

Dear Parents,

During the holiday season and all year long our staff pauses to reflect on what we do to encourage peace in this world and make a difference at our school and in the community. We do this in very basic ways through our school norms daily but we have many other programs that encourage our students to respect and honor one another.

The Julian Curtiss Service Club led by Mr. Ken O'Brien, PE Teacher, and Heather Stewart, 5th grade Teacher, has just completed the collection of food and warm accessories for Neighbor to Neighbor that distributes these goods directly to families in our own community. It stresses the need to help others less fortunate than us. Thank you for participating in this community event!

We will be making a donation of over \$400 to Rucker Elementary School in Houston to purchase books for their students after the devastation of Hurricane Harvey. Thank you to all of the families that donated to this project.

Our newly elected Student Council will work together and collaborate on promoting the positive voices of all our students. They will learn leadership skills, decision-making skills and the importance of effective communication. They will represent their fellow students and find new ways to make a difference at our school!

The Holiday Winter Concert! Such a joy and the art of singing and creating music promote peace and tranquility! Performing for others is truly a gift! Add to this the generous gift of the art club that came together to create beautiful banners for the event and you have the fully decorated package.

Our teachers and our staff work hard on a daily basis to send positive messages and promote good citizenship with respect and tolerance for all members of our society! We appreciate the partnership of our families in achieving these goals.

As we wind down this year, we want to again thank you for all that you do to make Julian Curtiss such a very special place. We are grateful that our daily work allows us to witness the learning and achievement of our students every day. The

laughter, the hugs and the smiles are pure joy! Our students restore the hope of a peaceful world. Thank you for giving us the gift of your children.

For this holiday season we wish you all safety, warmth, health and the love of family and friends! We will see the students back at school on Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Warmest regards,

Mrs. Trish McGuire  
and the Julian Curtiss staff