Parent Email: Controversial Topic Ahead

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Next week, our class will be studying _____.

It is an important part of the curriculum because _____.

To better understand many perspectives of this topic, the class will be talking about it openly using civil discourse methods. Civil discourse involves respectful discussion to build shared understanding with the goal of finding common ground on topics of disagreement.

During civil discourse, students are expected to contribute positively to the discussion by:

- actively listening;
- staying on topic and explaining reasons and evidence;
- building positively on one another's ideas;
- avoiding interruption;
- disagreeing respectfully; and
- encouraging everyone to speak.

In addition, the class-created discussion norms are attached to this email for your reference.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions. Thank you for supporting your child as they strengthen their communication skills by practicing civil discourse.

Sincerely,

_____

© 2024 Sphere | Cato Institute