

F A L L 2 0 1 7

the Grades 3-6 GT

Ridgewood Avenue Newsletter



“Don’t be afraid to speak up. One person can make a difference, even if it takes 40 years.” – Fred T. Korematsu

In commemoration of “Constitution Day,” students will be discussing the founding principles and the significance of the US Constitution and the constitutional rights contained in it. Exploring the life of Fred Korematsu, students will gain insight into the steps undertaken by one courageous man, an American civil rights activist who objected to the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II. Interested in details? Watch the PBS video, “Time of Fear,” to sense the time period happenings. Share it with your GT student if you deem it appropriate. You can view it at <https://archive.org/details/TimeOfFear>.

The Origami Revolution

“The centuries-old tradition of folding two-dimensional paper into three-dimensional shapes is inspiring a scientific revolution.

The rules of folding are at the heart of many natural phenomena, from how leaves blossom to how beetles fly. But now, engineers and designers are applying its principles to reshape the world around us, and even within us, designing new drugs, micro-robots and future space missions.”

Students will be asked to view the PBS show, “The Origami Revolution” to see what is at the origami forefront, will delve into the history behind the popularization of the ancient art, may venture to an Origami Studio, and will test their hands at folding and manipulating various designs.

Besides creating a storyline to remember the folding patterns for their favorite origami creation, participants will also work together in teams to develop a “foldable” solar panel out of everyday items that can fit into a foil or plastic wrap box, yet be able to expand to 1 foot by 3 feet (about 30 cm x 90 cm) with at least 80% of the surface comprised of solar panel (aluminum foil).

Save the Date!

Parent Conferences
Nov. 14, 16 and 17
Afternoon and evening conferences times are available. Details forthcoming.

World Origami Days
Oct. 24 -Nov. 11
Begins with Lillian Oppenheimer’s birthday and ends with Japan’s Paper Crane Day.

Fred Korematsu Day
Jan. 30th
This year’s mosaic creation may be a new face unveiled near this date!

