

**Peace Month**  
**YPP: Young People for Peace**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Educational Support Services at Cicely L. Tyson Elementary School will again sponsor **PEACE MONTH** as another effort to keep our schools safe for our students. This year the initiative will span the period from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's birthday on January 16, 2017, through February 10, 2017 Valentine's Day. The focus will be on classroom and school-wide activities that promote **PEACE, JUSTICE, and POSITIVE INTERACTIONS** with others. The Anti-Bullying Program which is on-going will be strongly emphasized. This is a great opportunity to teach the students the importance of treating each other with respect and compassion. Here are some ideas to discuss with your son/daughter at home to continue the theme of Peace:

- ***Model tolerance and compassion.*** Children take their emotional cues from the significant adults in their lives. Avoid making negative statements about any racial, ethnic, or religious group.
- ***Stop any type of harassment or bullying immediately.*** Make it clear that such behavior is unacceptable. Talk to the children involved about the reasons for their behavior. Offer alternative methods of expressing their anger, confusion, or insecurity.
- ***Provide useful information.*** Accurate information about people, events, reactions, and feelings is empowering. Use language that is developmentally appropriate for children.
- ***All people deserve to be treated with fairness, respect and dignity.*** Speak to your children about the importance of treating each other with fairness, respect and dignity.

**Here are some school-wide activities Educational Support has planned:**

**4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Poetry/Rap contest:** Entries are due January 20, 2017 to Ms. Baguidy or Mr. Ashby. Winners will be selected each Friday of every week during peace month.

**Bulletin Boards:** related to Peace (if you have a bulletin board the month of January or February, please relate it to Peace)

**Lunch Time Special:** DVD presentation related to promoting peace (**Teaching tolerance program**)

**Second Step Presentations/Character Education/H.I.B:** January & February

**School Peace Spirit:** Every Friday during Peace Month the staff and students are encouraged to wear the following colors that signify **Peace with Jeans** with a \$2.00 donation (donations will go to school-wide activities)

Friday, January 20, 2017: *White for Peace*

Friday, January 27, 2017: *Blue for Trust*

Friday, February 3, 2017: *Orange for Happiness*

Friday, February 10, 2017: *Red for Love*

Sincerely,

Educational Support Services