

Dear Family,

We are starting a unit on **Diversity and Inclusion** from Harmony SEL, our social and emotional learning program. Throughout this unit, students will discover shared interests, explore how each person is unique and valued, and develop a common classroom identity.

Getting to Know One Another lays the foundation for a broad range of solid relationships. During this unit, students will share a bit about themselves with their classmates and work to discover what they have in common with one another. They will also learn that both similarities and differences are valued—and that we may have things in common with those who initially seem different from us.

Learning Something New is possible when people appreciate one another's differences. Differences allow us to consider unique ideas and think about alternative perspectives. Students will take turns sharing their own knowledge and unique skills with their classmates, allowing them to experience the benefits of interacting with, and learning from, peers who are different from them.

Our Classroom Identity helps students feel welcome, accepted, and connected to others. In this unit, students will discuss what it means to belong to a group and explore the elements that make our classroom a community. They will work to discover what they have in common and then cooperate to find creative ways of expressing our classroom identity.

An important part of this program is for students to continue discussing and practicing concepts outside the classroom. I'm hoping you can reinforce at home what we are learning in class. Ask your child about these concepts!

Thank you for your involvement. Please contact me if you have any questions about the Harmony program.

Sincerely,
Lindsey Warner
Guidance Counselor