



**Manhattan Business
Academy
Parent Newsletter**



Dear parents,

We hope everyone enjoyed Thanksgiving. Now it's on to December and a much needed break for your children at the end of the month. December can be a challenging month for teenagers, between the excitement and anxiety of the holidays, the most important part of the second marking period, shorter days and less sunlight. The MBA community is committed to make this month smooth for your child and we wish you and your family very happy holidays.

Please stay on top of your child's grades on Jupiter and communicate with your child's teachers if you have any questions or concerns.

What is happening at MBA this month?

This month blends community building and rigorous academics. Our classes are entering the heart of quarter 2 and students are starting to produce more challenging work. We also have our yearly staff vs. student basketball game this month (last year the staff crushed the students!) and our yearly advisory fun day where each advisory will engage in a community-bounding field trip. Right around the corner in January, we are preparing for January Regents exams and the end of the second marking period.

What are your children learning this month?

In Earth Science, students are continuing and will be completing the "Astronomy - Earth in Space" unit of the NYS curriculum. This unit also culminates in our class trip to "Liberty Science Center," in New Jersey, home to the largest planetarium in the Western Hemisphere of the world. Following this unit, students will begin "Motions of the Earth, Moon, and Sun," in which we will discover the Sun's apparent motions throughout the year and how that influences our seasons, as well as, moon phases and how this affects our daily tidal patterns.

In Global studies, students are completing a unit pertaining to ancient India, society, religion, and geography. The next unit will emphasize the contributions of ancient China including their belief systems, dynasties, and geography.

In Algebra I, students are solving equations using rational and irrational numbers. Students are solving literal equations which will culminate in an acrostic project. Additionally, in Pre-AP Algebra, students are comparing rates of change and graphing linear functions.

In ELA Grade 9, students are analyzing the text *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* in addition to non-fiction texts that support students' background knowledge of the Native

American plight in the United States. We explore higher-order thinking questions such as: How does society influence and shape individuals?

What dilemmas do individuals face when their consciences conflict with the rules and expectations of their communities? What conflicts arise in literature out of the tension between characters and their setting? What is social identity and how does it affect how we interact with one another? We are exploring these questions through Spiderweb discussions, writing and gallery walks.

Important Dates this month:

- Tuesday December 5th, **Rock the Street Wall Street** event for selected Juniors to visit the accounting firm Ernst & Young.
- Thursday December 14th, **Picture Day (Retakes)** for seniors.
- Wednesday December 20th, **Advisory Fun Day.**
- Friday December 22nd, **last day of classes** before Winter Recess.
- Week of December 25th to December 29th, **Winter Recess.**

Other information:

Our online gradebook is JupiterEd, accessible at www.jupitered.com/

On Jupiter, you will be able to stay on top of your child's progress in real time for all of their classes. If you are unfamiliar with logging in on JupiterEd, click on "Parent" and enter your child's OSIS ID number and temporary password you received in your email. If you do not know the temporary password, please click on "Help Me Login"

Alternatively, for more support with login information, please reach out to our wonderful Parent Coordinator, Elianne Jimenez at ejimenez@mbanyc.org

Sincerely,
Karen Polsonetti
Principal

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Polsonetti', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.