



# GENIUS HOUR!



Dear Parents,

Something exciting is happening in your child's classroom. Your child was recently introduced to Genius Hour! Genius Hour will provide your child the opportunity to research a topic or idea that he/she is passionate about.

## Why is Genius Hour important?

The number one reason Genius Hour is important is because your child will take ownership in his/her own learning. This research is intended to spark curiosity and encourage life-long learning, imagination, perseverance, self-awareness, and adaptability. It's also intended to provide a sense of purpose for learning.

## How will Genius Hour work in the classroom?

Your child will first choose a project topic of his/her interest. After that, your child will formulate a question that will guide his/her research. Once the project is approved, your child will then be given time in class to work on the project. Research materials (books, computer, iPads, etc.) will be provided for your child to research with. When the project is complete, your child will be asked to present his/her learning to an audience.

## How does Genius Hour fit into our standards?

Not only does your child get to choose a topic that he/she is passionate about, but the research and the presentation for this project also ties perfectly into our grade-level standards! A few examples of these standards are stated below:

- Draw inferences and formulate conclusions based on multiple sources.
- Combine pertinent information from several sources on the same topic to help gain an understanding of a topic.
- Present his/her learning in a meaningful, sequential, and clear way.

## How can you help out?

There are many ways you can help. Once your child chooses a project, he/she may need help with expanding his/her thinking to help formulate new ideas. Discussing your child's ideas and providing some guidance as to where to find useful information will be important. If you have access to the Internet at home, your child could conduct some of the research there. Finally, you (yes you 😊) may be an expert in the area of which your child chose. If this is the case, it's possible that you could offer some expertise and knowledge.

As your child's teacher, I am excited to offer this learning opportunity and look forward to this new adventure. If you have any questions about Genius Hour, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,