## **Glen Ridge Middle School**



## **G & T Newsletter**

June 2018



## U.N. Field Trip

On May 15th G&T students enjoyed private guided tours of the United Nations. Our tour guides from China and Morocco were very knowledgeable and provided us with insight into the history of the U.N., international relations and many of the issues the U.N. works to confront.





Here the 8th graders pose in the General Assembly chamber. While some were disappointed we didn't get to see Nikki Haley and other U.N. ambassadors in action, they were still awed by the size of the space and could imagine it filled with delegates and interpreters working together.



Above the 7th graders enjoy a variety of international fare from the U.N. Visitor's Cafe. Some were more adventurous than others trying different foods, but all enjoyed the experience nonetheless.

## Our Jr. Model United Nations

Students chose countries to represent in our own version of Model U.N. this past two months. 8th graders voted to take on the tough topic of Nuclear Disarmament and 7th graders wanted to investigate solutions to Animal Poaching and Trafficking.

First steps involved researching their chosen countries and then becoming versed in the issues related to the topics that each group decided to tackle. The result of this stage was a Position Paper outlining their nation's views on the topic.

The next stage involved participating in caucuses which simulated the informal debates that take place in Model U.N. To assist us in this, HS students who are officers in Model U.N. came to our sessions and acted as moderators. G&T students sharpened their speaking skills and learned to sum up their key points in the short time frame given during this process.

The final stage of this unit involved G&T students teaming up with other "delegates" and formulating U.N. Resolutions utilizing the language of preambulatory and operative clauses that are involved in this kind of document. Ask your child what ideas they came up with to try and improve the situation. Many expressed interest in pursuing Model U.N. as an extra curricular in HS as a result of this experience.