



# MS 354 Times

# Welcome!

## JUNE

**DR MONIQUE CAMPBELL, Principal**  
**KIMANI SMITH, Assistant Principal**  
**CYLANN PHILLIPS, Assistant Principal**  
**MAXINE GRIFFITH, School Counselor**  
**ELROY CORMACK, Parent Coordinator**  
**Amanda Bernadine, Counseling In Schools Director**  
**Handel Barclay, New York Edge Director**

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
**PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE**  
**OR CALL US [MS354.COM](http://MS354.COM),**  
**718-774-0362**



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# Principal's Message

Dear Parents, Students, and Staff,

As we approach the end of another successful academic year, I am filled with a sense of pride and gratitude for the incredible achievements and growth we have witnessed within our school community. June marks a time of reflection, celebration, and looking ahead to new beginnings.

Reflecting on the past year, I am inspired by the dedication and resilience shown by our students and staff in the face of challenges.

Together, we have navigated uncertainties, tragedy, adapted to new learning environments, and continued to uphold the values of excellence, compassion, and community that define our school. As we celebrate the accomplishments of our graduating students and acknowledge the hard work of all of our students, I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations to each and every one of you.

Your commitment to learning, your creativity, and your perseverance have not gone unnoticed, and I am confident that you are all poised for great success in the future.


Looking ahead to the summer break, I encourage everyone to take the time to rest, recharge, and rejuvenate. Whether you are traveling, spending time with family and friends, or pursuing personal interests, I hope this summer provides you with moments of joy and relaxation.

As we prepare for the start of a new academic year in the fall, I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead. We will continue to innovate, collaborate, and inspire one another to reach new heights of excellence and achievement.

I want to express my sincerest gratitude to our dedicated staff, supportive parents, and hardworking students for their contributions to our school community. Your collective efforts have made this year a memorable and rewarding experience.



Dr. Monique Campbell



*Congratulations  
Class of 2024*

**TAKE PRIDE IN HOW FAR  
YOU HAVE COME  
HAVE FAITH IN HOW FAR YOU CAN  
GO  
REMEMBER TO ALWAYS  
BELIEVE IN YOURSELF  
AND FOLLOW YOUR DREAMS  
LAUGH LOVE LIVE LIFE TO THE  
FULLEST!**



CLASS OF 2024

# Parent Corner

The influence of a Dad in his children's life is SO profound. This doesn't undermine the power of a Mother's love (which is equally as powerful), but Dads have a very special bond with their kids as they develop the psychology they will depend on as adults.

**IF DAD SAYS HE CAN  
THEN HE FEELS CAPABLE.**

**IF DAD SAYS HE IS SMART  
THEN HE BECOMES RESOURCEFUL.**

**IF DAD SAYS HE CAN BE RESPECTFUL  
THEN HE LEARNS RESPONSIBILITY.**

Research has proven that a father's influence in his son's life shapes his self esteem, his self control and his ability to act in his own best interest. His powerful example *creates the standard* for future relationships.

**DADS! I HOPE YOU'RE SEEING A TREND HERE.**



**IF DAD SAYS SHE IS BEAUTIFUL  
THEN SHE IS.**

**IF DAD SAYS SHE IS SMART  
THEN SHE IS.**

**IF DAD SAYS SHE CAN ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING IN LIFE  
THEN SHE CAN.**

Research has proven that a father's influence in his daughter's life shapes her self esteem, self image, confidence and empowers her to take risks. His powerful example *creates the standard* for future relationships.



**DADS! YOU ARE SO IMPORTANT.**



Loving fathers who provide praise, support, and unconditional love give their kids the gift of confidence and high self-esteem. Kids who have these traits grow into happy, and successful adults that are resilient to change or failing.



Even better, dads don't have to go to extraordinary lengths to make this happen. Simply being present, encouraging, and a good listener is often all children need to flourish.

## The results?



Research shows that the most successful women have generally had fathers who were interested in their intellect and their academics.



Research also shows that Dad's encouragement to be protectors, fixers, and rescuers is why boys have greater confidence and courage to take risks, try new sports/foods, repair a car, travel solo, or even stand up to bullying as adults.

Dads, you are the model for manhood your kids are likely to LOOK FOR and BE as adults. It's why you are SO IMPORTANT!!!!

# Welcome to Grade 6

## Message to the Class of 2027

Dear Future 6th graders,

Welcome 6th graders to the amazing school of Ms. 354. I would like to congratulate you on getting accepted into M.S. 354. Here at Ms. 354 there are rules and regulations but fun activities, holiday events and more. We even have programs such as step, dance, steel pan, and even violin. But my purpose of writing this letter today is to warn and help you survive middle school grade 6th.

Let's start with the first piece of advice; always abide by the dress code and always wear uniform. But first let's go over the basic uniform. First the boys. The boys are supposed to wear khaki, navy, or black pants and this school never accepts jeans, ripped jeans, and sweats pants. Next shorts for boys, your shorts are supposed to be black, khaki, or navy blue. Always remember no designs on your pants at all, none allowed. Now let's go over the uniform for girls. Girls have to wear black, khaki, or navy blue pants. And for shorts girls are supposed to wear black, khaki, or navy blue. Girls, remember your shorts must go past your knees. Last but not the least the dress code for shoes. You can't wear crocs, slippers, slides, or any opened toe-ed shoes. But you can wear sneakers, boots, or any closed toe shoe.

My next piece of advice is to always stay focused in class and when the teacher is giving instruction. You should always pay attention in class and while the teacher is talking because it will enable you to understand everything that's going on and grasp the lesson. One strategy you can use to pay attention in class is zero in on the lesson and remove yourself from your friends so you don't. Or don't have side conversations while the lesson is going on. One time that paying attention helped me was when in math class the teacher called me to the board to do a problem in front of the class. If I was not paying attention I would have got it wrong but I was so I was correct this couldn't have happened if I wasn't paying attention.

Another piece of advice is, always take care of yourself and have good personal hygiene. The reason good personal hygiene is important is because it might just save you from getting embarrassed in front of multiple people. It is a good habit to take care of yourself because that might also give you a better chance of getting friends. Picture this, two people want to be your friend. One of them has good hygiene and smells good while the other one has bad hygiene and smells bad. Who are you choosing? The person who has better hygiene. Another reason you should keep personal hygiene is if you are in a big gathering with a lot of people you don't want to be the one who smells bad and who people will avoid.

In conclusion Ms. 354 is simply an amazing and enjoyable school with rules and regulations. Even if it requires you to work hard, pay attention, follow the rules, and tell you what you can't and can wear, it allows you to reach your full potential. But always remember if you follow this guide middle school will be a walk in the park and if you have any problems you can always reach out to the amazing staff and facility.

Razack Amao



# Welcome to Grade 6

## MESSAGE TO THE CLASS OF 2027



Dear future Grade 6 students,

I'm Marquise Darius from MS 354. As a new 6th grade student, I trust that you will have a wonderful time here at MS 354. The main staff in the school are the principal Dr. Campbell, and the two assistant principals, Mr. Smith and Ms. Phillips. This school has many opportunities for students to engage in, such as student council, dance, step, steel pan, technology, sports, violin, and home economics. In this letter, I will share some valuable advice that may help you during your time here at MS 354.

The first piece of advice I have for you future grade 6 students is to make friends. The reason why making friends is so important is that if you make friends throughout middle school, you won't always be lonely. When you make friends, you may become more happy than you usually are, and you will always have someone to count on and someone that will always defend you. Friends will keep you company so you won't be alone all the time. Friends can be beneficial for your time in 6th grade, which is why I say that friends are important to make in middle school.

My second advice I have is do your work during class and at home. Homework and schoolwork contribute to the grades that you get. If you do not get a good grade, you may not get to pass 6th grade. One consequence of not doing your work is having opportunities in the school taken away from you. Another reason why doing your work is important is that you can also make your parents proud by getting good grades, and I know most people would like their parents to be proud of them over the accomplishment of getting good grades. Overall, this is why doing your work during class and at home is one of my advice to you future grade 6 students.

My last piece of advice I have for you future grade 6 students is to be respectful to your teachers and peers. I say this, because like my last advice, not doing this can result in a punishment and many of your opportunities taken away. You may get lunch detention, a phone call to your parents, suspended, and you might not be able to go on some of the trips that the school plans. Being respectful to your peers and teachers can also factor into your grades, so you may have a low grade if you are always disrespectful and neglect your classwork. Being respectful to your peers can lead to starting new friendships as well. Overall, this is why being respectful to your peers and teachers is one of my advice to you future grade 6 students.

In conclusion, my 3 pieces of advice for future grade 6 students is to make friends, do your work during class and at home, and to be respectful to your teachers and peers. To me, these 3 things are beneficial while progressing through middle school. By doing these 3 things, I assure you that you will have a great time in middle school.



# Welcome to Grade 6

## MESSAGE TO THE CLASS OF 2027

Dear Future 6th Graders,

I'm Jared D Haiti from M.S 354 and I am going to give you some tips and advice for your 6th grade year. First, my year was great. People you need to know are Ms. Phillips and Mr. Smith these are your Assistant Principals and your Principal Dr. Campbell. There are some Monday clubs you'll have a chance to pick and believe me if you're a boy pick tech or sports or you will regret it. Most of the teachers are good and you should respect them. I know this is true because my friend Yehou-nic has some of the best grades you will ever see. Those who wish to perform you could step, dance or play an instrument. You'll thank me later. So as the current mayor in sixth grade, just run for student government. Therefore, follow the rules, make good choices and learn something new every day.

My second advice is, don't let anyone annoy or bully you. And a tip: choose wisely who you want to be friends with for example, if you are smart, be friends with other smart people and make sure they have good behavior because if they are always in lunch detention you should stay away from them. You may ask why it's important, but I will say it is important because the personality of the friend you have can change your entire year. And you can apply it effectively by making friends with others and by the time the first marking period is over you can look at what their behavior has been like and what grade they are getting.

My second advice is you should get good grades in all your classes and have good behavior. So one tip is to always make sure your work is done or your homework is done. Here I will give you ways to get good grades: In Math there are going to be multiple assignments at once so you should do them all so Mr. Maitre doesn't catch you slacking. In Science always do the extra credit as it will help your grades a lot. In Ela always review your work with criteria and don't disrespect the teacher and have fun with Ms. McLawrence. In Social Studies, always pay attention because Ms. Burrison will catch you speaking and always paying attention. In Art and Gym have fun and have good behavior. In Math Skills make sure you get good grades on benchmarks or good grades in the class to impress Mr. Edwards (you may have this teacher in math) and Mr. Derosena. These tips are important because they will help you get good grades. My third and final advice is don't be the weakest link and what I mean by that is if everyone is doing the right thing don't be the one doing the wrong thing. One tip I can give you is try not to follow the wrong thing. You should follow the right thing. You may not impress your friends, but you don't see them at home. It is important because all the kids you see at school are not important to your parents at home and you don't need to impress the people at school. You need to impress your parents with good grades and no behavioral problems. For example, if your friend wanted to fight someone and you fought also, that suspension wouldn't impress your parents, so you want to do things that impress them.

In conclusion, if you just follow my advice, you will have a better year. Which include don't let anyone annoy or bully you, have good grades and behavior and don't be the weakest link. Trust me, don't stress and have fun but still have good behavior while having fun. I know you will have a good year and if you have any questions come to me anytime.



# Welcome to Grade 7

## Message to Class of 2026

Dear Incoming 7th graders,

Welcome to 7th grade! Here are some expectations and highlights of the 7th grade. This school year, you will get the opportunity to go on fun field trips, but only if you have good behavior, meaning you are respectful to your teachers and peers.

Every Tuesday you will have Academies such as cooking, technology, and dance.

Some highlights of the school year would be getting to go on fun field trips if you have great grades, class work is completed for all classes, and you demonstrate great behavior. Another highlight of the school year would be Winter Wishes, which is an exciting time because you get Christmas gifts from generous donors.

Some advice I would give is make sure you are on your best behavior, you follow the rules, get good grades, study, be respectful, make good choices, ask questions, and learn something new every day. I wish you success this school year.

Yours Truly,

Jessenia





# Welcome to Grade 8

## MESSAGE TO THE CLASS OF 2025

Welcome new class of 2025,

Congratulations for finally making it to 8th grade. It must have been a long journey. Guess what, making it through 8th grade is a crazier journey than making it to 8th grade. There are a lot of things that you can expect, good and bad. You are going to be, or are, the new role models of the school. Every grade is looking up to you, literally and figuratively. How you act affects everyone. You are now the big kid in the school everyone is hoping to be. Set some goals and make sure to follow through with them. Actions speak louder than words. If you are hoping to make an impact, be the best and show your teachers why they should take you seriously.

There are a lot of exciting things that you should look forward to. This is your last year in middle school so make it worthwhile. Have fun and be a good scholar because if you decide not to, all of the fun activities and senior fun that you worked so hard to get will be stripped away. The SHSAT exam is something to look forward to. That is the exam you take if you want to go to a specialized school like LaGuardia or Brooklyn Tech. To go there you have to work hard and also everyone has to take the SHSAT test so everyone gets a chance. Before you know it, it will be graduation and you will get to step out, in your nice dress (or suit for the males) and wear your graduation gown and be a proud graduate of 2025. Things that you can look forward to is graduation like I just mentioned but also prom, spirit week which is when you get different prompts for everyday of the week and dress up like it, the senior trip (this year we are going to Washington DC, and it is an overnight trip), and then you also have other more educational things like regents exams and applying to your high school. Do not forget to pass the grade though because if you slack off and end up failing, it does not matter where you applied to, you either have to go to summer school or retake the whole grade over again. If you like art you can go to Brooklyn Highschool of the Arts (that is where I am going). If you do not take 8th grade seriously then all of these fun experiences will be taken away from you so get good grades, make good choices and do the best that you can academically and behaviorally.

I seriously wish you all the best and hope that you make it past this grade because failing a class means you repeat a grade and have to do this whole thing over again and possibly not getting in the high school you want so take this seriously. Have fun and do well at the same time. This is your last year here so make it memorable and do not make yourself repeat it.

-Yours truly,  
Brooke Jones



# Welcome to Grade 8

## MESSAGE TO THE CLASS OF 2025

Dear 8th grader,

You made it! It might not have been easy and it might not have been hard, but the work is never done. From the benchmarks, to the classwork, to the state tests you have given it your all and it has paid off. Now, you will have to do just that and more like regents exams and the SHSAT. This is such a huge accomplishment and before you know it you will be walking the graduation stage just like me. Whenever you get to a point as high as this, more and more expectations are placed upon you. Do not ever let that deter you from doing your best, but let it build your confidence enough to see that the people doing so trust you enough to allow you to put your best foot forward and be a role model. It is your job to set the examples in classrooms, household, and outside as wherever you go people will be watching. By the time you graduate you should be able to take advantage of all that this school has to offer. As of right now there are FOUR different regents available for 8th graders in this school to take. In case you didn't know, in order to graduate high school in New York you need a certain amount of regents credits and these will help push your high school graduation date closer and closer so that you are able to have a headstart in whatever you want to do with your life.

If you are reading this I would hope that you are the type of person who wants the best for themselves. If you are read closely, graduation is not a given just because you are in 8th grade. In order to make it there it takes effort and dedication to school. Graduation day is a day where most, if not all students look forward to because it signifies action. The action of saying goodbye to the middle school you and opening doors to the high school you. The action of making it and knowing that you have tried your best throughout your school career. The action of being free to become whoever you want to be. Look forward to it, and make sure you put in the work and time to make it there. Eighth grade has certain perks that I was a little jealous about when I was in 6th and 7th grade like spirit week. I would always see the upperclassmen wearing regular clothes and matching, while looking cute while I sat in a classroom wearing a uniform. Now, it is your turn to experience that. Spirit week brought people together with creativity, laughter, and happiness. I promise that participating is the best move, so do it and have fun with it! There is also one last thing that every senior looks forward to. SENIOR TRIP! This is a fun way to experience life with your friends outside of a school setting if you do not see each other very often other than that. It is a chance to create memories that you can look back on years from now because you want to reminisce about the golden years. Enjoy it, and let it be a part of your

Make the most of your opportunities, but always remember that success does not come without work. You may have to stay up late nights, be stressed out, and push yourself to the limits, but it will be worth it. You got this! I promise it is not as hard as it seems (except for math).

Yours Truly,  
Kiley





# Welcome to Grade 8

## MESSAGE TO THE CLASS OF 2025



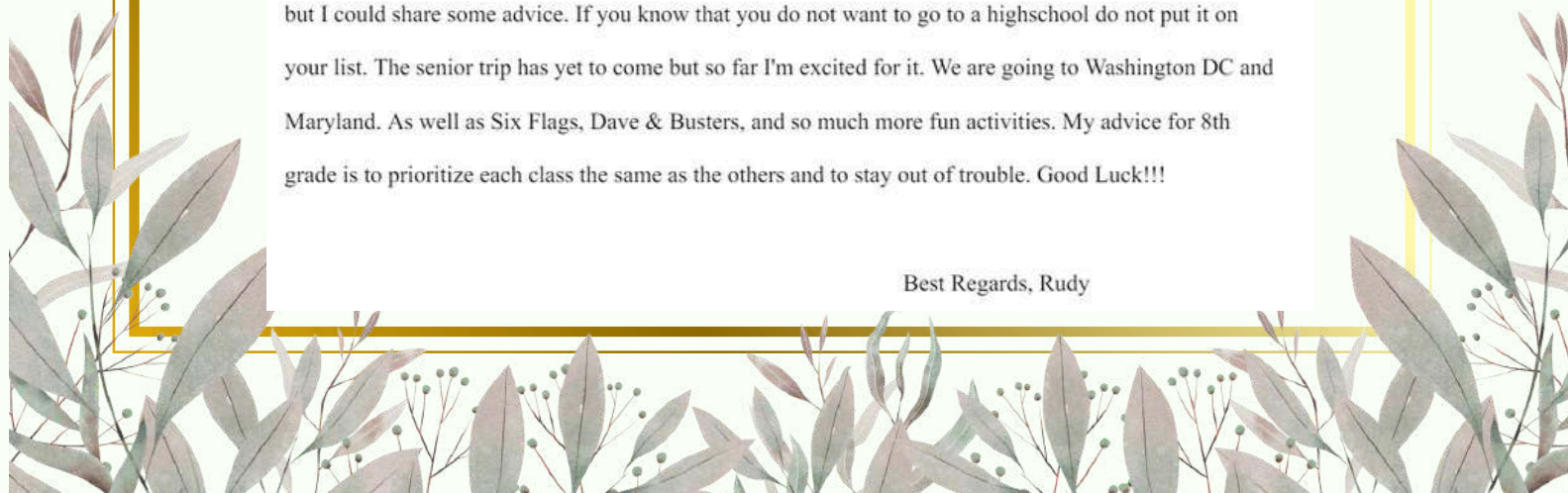
Dear incoming 8th graders,

Congratulations to the class of 2025 for making it to the 8th grade. You guys are the new role models for the younger kids in the school. They will look up to you so make sure you are doing the right thing and staying out of trouble. At first, 8th grade seems fun and easy. It was also very exciting for me until all of the testing. It was not that bad but there were a whole bunch of tests. I am grateful for them because it will make highschool a breeze.

I was able to have the opportunity to take 4 regents now so I have less work to do in highschool. At this school I would say 8th grade was the most fun year. Throughout the school year besides the test everything was fun and the experience was worthwhile. The teachers are very different from 7th grade and slightly more strict. You have to be on time everyday, manage to get all your work done, and done with proper quality. Yes every teacher has these expectations but in 8th grade it is way more stressed because failing one class can result in you having to redo the grade. Every class is as important as the rest.

There are 3 things that you should be looking forward to for the whole school year. These 3 are Spirit Week, Highschool applications, and Senior trip. Spirit week was so fun finding clothes to match the assigned themes, it's not something you want to miss out on. My favorite part of the year was the highschool applications. It may not sound so exciting but I promise it is. It was probably my favorite part but I could share some advice. If you know that you do not want to go to a highschool do not put it on your list. The senior trip has yet to come but so far I'm excited for it. We are going to Washington DC and Maryland. As well as Six Flags, Dave & Busters, and so much more fun activities. My advice for 8th grade is to prioritize each class the same as the others and to stay out of trouble. Good Luck!!!

Best Regards, Rudy



# FOOD EDUCATION

## AT MS 354

At MS 354 students develop a greater appreciation for healthy foods, learn about sustainable practices, and gain valuable life skills.



*opportunities to*

# SHINE



**AT MS 354 WE ENCOURAGE  
OUR STUDENTS TO EXPAND  
THEIR IMAGINATION AND  
DEVELOP THEIR OWN  
UNIQUE VOICE!**



# PERFORMING ARTS



**DANCE**

**STEP**

**STEEL PAN**

**VIOLYN**

**DRUMMING**

# MOLDING FUTURE ENGINEERS





Ms. Griffith  
Thanks for listening  
& trying to help solve  
my problems

Ms. McLawrence  
Thanks for being  
nice & helping me to  
understand topics

Ms. Delahaye  
Thanks for being  
fair

Mr. Riggins  
Thanks for always  
having fun with us &  
trying to make sure we  
are ok

# Teacher Dedication

Ms. Reid  
Thank you for  
being kind and  
helpful

Ms. Roper  
Thanks for being  
consistent with me

Mr. Cassas  
Thanks for being  
funny & proactive

Ms. Aiken  
Thanks for talking with me  
& trying to understand me  
better

Ms. Sanders  
Thanks for being  
the best SS teacher!

Ms. King  
Thank you for  
helping me to become  
a better drummer.

Mr. Edwards  
Thank you for being  
helpful.

Ms. McLawrence  
Thank you for teaching me  
how to write & use my  
thinking skills.

Mr. Maitre  
Thank you for teaching  
how to easily do math &  
show my reasoning

Ms. Parkins  
Thank you for helping  
me become a better  
scientist.

Mr. Riggins  
Thanks for always listening  
to us & trying to make sure  
our voice is heard.

# Teacher Dedication

Ms. Thoreson  
Thank you for helping me  
to show my creativity &  
use my art skills.

Ms. Roper  
Thanks for being  
consistent with  
me.

Mr. Cassas  
Thanks for being you;  
funny & caring.

Ms. Leckie  
Thanks for helping me with  
my work

Ms. Johnson  
Thank you for being a  
good teacher

Ms. Mitchel  
Thank you for always finding  
a way to make the lesson fun

Mr. Varon  
Thank you for being funny &  
sharing your stories with us

Ms. McKenzie  
es basicamente la  
madre espanola de  
todos

Ms. Walters & Ms. Flores  
Thank you for getting me  
through tough times

Ms. Burrison  
Thank you for inspiring us

Ms. King  
Thanks for teaching  
me how to play the  
steel pan

# Teacher Dedication

Ms. Seales  
Thanks for helping me  
with things that I'm  
confused about

Ms. McCarthy  
Thanks for being  
cool and kind!

Ms. Skeete  
Thanks for being nice and  
helpful

Ms. Burrison  
Thanks for always believing in  
us

Ms. McLawrence  
Thanks for always knowing  
how to make us smile

Mr. Maitre  
Thanks for always  
challenging us

Ms. Parkins  
For making learning science  
fun, I thank you!

Mr. Varon  
Thanks for keepinh  
us fit

Ms. Forde  
Thanks for being  
nice - I love you!

Ms. Austin  
Is really nice and  
helpful

Ms. Walford  
Thanks for being  
amazing

Ms. Thoreson  
knows how to make  
her lessons fun and  
engaging

# Teacher Dedication

Ms. Burrison  
knows how to be  
fun and exciting  
but strict at the  
same time

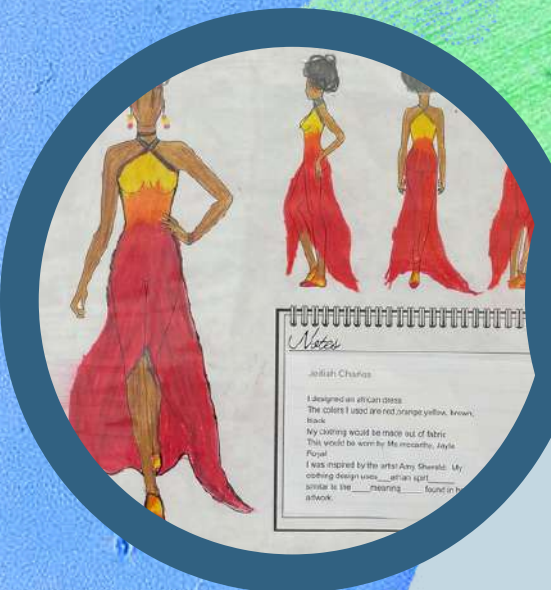
Mr. Varon  
Knows how to be  
fair

Ms. Roper  
is the bset when it  
comes to helping  
students. I love her!

Ms. Compton  
is creative and  
inspiring

Mr. D  
helps with my  
work when I need  
help the most

Mr. Spencer  
Taught me a new  
instrument



# ART

MS 354

# SHOWCASE

2023-2024



# COLLEGE AWARENESS AT M.S. 354





# LEADERSHIP & EMPOWERMENT



Perfect Attendance Incentives



Reading for Elementary School Scholars



My Brother's Keeper (MBK)



My Sister's Keeper (MSK)





# SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL AWARENESS



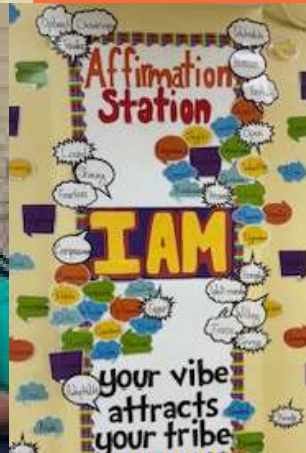
Scholars make great use of the SEL Room when they are in need of support or alone time.



"I AM" bulletin boards remind our scholars of how amazing and unique they truly are.



Looking good in our affirmation tees!



Scholars use the Buddha Booth in the calm-down corner to assist or regulate their emotions.

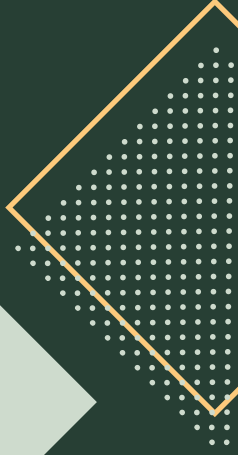
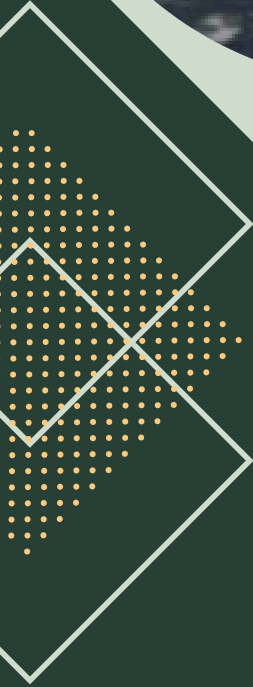





FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT





COMMUNITY DAY 2024





# Happy Father's Day

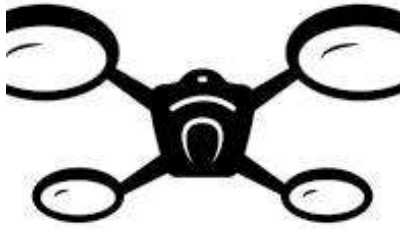
You Are My Hero, I Love You Dad !!



# Looking Ahead 2024-2025 SY



Dance



GARDENING



## Back to School


Sneak peek

new clubs/activities



# CHILDREN & FAMILIES SUMMER SAFETY

Here are some summer safety tips for families:

- 
- **Hydration** - Bring water with you instead of drinking from lakes or streams, which can be contaminated.
  - **Water Safety** - Make sure everyone in your family knows how to swim and stay above water. Always supervise children, even if they are strong swimmers, and don't mix alcohol and swimming.
  - **Sun Safety** - Wear broad-spectrum sunscreen with at least 30 SPF that protects against UVA and UVB rays. Look for a water-resistant formula, and also protect your eyes with sunglasses. For outdoor activities, dress children in loose, breathable, sweatproof, and waterproof clothing.
  - **Bug Bites** - Apply insect repellent before children go outside to protect them from mosquitos and other pests.
  - **Heat Exhaustion** - Children can show signs of heat exhaustion before heat stroke, such as heat cramps. Have children take water breaks and wear lightweight clothing when playing outside.
  - **Cars** - Never leave children alone in a parked car, even for a short time, as the temperature can quickly rise to dangerous levels. Always double-check the backseat before locking the car.
  - **Cooking** - When cooking outside, keep children at least 3 feet away from the grill.
  - **Fireworks** - Always supervise children closely around fireworks.





WELCOME TO OUR



Summer is the perfect opportunity for your middle schooler to dive into page-turners that pique their unique interests.



*Scholastic*

<https://www.scholastic.com/parents/books-and-reading/book-lists-and-recommendations/summer-reading-list-for-middle-school.html>

*NY Public Library*

<https://www.nypl.org/>



# Thanks

to our

supporters/partnerships



Counseling In Schools  
Awakening Possibilities



new  
york  
cares

