Dear S2 Parents,

October was a very busy month at S2. With the cooler weather, everyone finally embraces their new routines and really settles into the year. On that note, it's the beginning of flu season, so please make sure your children know to wash their hands regularly, perhaps carry hand sanitizer with them, and be mindful of covering their mouths when they cough and noses when they sneeze.

On another note, I want to thank all parents who made it out for our most recent Coffee and Conversations, during which we focused on the high school application process. We had a really nice turn out. I want to thank our counselor Arnaldo Rodriguez for his hard work putting that event together.

I am excited to tell you about some of the recent goings on at the school, which you can read more about below. We finally received scores from last Spring's NY State Exams. This information is helpful to both staff and students as we work together to set educational goals for the year. You can also learn about some of the recent trips students have taken, including a school-wide day at the zoo!

Finally, quarter 2 starts this coming Thursday, November 8th. We want everybody to be thinking about setting goals for the coming quarter to push themselves to do and be their absolute best.

I hope everyone is staying happy and healthy with the change of seasons.

Your principal,

-Carrie Amon

STUDENTS MUST ARRIVE AT SCHOOL ON TIME
Please make sure your children get to school on time, every day!

6th and 7th graders should arrive at school no later than 8:30AM to be in their classrooms, ready to learn when first period starts at 8:38AM.

8th graders should arrive at school no later than 8:50AM to be in their classrooms, ready to learn when first period starts at 9:00AM.

Click here for the full bell schedule.
THE RESULTS ARE IN

In mid-October, we finally received the results from last year’s NY State Math and ELA Exams. The headline is: **our students are working hard and it shows!** In just one year, the number of students who received proficient marks increased 16% **and** the number of students performing far below grade level decreased by 16%. Both of these indicate incredible growth and we are so proud of all the hard work our students and staff did in preparation for these important tests.

ACTIVIST NEW YORK

Over the past few years our students have been learning about activism in social studies class. Some of our 8th graders are particularly passionate on the topic. The Museum of the City of New York currently has an exhibit about the history of activism in New York, so we took a small group of students to see the exhibit and attend a special event hosted by our curriculum partner: Facing History and Ourselves. Author Wesley Lowery spoke about his recent, award-winning book *They Can’t Kill Us All* that recounts his experiences reporting on police brutality and the Black Lives Matter movement.

TRIP DAY

On October 31, students joined the leadership staff at the zoo for a fun fall day. We put together a treasure hunt for the students as a way of getting them to explore the zoo. Staff were scattered around the zoo and handed out zoo-related clues to the students. They had to decipher one clue to get to the next one, and in the end there were sweet treats waiting for them. It was a really fun day for staff and students alike.

ANTI-BULLYING

Since 2006, October has been national Anti-Bullying month. The campaign is meant to unite communities nationwide to educate them and raise awareness for bullying prevention. To show their unity against bullying and their support for this campaign, our students wore blue throughout the month. We are proud of S2’s student for recognizing the importance of respecting your peers, protecting each other and being active in the fight against bullying.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FAMILY CONFERENCES
Tuesday, November 6th (there will be early dismissal)
Wednesday, November 7th (there will be no school)

COFFEE & CONVERSATIONS
On Tuesday, November 13th, we will have our November C&C. Please come and help us welcome our local regent, Nan Mead, to S2. We will also discuss how parents can analyze and interpret their child’s test scores.

TEACHER WORKSHOPS
On Friday, November 16th, school will end at 12:30P for teacher workshops.

LATINO HERITAGE & THANKSGIVING FEAST
On Wednesday, November 21st, the school will end at 1:30P followed by this celebratory event.