Dear Parent or Guardian,

We are beginning our first major writing project for the year: The I-Search paper. A letter was sent home earlier introducing this unit of study, but in case you didn’t receive that, the ***I-Search*** paper is a visual representation of the process that people go through when they want to learn more about a topic. Ask your child to share the ‘Buying the Car’ metaphor to explain exactly what an I-Search paper is. If you are still confused, please go to my website for an explanation, the rationale and the objectives for this unit of study. <http://lbruno.d41teachers.org> or shoot me an email. I will be happy to answer any questions you might have.

At its core, the ***I-Search*** paper is fueled by a person’s desire to learn more about something. Because this unit of study will span 6 weeks, your child has been asked to select a topic for which they passionately would like to learn more about and one that is related to the theme of “Tikkun Olam,” a Hebrew phrase meaning “Repair the World.” In class we have been exploring ideas for topics of study and your child should have created a list of issues for which he or she holds some interest. The I-Search paper follows a natural course of inquiry where your child is actively involved in the process and will be seeking information not only from traditional sources such as books and articles, but from people who have some expertise in the topic being searched. It is imperative, therefore, that you be aware of the chosen topic and approve of that topic. Your child has been encouraged to discuss his or her topics of interest with you and may solicit you for additional ideas.

I have asked your child to record below the five top topics he or she is interested in pursuing and to discuss each with you. Your child should be able to explain to you why these topics interest him or her. Please take some time to sit down with your scholar and discuss the topics listed and then come to a decision about which topic he or she will research. Remember, it must be a topic about which they care deeply and one with which you approve. If you are, for whatever reason, not happy with your child’s choice, please, through a conversation with your child, identify two or three topics you would support and record those below.

As always, thank you for your support. ~ *Dr. Bruno*

**My Top Five Topics:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Topic | Reason for Interest |
| 1. |  |
| 2 |  |
| 3. |  |
| 4. |  |
| 5. |  |

The Topic I have Chosen is: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_