

Happy New Year

No School Tomorrow
Monday, 2/1 & 2/8

恭喜發財



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Important Dates

2/1 - SCHOOL CLOSED (No Afterschool)

2/2 - New Semester Starts

SLT (5PM) & PA (6PM) MEETING

2/5 - Reports Cards

2/8 - SCHOOL CLOSED

2/12 - MS Valentine's Day Party. 3:30 PM - 6:00 PM (Cafeteria)

2/15-19 SCHOOL CLOSED FOR WINTER BREAK

[SOF Calendar](#)

Update from Stacy

Some MS updates:

The 6th graders presented their DNA model projects to the 8th graders last week; The 6th graders are also finishing up immersion research projects about aspects of Ancient Egypt. Students picked their own research topics and made information books. Families are invited to their presentations:

6A: Friday, 1/29 9-9:40

6B: Friday, 1/29 10-10:40

6C: Tuesday, 2/2 1:30-2:00

6D: Tuesday, 2/2 12:35-1:10

The 7th graders are starting their study of the Constitution where they will debate a case of freedom of the press vs national security, ending with presentations in a real courtroom, where some will be supreme court justices and the rest will be lawyers arguing either side. 8th graders just finished an economics unit where they ran businesses for a few weeks and experienced fundamentals of capitalism, communism and socialism.

Students will receive report cards on February 5th. On Feb 2nd, 7th and 8th graders will have new schedules and swap elective classes, 7th graders will have art and drama and the 8th graders will have yoga and computer science.

Mandy Levi had a baby girl and is on maternity leave until April. Ian Thomas Minor who has worked with SOF for many years is teaching Middle School Physical Education and 6th grade Health.

Update from John

We had our Arts Showcase last Thursday which showed an incredible array of talent from drama, art and chorus. Many thanks to all the students and staff who made it possible, and those who came out to support this wonderful program. It was an outstanding night.

Good news is starting to roll in for our seniors. Some of the early decision college acceptances seniors have received are:

Syracuse University (school of communication)

Tulane

Marist

Rhode Island School of the Design

Middlebury (Posse Scholarship winner)

DePaul

Skidmore

News from the PA

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Hello Families,

We are very happy to announce our new co-treasurers, **Anna Hillen** (10th Gr) and **Anita Leong** (9th Gr) who will keep an accurate record of receipts and expenditures including monthly reporting. They will also work with the school leaders to create an annual budget for the PA board approval.

A new component of our **PA meetings will include special guest speakers**, both internal and external, who will deliver information about the school, current trends in education and more. Our first guests will be school leaders, **Stacy Goldstein** and **John Fanning** where they will provide a brief "State of the School" address, highlighting strengths, weaknesses, upcoming initiatives/programs and discuss any way the PA can help support them in achieving their goals.

Finally, our Fundraising committee is excited to report lots of movement in our continuing effort to raise funds for SOF. We are half way through the year and our **Annual Fund** drive still needs as much support from our families as possible. We are currently at **6% family participation** and looking to hit 100% by the end of the year. The committee is planning a Phone-a-thon to get SOF families involved. Planning for the **Spring Auction** is underway and we are almost close to finalizing a date and venue. We are tentatively scheduled to host the action on May 24th, so please hold that date in your calendars. Lastly, we will begin planning for **SOF on the Block 2016** and intend on holding the first planning meeting in February.

If you are interested in learning more about the work we are doing on the PA, volunteering for the Phone-a-thon, Spring Auction or SOF on the Block please come to our **next meeting, Tuesday, February 2nd at 6p at SOF (3rd Fl)**. **We will have light refreshments** and lots of energy! If you can't make it to the meeting but would still like to be involved, please send us an email at soffparent@gmail.com

involved, please send us an email at sofparent@gmail.com.

Looking forward to seeing you all on Tuesday!

Nakia Booth & Jill Vexler
PA Co-Presidents

Upcoming PA meetings:

Next PA Meeting: **Feb 2, 2016.**

Mark your calendars for future PA & SLT meetings:

Mar 1, Apr 5, May 3, June 7

FUNDRAISING & AUCTION COMMITTEE

Donate to the SOF Annual Fund today!

[DONATE](#)

Everyone's participation is important and your generosity is greatly appreciated! 100% Tax Deductible!!

AUCTION DONATIONS NEEDED ASAP

Get in your auction donations for our live and online auction party in March! Please contact Jenni Kops at sofauction16@gmail.com to donate or join the Auction Committee.

Amazon Smile: If you plan on doing any shopping via Amazon.com, please use the Amazon Smile link to shop and Amazon will make a donation to SOF PA.

GRADE NEWS - Class Reports

MIDDLE SCHOOL

New class schedules effective as of 2/2/16 & report cards will be distributed Friday 2/5/16.

6th Grade - Reps Ted Leather, Jenni Kops

The 6th graders just presented their DNA model projects to the 8th graders today; The 6th graders are also finishing up immersion research projects about aspects of Ancient Egypt. Students picked their own research topics and made information books. Families are invited to their presentations

7th Grade - Rep Cindy Rodriguez

Check out 7th Grade Resources website.

The site link is below. Feel free to click around and use the site to supplement PupilPath.

There's also a contact page if you have any questions or comments.

<http://sof7thgrade.weebly.com/>

Thank you!

Sincerely,
The 7th Grade Team

8th Grade - Rep Annu Warikoo

8th graders will have yoga and computer science this semester.

8th grade science

We are taking a field trip to the NYC Center for Space Science Education.

Different sections will go different days.

Section A will go 2/9 and Section B 2/10. At museum from 10am-12:45pm.

Section C will go 2/22 and Section D 2/26. At museum from 10am-12:45pm.

HIGH SCHOOL

Dear Parents of Freshmen and Sophomores,

We invite you to come hear **Jed Applerouth** speak at School of the Future on **Wednesday March 16th at 7pm**. Jed will talk about the current landscape of standardized testing, and the current options for students. He will discuss the new SAT, the differences/benefits of the new SAT and the ACT, other tests and scores that colleges look for, what all the scores mean, and more. He will take questions too.

For more information about Jed, [CLICK HERE](#). This event is free, and we promise you will learn a lot. If you have questions, please contact Sof Parent Association [<sofparent@gmail.com>](mailto:sofparent@gmail.com). We look forward to meeting you.

9th Grade - Rep Anita Leong

Ms. Rediker's 9th grade math website:

redikersrockingreinforcement.weebly.com

Students interested in STEM opportunities outside the Biology classroom, check out the SOF Science Blog at: <http://sofscience.blogspot.com/>

10th Grade - Rep Anna Hillen

New class schedules effective as of 2/2/16 & report cards will be distributed Friday 2/5/16.

Our teacher need new supplies: copier paper, tissues, hand sanitizer, paper towels, bic pens. Please drop off supplies at the office "attn: Ms. Thole" who will distribute them to the other teachers.

Thanks,

Diane Thole

11th Grade - Rep Susan Light

Class notes distributed directly from class rep.

ACT and SAT Prep is underway every Saturday from 10am-1pm.

12th Grade - Rep Darlene Smith Eubank Chun

12th Grade - Reps Dorene Smith, Eunice Chin

CUNY app is due by Feb. 1. CSS Profile and FAFSA should be done by the end of this month.

SUNY Financial Aid Workshops 2/20/16 - REGISTER TODAY!

https://www.suny.edu/attend/events/event_detail.cfm?eid=157&etyp=STUDENTEVENTS&mindt=2016-01-16%2000:00:00.0&maxdt=2016-02-20%2000:00:00.0&etypid=1 .

Jan 1, 2016: First to day to file the **FAFSA** forms for colleges at www.fafsa.gov. Encouraged to apply as early as you can. Parents can estimate their 2015 income and/or use 2014 income tax returns, 2015 W2 forms for the form. Make sure you check with each individual school to see deadlines and apply for 2016-2017 school year.

Copy of a paper version of the 2015-2016 FAFSA to glance over/practice: <https://fafsa.ed.gov/fotw1516/pdf/PdfFafsa15-16.pdf>

Also, for students who are applying to private schools that use the CSS Profile financial aid form - identify deadline forms for those schools. [Apply for College Financial Aid – CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE – The College Board](#)

<http://youcango.collegeboard.org/>

EA After School

SPRING CLUB SELECTION:

New clubs and applications are being accepted now and are on a rolling basis until all clubs are filled. You may submit an application online [here](#). We have added new clubs like: Magazine, Google CS First (Computer Science) and game design and Python (coding).

We have also included a poll in the form for a workshop series we'll have in April and May, respectively: Video editing and skateboarding. Sign-ups for those series will take place in March. It will also be used as an incentive for those students who are regular participants on the days they're suppose to be in after school and are in good academic standing.

[Please fill out the form as soon as possible](#). If you want start the new club schedule on 2/2, you must submit it by 2/1. If you submit later, please allow 24 hours to process during the week to be notified.

Full link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1CQyOpr1kQu_kAjujzIHH4lfzcX9Gv1rfC4dEUTC4XCI/viewform

SPORTS:

Tuesday, February 2, 2016 Basketball HOME game for MS Girls. School of the Future VS. TSMS.

MS Boys Baseball and MS Girls Softball tryouts will take place after the winter break, during week 2/22.

If interested in being notified about tryouts, please fill out this form: [here](#).

SAVE DATE:

Friday, February 12, 2016 - Valentine's Day Party. 3:30 PM - 6:00 PM (Cafeteria), parents are welcome to chaperon.

Email bgcsof@edalliance.org, if interested. Candy/treat donations are appreciated for our candy bar. Let us know if you're also interested in contributing! Many thanks.

Monday, February 29, 2016 - Special Black History Celebration. 3:30 PM. Room:TBD.

Special African Drumming

presentation and storytelling with spoken word performances and singing from youth participants and special guests.

NO PROGRAM:

There is no after school on 2/1, 2/8, and 2/15 through 2/19/16, & 3/17/16.

Amanda A. Ebokosia

Program Director

HS Sports

The Boys Varsity Basketball team is finishing up their regular season against Gregorio Luperon HS on Friday 2/5 at Basketball City. The Bulldogs are having an excellent season, currently holding a record of 11-2. The team has secured a spot in the PSAL playoffs, which begins the week of 2/23.

Meanwhile, the Boys Junior Varsity Basketball team is off to their best start in years, with a record of 4-1! They are currently in first place in the Manhattan East Division. Sophomore Adnan Ahmed is the leading scorer, averaging 14 points per game, while guards Regis and Blaise Enama are providing amazing defense and rebounding for squad. The team plays on 2/3 against East Side Community at PS 64 and on 2/5 against rival Baruch at Basketball City. The Girls Varsity Basketball team is feeling good after a 42-23 victory of HS of Economics and Finance. They'll look to end their season with a 3 game winning streak, with the final 2 games of

the season coming on 2/2 at Fashion HS, and 2/3 against Economics and Finance.

GO BULLDOGS!!!

Empowering the Next Generation: A Music for Humanity Benefit Concert

I'd like to invite you to an amazing chamber music concert. Seven outstanding Juilliard musicians as well as myself will be performing wonderful pieces by Bach and Brahms, including Mendelssohn's string octet to raise money for Music for Humanity, a charity that supports young musicians. It will be an afternoon of empowerment and inspiration as we all come together to connect through the power of music and support young musicians in financial need to achieve their dreams.

[3PM | Saturday, February 6th](#)

Grace Church

[802 Broadway](#)

[New York, NY 10003](#)

I was someone who didn't have the money to afford my first choice school, Manhattan School of Music, but Music for Humanity provided me with a scholarship. I needed more money than was given and one of the co-founders, Barry Adelman, went out of his way to create a fundraiser in my hometown to raise the additional funds. I've never been so moved by someone's unwarranted generosity. That quality is what makes Music for Humanity a truly unique organization. I created this concert because I never want money to be the reason why young musicians can't follow their dreams and use music to make the world a better place.

I hope to see all of you at the concert. It will be an amazing afternoon. You can purchase tickets at: <http://musicforhumanity.org/musicians/members/57/store.php>

All the best,

Maxfield Panish

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

"Diverse Minds" Scholarship Opportunity for High School

[B'nai B'rith](#) International is pleased to announce a call for submissions for our scholarship contest, the [Diverse Minds Writing Challenge](#). This innovative competition, celebrating its 10th anniversary this year, asks high school students in your community to write and illustrate a children's book that tells a story of tolerance, diversity or inclusion.

Students currently enrolled in the 9th – 12th grades residing in one of the five New York City boroughs (Manhattan, Bronx, Brooklyn, Staten Island and Queens) are eligible to participate. The first place-winning individual or team will receive a college scholarship of \$5,000, and B'nai B'rith will professionally publish the winning submission – making the student a published author! Submissions placing second and third will also receive scholarships. In addition, the teacher of the student(s) who place first will receive a \$1,000 stipend and the school will receive a \$500 grant. [The submission deadline is March 25, 2016.](#)

For more information and details please click here for [downloadable flyer](#) and visit our website

at www.bnaibrith.org/diverseminds. If you have any questions I can be reached at [323/308.0195](tel:323/308.0195) or diverseminds@bnaibrith.org. We are excited to continue bringing the *Challenge* to your area and look forward to a positive response from your community.

Thank you for your assistance in helping get the information out to your staff and students!

Sincerely,

Laura Jeser

Program Manager

[323/308.0195](tel:323/308.0195)

diverseminds@bnaibrith.org

<http://www.bnaibrith.org/diverse-minds.html>



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