

OBAMA

HOUSE

NEWSLETTER

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Dear Obama Family,

The holiday season has officially arrived! December is a month filled with joy, celebration, and important academic responsibilities. With so many exciting events and deadlines ahead, time will certainly begin to fly. As we move toward the end of the year, you must stay focused, organized, and ready to shine as the Shining Stars you are. Midterm exams are right around the corner! Please begin reviewing class notes, completing any outstanding assignments, and seeking extra help when needed. Consistent study habits now will lead to confidence and success later. If it helps, create or follow a study schedule and take advantage of available academic resources. We are family, so please do not feel you have to go through this alone. The Obama staff is always here for support, whether it's moral support, Lunch & Learn sessions, tutoring, or simply a listening ear. We are here to ensure you are empowered, prepared, motivated, and confident throughout the school year. Challenges may arise, but each one is an opportunity to grow and gain experience. Obama House scholars are leaders who are determined and strong. We believe in you, and we see GREATNESS!



For the 8th Graders, choosing a high school is an important milestone in your academic journey. If you have any remaining questions or need support with the application process, please reach out as soon as possible. We are here to help you choose a school where you can continue to grow and excel.

We are proud of the hard work our students have shown so far, and we look forward to finishing the year strong together. Let's embrace this season with focus, joy, and determination.

Wishing all families a safe, warm, and festive December!

— The Obama House Team



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MS 180 NEWSLETTER

Dr. Daniel Hale Williams Middle School of the Arts

718-904-5650



WWW.MS180X.ORG



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UPCOMING EVENTS

High School Applications DUE
Wednesday, December 3rd

Your Senior contract and
first payment is now...



Senior Sweatshirts are
being distributed this
month! Don't miss out.
Submit your dues and
contracts to Ms. Yemmer
in Rm 210. Parents must
complete the hard copy
AND the form link below.

<https://forms.gle/jKpMYwX1SWd26wsG8>



UPCOMING SCHOOL WIDE EVENTS

- * Wednesday, December 3 - **Broadway ALADDIN** (Select Students)
- * **December 8 - 18th - House Challenge - "DECK THE HALLS"**
- * Thursday, December 11 - Elementary School Tour
- * Saturday, December 13 - Quest 2 the TEST
- * Wednesday, December 17 - Gr. 7 Dave & Busters: *PBIS Select Students*
- * Saturday, December 20 - Holiday Showcase Rehearsals at Truman H.S.
- * Monday, December 22- **ARTS Holiday Showcase at Truman H.S.**
Daytime - Students ONLY; Evening 6:00 PM Families Welcome
- * **December 24 - January 4- Winter Recess; NO SCHOOL**



The Dentist Visits
12/2, 12/3, 12/5



www.myschooldentist.com/7ED7BD.schsm



The Vision Dr. is in
12/12, 12/18, 12/19



<https://form.jotform.com/253173528076156>

Holiday dress down days!



Friday 12/19
Holiday Pajamas



Monday 12/22
Ugly Holiday Sweater



Tuesday 12/23
A Grinchy Green Day



A message from Principal Williams

As we move into the holiday season, we have so much to be thankful for. In November, we joined as a community to celebrate the 2025 Senior Step Up. Each year, we gather and celebrate our seniors. In the ceremony we admonish them to display our core values each day- Resilience, Integrity, Scholarship, and Empowerment.

Also thank you to all the families that came out to launch the "Our Family Reads Initiative." We hope to partner this year with families and foster a culture of reading everywhere. As I often say, teaching happens here, but learning happens everywhere. My passion for reading began as a four-year-old. I remember when I read my first book (Where the Wild Things are) as I saw the joy in my mother's eyes! Great readers learn a love for reading from their community. So, the goal of this initiative is to celebrate and foster families reading together. Mr. Dicker and Ms. Henry will be hosting events and celebrating reading success at home. So grab a book and join us!

As you receive this message, we have just concluded our collection for the Jamaica Hurricane Relief efforts. Much of the Caribbean was devastated by the recent hurricane. We wish as a school community we could do more for everyone impacted by the storm. However, we selected to focus on Jamaica, because many of our students have families that were directly impacted by the tragedy. Thank you for your kind donations.

It is my hope that you have a happy holiday season. Please see our calendar for the many December celebrations, spirit days, **and look out for our December Attendance Challenge for 100% and most improved students!**



DECEMBER 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



Counselors' Corner



8th Grade Counselor, Mr. Spires

dspires@schools.nyc.gov

Get in the practice of letting go of who you think you're supposed to be and embracing who you are. You'll feel much better about yourself.



7th Grade Counselor, Mr. Baskh

dbaksh3@schools.nyc.gov

I encourage open communication about your student's academic and social-emotional well-being, and I am available to help. Together, we can work to make this a successful and positive year.



6th Grade Counselor, Ms. Hodge

ahodge@schools.nyc.gov

As we head into the holiday season, remember that being in school every day is important for keeping up with classes, staying connected with friends and teachers, and building habits that will help you succeed.

Housekeeping Items



CELL PHONES / YONDR

- All scholars received a contract that must be signed by a parent/guardian. The letter explains the specifics of the program and the how scholars will access their phones at the end of the school day.

If a phone is taken, a parent/guardian must come into the building to retrieve it.

Dress 4 Success!

- ALL students are expected to wear a uniform, every day. This includes a collared shirt and khaki bottoms.
- Gym uniform consists of a plain gray shirt (no graphics/writing) or the house gym shirt with gray or black sweatpants.

NO Crop tops, Crocs, Leggings, Shorts, etc.

Dancers must change into their clothing for rehearsal.

