

RACHEL CARSON INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL 237
Magnet School for the Arts
46-21 Colden Street, Flushing, New York 11355
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Judith Friedman, Principal

Carla Brathwaite, Assistant Principal
Stephen Galizia, Assistant Principal
Jeannine Strong, Assistant Principal

February 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian,

It is hard to believe that February has arrived along with Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day and Mid-Winter Recess. This time of year also marks the beginning of the second half of the 2021-2022 school year – a crucial juncture as we begin to identify students who are succeeding academically, and those whose promotion may be in doubt. We will continue to work very hard to ensure that all students have the necessary skills to be successful in their subject classes and demonstrate proficiency on the upcoming NYS assessments in English language arts and mathematics.

Report cards will be distributed on Friday, February 4th. Parents of students who currently are not meeting promotion criteria and are at-risk of being held over will receive a Promotion in Doubt letter very shortly. If you receive the letter, please make sure to contact your child's teachers and/or assistant principal and make every effort to attend **Parent Teacher Conferences** on March 10th. Afternoon conferences will take place from 12:30 PM to 2:30 PM, evening conferences from 4:30 PM to 7:00 PM. Conferences will be virtual. Additional information about scheduling conference time is forthcoming.

Please remember that we have an extensive after school **Academic Intervention Services (AIS)** program with classes in reading, math, social studies and science, as well as a before school and Saturday English as a New Language (ENL) program for English language learners:

- **Academic Intervention Services (AIS)** for students needing support in core subjects. All AIS instruction is 2:45 to 4:45. Space is available if parents who wish to have their child participate in the AIS program. Contact Mr. Galizia (Sgalizia@schools.nyc.gov) for additional information.
Mondays & Tuesdays: 6th Grade ELA and math
Wednesdays: 7th Grade ELA and math; 8th Grade science
Thursdays: 7th & 8th Grade ELA and math; 6th and 7th Grade science
- **ENL Classes for English Language Learners.** Contact Ms. Strong (jstrong@schools.nyc.gov) for additional information.
Saturdays 8:30 to 11:30 AM
Tuesdays 7:15 to 7:40 AM

There may be some additional after-school clubs or enrichment activities in the near future. We will keep you informed about any new extracurricular programs.

CONGRATULATIONS to our boys' varsity basketball team, the **Carson Cougars**, for their recent 49-40 win over I.S. 189. With a record of 5 wins and 0 losses, the Cougars remain in 1st Place in the NYC Middle School Basketball League. **GO COUGARS!**

We are making a real effort this year to hear more from our students about returning to school full-time, and about how they can contribute to creating a more welcoming school environment. Toward this end, we have instituted a **Student Council** for each grade level, with every class on the grade represented, as well as grade-level informal small group **Student Chats**, which focus on specific topics. All Student Councils and Student Chat groups meet monthly. Students really love the meetings and our staff are learning a lot from our wonderful students.

REMINDERS

- Please be sure that your child follows the **I.S. 237 Dress Code**, which helps ensure the safety of our students. The school shirt is color-coded by grade: Grade 6- green; Grade 7-grey; Grade 8-maroon. Students may wear bottoms consisting of jeans **without** cut-out rips or holes, khakis or skirts of an appropriate length. Sneakers and closed shoes are permitted; open-toe sandals, slides and slippers are not.
- Please join DOJO and activate your **NYCSA** as soon as possible if you have not yet done so. (Link is on our I.S. 237 website or contact our parent coordinator, Ms. Shirley Bryant for assistance SBryant22@schools.nyc.gov)

Important February Dates

February 2: Ground Hog Day

February 4: Report Cards distributed

February 14: Happy Valentine's Day!

Parent Chat – 9:45 AM “Using a growth mindset to help children become more engaged and confident

February 17: PTA Meeting 5:00 PM

February 21-25: Mid-Winter Break

Thank you for your ongoing support. I hope you and your loved ones remain healthy and safe.

Very truly yours,

Judith Friedman

Judith Friedman

February 2022						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Groundhog Day	3	4 REPORT CARD DISTRIBUTED	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Super Bowl	14 Valentine's Day PARENT CHAT 9:45 AM TOPIC TBA	15	16	17 PTA MEETING VIRTUAL 5:00 PM	18	19
20	21 Presidents Day MID WINTER RECESS SCHOOL CLOSED	22 MID WINTER RECESS SCHOOL CLOSED	23 MID WINTER RECESS SCHOOL CLOSED	24 MID WINTER RECESS SCHOOL CLOSED	25 MID WINTER RECESS SCHOOL CLOSED	26
27	28					