

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope all of you are ready for the fun times ahead in the snow with the family. Be certain to enjoy these times as much as possible. I miss the days that I would take my sons to the big hill across the street from Mountainside Park. What fun we had.

[Please note the invitation I was given](#) to be a part of the lunar new year as we celebrate with our AAPI families. Please join with me as I will be in attendance. You will note the invitation is extended to you as well.

I read this article this week and I thought I would pass it along in case you missed it.

This is the type of praise parents should stop giving kids, says psychologist: 'It holds kids back' Praise is often considered as an instant confidence boost, but not all types of praise are good for kids. A child psychologist and parenting expert shares how to help your kids build resilience and develop a growth mindset. Read in CNBC: <https://apple.news/AQuXOQ263QW2FPQOfYDXfSQ>

Back by popular demand, I played this song over the intercom during our Friday music appreciation initiative. As we continue to fight this virus, we needed some motivation. So, I chose a song by McFadden & Whitehead, "Ain't No Stoppin Us Now" Please enjoy and yes, we danced in the halls and in the office.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i2FW1WJc0lg>

Mike Chiles

FROM OUR PTA:

*** PTA GEOBEE UPDATE ***

We have had a ton of teams register - the momentum has been great to see! Deadline is February 4th.

Date/Time - Saturday April 2nd, 1:00 PM

Place - Montclair High School auditorium

Teams - Register for teams or students here: <https://forms.gle/8dLBWVeRm1RGhmrP9>

Volunteers - Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/5TEfoeXBouC1cAcg7>

Questions - Contact Sreesha Vaman sreeshadvaman@gmail.com or Andrea Fraser fraserandrea27@gmail.com

We have heard a recurring theme - *PARENT OVERLOAD* -- here are some solutions

* **Forming Teams** - we are looking for teams of three. If your student is interested but doesn't have a team, we will do what we can to help! We ask that you please (a) connect with your class

parents in case they know of others that are looking for teams as well, and (b) fill in the registration form above so the GeoBee Volunteer Squad can try to match you up as well. Teams are being formed in this way as we speak.

* **Preparation** - Ms. Jorge has provided all NE students (not just GeoBee participants) with geography games and songs: on Seesaw for Grades K-2, and on Google Classroom for Grades 3-5. These should provide a fun way for GeoBee participants to learn about geography on their own in advance of the big day! Thank you Ms. Jorge!