new plan for STEM lab* from *Borough President Katz*; *allocation of RESO A – NYC Capital improvement for 2015-2016*. We plan to participate in the fourth annual STEM Matters Citywide Science Expo – all grade 3-5; PS 174 Science Fair.

#### **Technology**

Use of new *Smartboards* in all instructional areas and new state-of-the-art Computer Lab from the *New York City Council 2014-2015 RESO allocation*

Videoconference capabilities with NASA; PS 174 Technology Summit – presentations and project share  
New technology tools – *Osmo* system (playosmo.com); *53.Pencil* for ipads; *Bee Bots* (coding “robots.”)

#### **Engineering –**

*Makerbot 3-D* printing on site; supplemented by *3-D Doodlers*; *LittleBits* circuit building.  
*Cooper-Hewitt/Smithsonian Design Museum* with an engineering design challenge. *LEGO Parent Engagement*; expansion of *LEGO Robotics* with *WeDo Construction* and *LEGO Story Starter Up! Up! And Away!* –Project based learning on topics such as – balloons, kites and bubbles

**Art** – New visual arts Cluster Teacher and art studio space. Our magnificent cluster program introducing our students to the performing arts including – vocal music, drums, violins, drama, and year three of *Disney Musicals in Schools*. Continued participation with the *New York City Ballet*, *Nutcracker Project*; *New Victory Theater*, *New York Historical Society*, *MOMA*, *Joyce Theater*, *Link Up!* with *Carnegie Hall*, *Dancing Classrooms*, and Web archiving with the *Library of Congress*. New links with *The Whitney- Highline* and the *Metropolitan Opera*.

#### **Mathematics -**

*GoMath!* For all students K-5, with differentiated instruction; enrichment and support.  
*Math Olympiads* for grades 4 and 5 grades and visits from the *JHS 190 Math Team* and *MELS* students.  
*Simple Solutions* for math automaticity and strong skill base for Grades 1-5  
*Ten Marks* math, an interactive online tool for instruction, remediation and assessment.

We all know how engaged children are when making, creating, and presenting their learning. *The Common Core* learning standards come alive in integrated projects and the highest level is achieved when students can teach others. We all look forward to this year of wonderful, magical learning. Follow us on [Twitter @PS174Q](#) and check us out on line at [PS174.org](#).

September 2015

Principal Karin Kelly