

**MS 354 TIMES
2024**

HELLO November



Wishing you a month filled with
peace, gratitude, and new
opportunities

DR MONIQUE CAMPBELL, Principal
KIMANI SMITH, Assistant Principal
CYLANN PHILLIPS, Assistant Principal
MAXINE GRIFFITH, School Counselor
ELROY CORMACK, Parent Coordinator
HANDEL BARCLAY, New York Edge

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PARENT CORNER



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PLEASE VISIT OUR
WEBSITE OR CALL US**

 **MS354.COM,**
 **718-774-0362**

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@ MS354BROOKLYN



GRATITUDE LUNCHEON

Tuesday 11/26/24

Students are allowed to dress up

NOV. 4 PICTURE DAY

All students - Uniforms

NOV. 14 PTC AFTERNOON EVENING

Remote: 1:00 - 3:00 PM
PTC 4:30 - 7:30 PM

NOV 15 GRADE 7 BOWLING

Select students

**NOV. 21 PTA MEETING -
UA FAMILY SCIENCE NIGHT**

6:00 - 7:00 PM
All are welcome

**NOV. 19
& 23 FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION**

Tue. 9:30 - 10:30 AM
Sat. 10:00 - 12:00 N

NOV. 26 GRATITUDE LUNCHEON

All students

**NOV.
28-29 THANKSGIVING RECESS**

No school. Students
return Dec 2.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

This thanksgiving holiday, I want to take a moment to reflect on the importance of gratitude; let's take a moment to reflect on all the things we are grateful for in our lives.

Thanksgiving is a time when we gather with family and friends, share delicious meals, and celebrate the abundance of our lives. However, it is also a wonderful opportunity to pause and consider what gratitude truly means and how we can practice it, not just during this time of year, but every day.

Gratitude goes beyond simply saying "thank you," it represents a mindset that recognizes the value of the people, experiences, and opportunities in our lives. Research has shown that practicing gratitude can improve our mental health, enhance our relationships, and even boost our academic performance. It encourages us to focus on the positive aspects of life, fostering resilience and a sense of community.

During this season, let us take a moment to reflect on all the things in our lives that we are grateful for: our supportive teachers, caring families, and the friendships we've built throughout our time at this school. Cultivating gratitude can transform our outlook on life, making the world around us seem a little brighter and hopeful.

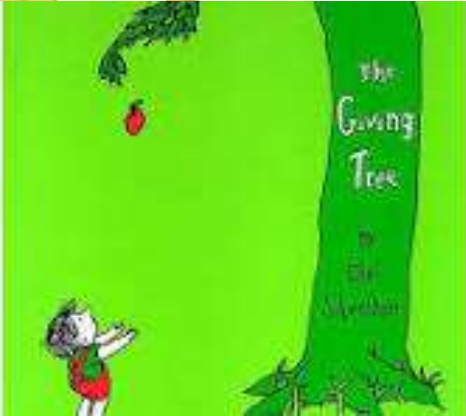
Wishing you all a wonderful season filled with love, laughter, and gratitude.

With warm wishes,
Dr. Monique Campbell

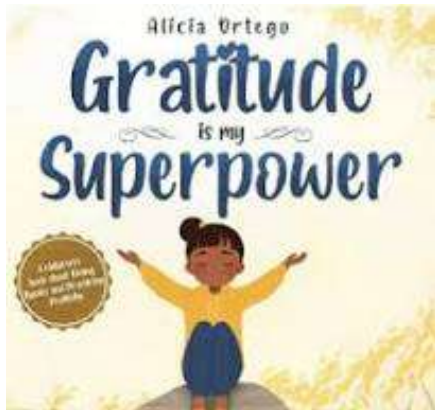
November

SEL THEME/BOOK

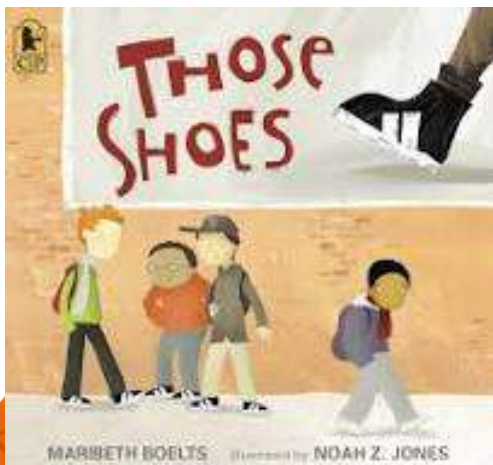
OF THE MONTH



The Giving Tree by Shell Silverstein follows the lives of an apple tree and a boy, who develop a relationship with each other. The tree is very "giving" and the boy ages into a "taking" teenager, a young man, a middle-aged man, and finally an elderly man.



Gratitude is my Superpower follows the story of Betsy, who learns how and practices gratitude throughout her time at home and school. Betsy will learn that happiness comes from the simplest of things in life, big or small.



Those Shoes by Maribeth Boelts is a sweet and touching story that addresses issues of social justice, empathy, generosity, and selflessness through the life journey of a young boy named Jeremy and his pursuit of a new pair of shoes.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Jason Varon

Mr. Varon is a vital part of the MS 354 community. He is able to understand the needs of our school, faculty, and students and find practical solutions to problems. He is responsible for inspiring and motivating our faculty and staff, and for developing a positive workplace culture. He has the ability to form respectful and trusting relationships with fellow employees.

Mr. Varon is open-minded, strategic, and is able to make informed decisions quickly. He is empathetic, compassionate, friendly, and understanding when helping students resolve their issues. He is also our UFT chapter leader. In his role as chapter leader, he has the ability to connect with union members, understand their concerns, and convey action steps. Mr. Varon has the ability to communicate effectively with parents, students, and members of the MS 354 team and is instrumental in building a productive team.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Grade 6

NATOLY BOYCE

INTERESTS:

I like to read - I am currently reading Labrynth, and I like to play games.

FAVORITE SUBJECT:

I like math because math is fun and I am good at it.

FUTURE CAREER:

I would like to become a chef. I cook with my mom. My favorite thing to cook is shrimp.



Grade 7

RAZACK AMAO

INTERESTS:

I like to read because it is fun and you can experience other worlds.

FAVORITE SUBJECT:

I like math because you can see other ways to answer the same problem, also it applies to life.

FUTURE CAREER:

I would like to become an engineer because as the world changes they are still in demand.



Grade 8

OLIVIA MILLS

INTERESTS:

I like to play games and write. I like using my imagination and engaging myself.

FAVORITE SUBJECT:

I like math because I like the challenge. Also, I like the felling of satisfaction that I get when I solve a problem.

FUTURE CAREER:

I would like to become an engineer or a medical doctor. Both of my parents work in the medical field, they are my inspiration!

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

MS 354

Our student government is not merely an extracurricular activity, it serves as a vital teaching ground for responsibility, leadership, and community engagement. Our student government members will be equipped with vital skills and experiences that will serve them in their academic careers and beyond, making this experience an indispensable element in their middle school experience.

KEY AREAS

- **Leadership Development**
- **Responsibility & Accountability**
- **Representation of Student Voice**
- **Community Building Civic Engagement & Responsibility**
- **Organizational Skills & Event Planning**
- **Peer Mentorship & Role Modeling**
- **Collaboration with Faculty & Administration**
- **Preparing for Future Challenges (resilience & critical thinking)**



E



**OLIVIA MILLS
CO-PRESIDENT**



**ISIS BARTEE
SECRETARY**



**RAYANA JONES
TREASURER**



**ZOE GILCHRIST
MAYOR**



**TRISTAN
CHRISTOPHE
GOVERNOR**



**JOSIAH THOMAS
CO-PRESIDENT**



**CALVIN SAINT
FLEUR
DEP. MAYOR**



**VIOLET BRYSON
GRADE
REPRESENTATIVE**



**ZOEY AMADIS
GRADE
REPRESENTATIVE**



**YEHOU-NIC
ISEMAR
ALT.**





Counseling In Schools



MS 354 Annual Vision Screening

At MS 354 we recognize that eye care is important for children at school because up to 80% of learning is visual. Children with vision problems can struggle with reading, writing, following directions, and focusing in class. We would like to extend our thanks to the Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults for providing this service to our students.



ALL Students were tested and those students who were in need of glasses were allowed to pick their frames and will receive them within the next 30-60 days.

10 LITTLE THINGS THAT MEAN A LOT TO KIDS

1. Surprise hugs 🤗
2. Saying “I’m so proud of you!” 🥰
3. Letting them choose the family movie 🎬
4. Making up a secret handshake 🤝
5. Listening to their stories with full attention 🧠
6. Going for a walk or bike ride, just the 2 of you 🚲
7. Laughing at their jokes, even the silly ones 😂
8. Sharing a snack they love 🍪
9. Tucking them in with a bedtime story 📖
10. Matching together 👕

To kids, it's the little things that count.



SOMETIMES, IT'S THE LITTLE THINGS THAT MEAN THE MOST!

A SIMPLE HUG.

AN “I’M PROUD OF YOU!”

THESE SMALL ACTS OF KINDNESS MAY SEEM ORDINARY TO PARENTS, BUT
TO KIDS, THEY MEAN EVERYTHING.

IT’S WHAT HELPS KIDS BUILD SELF ESTEEM, BELONGING AND SELF
WORTH. WHEN PARENTS HELP THIS HAPPEN KIDS GROW IT IN HEALTHY
WAYS.

SO NEXT TIME YOU GET A CHANCE, DO THAT LITTLE THING - IT COULD BE
THE HIGHLIGHT OF THEIR DAY OR MAYBE SOMETHING THEY REMEMBER
FOREVER.

Happy Birthday

To you

Angel Perreaux 11/3

Izaiah Adams 11/5

Brayden Alleyne 11/6

London Dawkins 11/10

Neshaun Rowe 11/13

Lucnerline Agustin 11/13

Violet Bryson 11/16

Preston Lucas 11/21

Peyton Lucas 11/21

Jersey Diego 11/21

Ayden McNeil 11/22

David Curtis 11/22

Tayvon Roberts 11/22

Moses James 11/22

Melanie Park Granville
11/23

Amirah Raymond 11/25

Feeaz Khan 11/28



I WILL GRADUATE

I WILL GRADUATE PLEDGE

I AM DETERMINED THAT I WILL GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL.

EDUCATION IS THE KEY TO MY FUTURE SUCCESS.

I WILL ATTEND SCHOOL EVERY DAY.

I WILL WORK HARD IN EVERY WAY.

I WILL HONOR ALL WHO HAVE SHARED THEIR KNOWLEDGE WITH ME SO THAT I CAN SUCCEED.

I WILL STAY OUT OF TROUBLE AND ENGAGE IN ACTIVITIES THAT SUPPORT MY COMMUNITY.

I WILL HAVE FAITH IN MYSELF AND NEVER GIVE UP!

I WILL BE POSITIVE EVEN WHEN TIMES GET ROUGH.

I WILL DO MY BEST.

I WILL STRIVE TO BE THE BEST.

I WILL GRADUATE!

MS 354 was honored to participate in the largest youth empowerment program and celebration in NYC on October 29th, 2024 at Kings Theatre. Students were inspired by high-profile guests and witnessed celebrity performances. Our students were encouraged to “BE GREAT” and overcome all of their challenges. They were encouraged to pursue higher education and follow their DREAMS!



HIGH SCHOOL FAIR

MS 354 would like to thank all of the High Schools who showed up to offer students applying for a high school a glimpse of their options. This was a crucial opportunity for our students, since the city's choice system means any eighth-grader can apply to any high school.



HAIR & BEAUTY



Dameika Martin

Hey!!

We all know that hair is important to us middle schoolers. Hair can significantly impact our self-esteem, personal identity, and social interactions. Through our hair we express ourselves, we fit in with our friends, and it contributes to our overall sense of confidence - Not to mention it's a crucial aspect of our personal hygiene and presentation in a social setting.

Let's face it, through our hairstyles we express our individuality, personality, and cultural background. I like switching it up, and I feel really good about myself when I get my hair done.

TIPS:

Maintain clean and well-groomed hair.

Wear protective styles like braids.

Braids serve as a shield for your natural strands, reducing exposure to environmental elements and preventing excessive manipulation that can lead to breakage - especially in the winter.



Digital Platforms



JUPITER ED

JUPITER

I-READY

To see the For Families report, parents will need to log into their students' dashboard and use the access code to see the students' results; Parents can also find resources at the Family Center link i-readycentral.com/familycenter/

**FAMILY REPORT CODE
BY1F8N**



Parents may login anytime to check grades and homework. To login to Jupiter please use the username and password that was provided by your child's teacher. Parents can also login by using the Student ID#, or they can use the student's full name. jupiterED.com

NYCSA

NYCSA Parent Portal
You can sign up for an account by entering a few basic details.

- See students grades, test scores
- Take classes in Parent University
- Report Bullying
- Access forms for your child
- Reset your child's DOE account password
- Access SupportHub
- <https://www.schoolsaccount.nyc/>

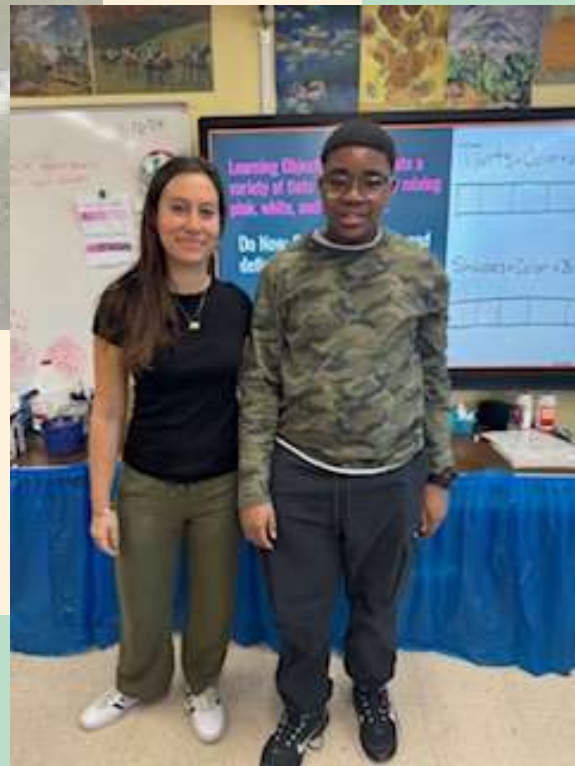


OCTOBER
HIGHLIGHTS
**COLLEGE
DAY**



OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS

VESTIBLES DAY



ART AT MS 354



**BREAST CANCER
AWARENESS**



SCHOOL

PICTURES



LOOKING FOR YOUR SCHOOL PHOTOS?

GOOD NEWS!
IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO ORDER SCHOOL PHOTOS ONLINE.

OPTION #1
USE THE CARD GIVEN
TO YOUR CHILD AT
PHOTO DAY

OPTION #2
FILL OUT FORM ONLINE BY
SCANNING QR CODE HERE
OR URL BELOW

TINYURL.COM/VIDCOMFORM



VIDCOM PHOTO STUDIO
VIDCOMPHOTO.COM
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