6th Grade Newsletter (February 2017)

Dear 6th Grade Families,

We are looking forward to seeing a lot of you at this week's Parent Teacher Conferences. Until then, you can read about what your scholars will be doing this month.

Class to Class - What's Being Learned in the 6th Grade Hallway

ELA - Mr. Pearsall - jpearsall@motthall2.org

We will be starting one of our most popular units, our non-fiction food study. We will be reading *Chew On This* and the young adult version of *The Omnivore's Dilemma*, as well as many New York Times articles. We will be working on annotating, making claims, and backing these claims up with evidence from the text.

Math - Mr. Redmond - lredmond@motthall2.org

In February we are finishing our long unit on Expressions and Equations (Algebra). This can be a challenging unit so ask your scholar to go over their homework and how they did on their quiz to remind them to review their work. We will be starting Unit 5 covering Ratios and Proportions directly after. This unit will cover problem solving strategies for situations when two amounts vary with one another.

Science - Ms. Acevedo - yacevedo@motthall2.org

We have completed our simple machines unit by 'inventing' Rube Goldberg machines. Scholars will continue learning about weather and atmosphere throughout this month and we will begin preparing for Science Fair shortly!

Social Studies - Ms. Breach - lbreach@motthall2.org

We are finishing our unit on Ancient Greece right before break. There is a unit test and students will have the chance to edit their essay on Alexander the Great. There will be an enrichment assignment during break. Students will have the opportunity to use their creative abilities to share something they have learned during this unit. We will begin our unit on Ancient Rome the week before break.

On the Calendar - Upcoming Events

2/13 -- 2/17 - Respect for all Week

2/8 - Evening Parent Teacher Conferences

2/10 Half Day (Ends at 11:30 AM)

2/10 - Afternoon Parent Teacher Conferences

2/20 -- 2/24 - Mid-Winter Break (No School)

From the school counselor:

Respect for all Week begins Tuesday, February 9th and ends Friday, February 12th.

Monday, February 13th kicks off respect for all week for 2017. Respect For All Week is a city wide initiative which maintains that ALL students are free from bullying, cyber bullying, harassment, discrimination and intimidation. I realize for some families, this is a particularly trying, worrisome and uncertain time, however we should continue to stress to our scholars that despite what is currently happening, we should treat all people, no matter where they are from, with respect.

We are very proud that Mott Hall II fosters a safe, supportive and inclusive environment for all of our scholars, not only during Respect For All Week, but throughout the school year.

We wanted to make you are aware of the events that are happening that week. Please help Mott Hall II celebrate diversity and respect this week by encouraging your scholar(s) to participate. Additionally, please find links to various resources so that you can continue these conversations at home about inclusivity and respect. Thank you in advance for your support.

Links:
http://schools.nyc.gov/RulesPolicies/RespectforAll/StudentResources/Helpful+Resources/default.htm

http://schools.nyc.gov/RulesPolicies/RespectforAll/StudentResources/Helpful+Resources/bullying+and+conflict.htm

https://www.stopbullying.gov/at-risk/warning-signs/index.html

RFA Week Activities:

Encourage your scholar to check out the counseling bulletin board -- There were will be various charities, quotes, positive affirmations and more, that students can read and take action!

DAILY QUOTES – Each day, a student has been selected to read a quote that has inspirational meaning

THEMED DAYS:
Scholars will be encouraged to "dress up" for themed days. Each day has a theme that is respectful, free from bias, all accepting and supportive.

THEMED Dress "Up" Days

Monday - "Team it up Tuesday" – students are encouraged to team up against bullying by dressing alike
Tuesday – "Compassion/kindness day" Wear red/pink to show compassion and kindness
Wednesday – "Wacky Tacky Wednesday" – Students are encouraged to wear bright and colorful clothing to not be afraid of who they are
Thursday – "Sock-full Thursday" Students are encouraged to wear crazy socks to "sock" it to bullying
Friday – "Flag Friday" – students are encouraged to wear an article of clothing representing their culture

Sincerely,
6th Grade Team (Acevedo, Breach, Kahan, Kim, Pearsall, Redmond)