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19 September 2017

Dear Parents,

It is our pleasure to launch a new mentorship program for our middle school students! This will take place on a weekly basis on Wednesdays at 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM (early release from school).

Our theme for this year focuses on the ancient Greek aphorism, “*Know Thyself*.” Our goal is to help our 6th-8th graders develop a better sense of who they are, work on skills that they will find useful and relevant in any avenue of life, and ultimately become young men and women of character and conviction, aware of the world and of their place in the world.

Throughout the year, students will explore various facets of who they are, including: heritage, personality, values, career options, etc. Additionally, monthly journaling activities are aimed to both sharpen writing and thinking skills, and to promote thoughtful reflection. This will cumulate in the production of a Personal Portfolio at the end of the year wherein students reflect upon the past, the present, and the future.

Attached you will find a detailed schedule of specific things your middle schooler will be doing as part of our mentorship program.

Respectfully yours,

Edward Njoo  
**S.T.E.A.M. Director**  
**Olive Children Foundation**  
**Berkeley Academy**  
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**September - October:** This is Who I Am

- Boba Day
- Personality Questionnaire
- Career Interest Research
- Diversity Scavenger Hunt
- Journal #1: Career Ideas
- Journal #2: Experiences & Interests

**November - December:** Understanding Cultural and Ethnic Diversity

- My Heritage Survey
- Ethnicity & Culture
- Immigration: Reading & Questions
- Fun Day: Ethnic Foods
- Journal #3: Where I Come From

**January - February:** The Good Citizen

- Civic Duty & Responsibility
- Character Traits
- The Good Samaritan
- Journal #4: Demonstrating Character
- Global Issues
- Being a Global Citizen
- Journal #5: Problems & Solutions

**March - April:** My Future: Middle School, High School, College, and Beyond

- College Life: Reading & Questions
- Peer Pressure: Reading & Questions
- Defining Success
- Grit & Perseverance
- Journal #6: What I Think of High School & College

**May - June:** Self-Reflection

- Finalize Portfolio
- Journal #7: This is Who I Am (Personal Statement)
- Pizza Party