

Dear Families,

I hope you're having a wonderful week and enjoyed your Spring Break! I wanted to share a quick update on the incredible energy and focus I'm seeing in our classroom as we dive into our latest adventure: the Public Service Announcement (PSA) Research Project!

Our young researchers are currently becoming "information experts." To build strong foundational skills, we are intentionally starting our journey by diving deep into databases, digital encyclopedias, and physical books before we ever touch a search engine. It's been amazing to see them uncovering facts and learning the "why" behind their topics!

As we navigate this large project, we are focusing on three major milestones:

- **Mastering Note-Taking:** Learning how to capture the most important ideas in their own words.
- **Citing Sources:** Giving credit where credit is due and documenting where our knowledge comes from.
- **Collaborative Spirit:** Working hand-in-hand with teammates to bring a big vision to life.

Of course, big thinking requires big breaks! To keep our spirits high and our minds sharp, we've been incorporating some seriously engaging "brain breaks." Whether we're tackling TED-Ed's logic puzzles, mastering SOMA cubes, competing in Challenge 24, or diving into Water Falcon, the classroom is buzzing with problem-solving and smiles.

I am so proud of the persistence and creativity these students are showing. Thank you for your continued support at home—we can't wait to share our final PSAs with you!

Warmly,

Amy McElhinney