LINK TO HOME
for the Week of December 8 - 12, 2014

This week
Thurs., Dec. 11 Link Parent Association Meeting, 6 pm, gym
Thurs., Dec. 11 Enrollment Open House, 6 pm, gym

Important Upcoming Dates
Tues., Dec. 16 Progress Reports to be mailed home
Fri., Dec. 19 Early dismissal, 12:45 pm
Fri., Dec. 19 Holiday Program, 7 pm, auditorium

To Parents of current 5th & 7th graders: RE-ENROLLMENT for 2015-2016!
If you wish for your child to REMAIN AT LINK for the next school year, it is required that you complete an Enrollment Form for the 2015-2016 school year. It is important that you return the completed form before December 22nd in order to reserve your child's spot at Link. Many new families are interested in enrolling at Link, and it is important that we know which of our current students will be returning. Please complete the enrollment form you will find in the parent communication envelope today and return it to Link in the envelope on Monday.

SGA holds holiday toy drive
The Link Student Government Association is sponsoring a toy drive. They are asking students and their families, as well as faculty and staff, to donate new toys, games and books for needy children in the area to be distributed through Wynnna House and the Gaililee Baptist Church. Please send in new items, unwrapped but in their original packaging by December 19th. A list of suggestions can be found on the toy drive flyer in this week's parent communications envelope. Please note that we cannot accept stuffed animals or toy weapons.

Open House for Prospective Students for 2015-16
Link has begun recruiting for students for the 2015-16 school year. Please let your families, friends, neighbors and colleagues with children who will enter grades 5 through 8 next year know about Link, and encourage them to attend our Open House on December 11th at 6 pm.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FOR 8TH GRADERS RESIDING IN NEWARK
This message is for those students interested in applying to one of the following schools:

- Science Park HS
- Arts HS
- Technology HS
- Bard HS Early College
- University HS
- American History HS

To apply to these schools, your child MUST take the ACT EXPLORE EXAM on Saturday, December 13th at 9 am (location to be announced). Mr. Silver has filed a request with Newark Public Schools for all Link 8th graders to take the exam, however your child should not take the exam if he/she is not interested in the schools listed above.

Be advised that there is NO SCHEDULED MAKE UP DATE, so it is important that all Newark residents who are interested in applying to those schools take the exam on the 13th. If your child is already scheduled to take another test that day, such as the Seton Hall Prep test, SSAT, etc., please contact Mr. Silver for guidance and suggestions. He can be reached at 973.642.0529 X23 or gsilver@linkschool.org.

Join Girls Troop 20184 at Link!
Link ladies, come out and join Girl Scout Troop 20184. You'll learn leadership, survival skills, self esteem, enrichment and the importance of civic engagement and community service. Meetings are held on Mondays from 4:15 - 6:00 pm in Link's first floor conference room. Registration is open to young ladies from Link as well as to girls from other local schools. If you have any questions, please call Ms. Tarah JN-Louis at 973.380.8106 or email her at gcsgirlscouts@gmail.com.

Turn over for more information.
Save the Date! Friday, December 19th for the Link Holiday Program.
Link students are practicing hard for their annual Holiday Program. Please put the date on your calendar as you won't want to miss it!

Cold and Flu Season is here!
The donation of boxes of tissues would be greatly appreciated. Our students are going through them rather rapidly! Please drop them off with Ms. Brooks in the main office.

In the Classroom

Observing World AIDS Day
Ms. Pierce’s fifth grade class observed World AIDS Day - learning about HIV/AIDS and wearing red in honor of those who are living with HIV and those who support them - their families, friends and caregivers - as well as those who have lost their lives to AIDS. They used their new-found knowledge to write letters to friends to raise awareness of HIV. Living the Core Value of Caring!

History comes alive at Link!
"No homework, no stress," 8th grade students chanted in the school lobby. Have Linkers gone amok? Not at all. Guided by U.S. History teacher, Ms. Fowler, students organized a “protest” against the injustice of homework for this coming weekend.

Students have been studying labor unions and the Progressive Movement of the early 1900’s in Ms. Fowler’s class and the protest was their culminating activity. They formed their very own union, developed and signed a union contract, elected union representatives, strategically planned a protest, and prepared for the protest. They marched through the hallways to each of their 8th grade teacher's classrooms to protest and marched in a picket line in the front lobby. Some Link staff joined in the picket!

Student Selena Munroe spoke for the protesters. "We have so much going on in our lives right now: we've worked hard all week in school, we have high school application deadlines to meet and entrance tests to prepare for, not to mention wanting to have time for family and friends on the weekend. Weekend homework is a burden right now. Cancelling a weekend's worth of homework would really be helpful to us." In response to the query, what have you gained by your protest, Selena said, "I believe our voices were heard, and that is what is important."

In this project/simulation students related their knowledge of history to a real life scenario. By creating their very own labor union, students were able to experience firsthand one of the ways that the industrial workers in the early 1900’s used to effect change.

The result of the Linkers’ protest: All 8th grade teachers cancelled homework for this coming weekend! Student voices were heard!
to students who received awards for the week ending December 5, 2014!

Scholar of the Week
Michelle Ofosu-Morrison, Team Veritas
J'Meeyah White, Team Dominic

Core Values Award
Jaheim Hannah, Team Caldwell
Saeedah Sharif, Team Dominic

Most Improved/Honorable Mention Award
Myla Jordan

Highest DeansList Points
Javon Giles – 5th Grade
Brianna Giraldez – 5th Grade
Medina Purefoy-Craig – 7th Grade
Damilola Oyediran – 7th Grade
Quanajah Watson – 8th Grade
Tatiana McDougald – 8th Grade

From Your Link Parent Association…

NEXT MEETING DATE: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2014 AT 6 PM
General Meeting
Parent Academy: Rotation through short workshops on PowerSchool, organization, character development and - for fun - SALSA!!!!