



GENIUS HOUR

WHERE PASSIONS COME TO LIFE

Tuesday, April 18th, 2023

Dear Families,

This year, we are excited to be starting Genius Hour in our classroom! Genius Hour gives students an opportunity to explore an area of personal interest through an independent research project. Students will spend one hour each week researching something that they are passionate about. Genius Hour was originally invented by Google when the company realized that if employees were given time to research their own projects, they were significantly more creative and driven in their job expectations. This concept has spread to many classrooms around the world. Many times, in school settings, kids might feel like they are not given many opportunities to learn about what really interest them. Student motivation can be improved by giving students choice and a chance to explore their passions. They will also develop skills such as organization, goal setting, creativity, meeting timelines, and perseverance.

In our classroom, students will be responsible for coming up with their own topic to research, creating something that represents their learning, and sharing this process with the class.

Some students may want to do projects that require extra work at home. They may also need your help to gather materials. It will be up to the student and their families to decide if they want to complete projects that require extra materials or work time at home.

At this point, all students have picked a topic and will begin the research process shortly. I strongly encourage you to talk with your child about their project because the more students are able to talk about their learning, the richer the experience is for them. The goal is that students will have everything completed before the end of the school year. We will plan to begin presentations on **Tuesday, June 13th, 2023.**

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

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