

Lincoln Hall supports a safe environment providing opportunities for each student to achieve his/her maximum growth academically, emotionally, socially and physically.

August 4, 2008

Dear Sixth Grade Family,

On Move-Up Day last June, we met with your child and the rest of our in-coming sixth graders. They are an enthusiastic group of students, and we are looking forward to having them in our classes this fall!

Your child's academic classes include reading, language arts, math, science, skills, and social studies. Additionally, your child will attend a physical education and expressive arts class (music, art, technology education, or home economics) each day. Depending on your child's schedule, he or she will have four to six academic teachers. Following is a brief introduction to our 2008-2009 curriculum.

In reading, the focus will be on improving reading, vocabulary, and literary skills. The reading material used is Prentice Hall's *Literature*, and supplemental books. In language arts, the focus will be writing and grammar. The material used includes Write Traits *Six Trait* program, *Write Source*, and supplemental grammar materials. Students will complete a research project and learn to write persuasive, narrative, and expository essays.

The sixth grade math program concentrates on applying the math skills your child has been learning up to this point for use in problem solving situations. The series used is the Connected Mathematics Program. Students will work on number theory, fractions, decimals, percent, geometry, and statistics. In addition to daily homework assignments, they will develop unit projects and presentations.

Earth science is the focus of the sixth grade science curriculum. The units that are covered include earthquakes, volcanoes, plate tectonics, rocks and minerals, geologic time, and astronomy.

The social studies program examines ancient world cultures. Students will study political science, economics, history, geography, and social systems. The textbook in sixth grade is *The Ancient World*. Students will learn about the ancient cultures of Mesopotamia, Egypt, the Near East, Greece, Rome, China, and the Middle Ages of Europe. They will do various hands-on activities and simulations applying

concepts taught about each civilization. In addition, students will participate in a mini-classroom economy where they will simulate real world experiences such as finding and working a job, depositing money, and paying bills.

The world your child lives in is constantly changing and different each day. To help prepare our students for the new century, the skills program will focus on three themes: technology, wellness, and global awareness. The first quarter, students will practice keyboarding, learn about Internet safety, and become skilled at creating multimedia short movies. From there, we will turn our focus to health and wellness. Students will have a unit on bullying and complete the D.A.R.E. curriculum. In addition, students will learn ways of taking care of their body physically and dealing with stress and conflict. Finally, we will focus on understanding global issues and cultures of other nations through the use of current events. Students will end the year with a project that integrates each of the themes for the year.

The Sixth Grade Open House is Monday, August 25, from 6:30 to 7:30 P.M. in the East Gym. This is a very important night for students and parents, as we will be sharing valuable information concerning schedules, procedures, and expectations. It has been our experience that attendance at Open House facilitates a more successful start to the year; therefore, we strongly encourage you to come with your child. Due to limited seating, please bring only your 6th grader, not siblings.

In your child's report card, paper work was sent home regarding the D.A.R.E. volunteer hours and the recommended summer reading book. If you have misplaced these documents, they are located on the Lincoln Hall Sixth Grade Webpage. Please go to

In addition, on **Wednesday, August 20th, and Thursday, August 17th at 9:30, 10:30, and 11:30 A.M.** we will be having peer tours of the school. Please call the main office at 847-675-8240 if you are interested in having your child go on a tour of the school led by one of our 8th graders.

We are excited about the upcoming school year and look forward to meeting you at our Open House. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Sincerely,

The Sixth Grade Team