Dear Students and Parents,

It's time to start work on our school's Science Fair Project! Enclosed you will find a schedule outlining due dates and important information regarding your child's project attached to the back of this packet. Ample time has been scheduled and work has been spread out, so students can complete the work at a comfortable pace. This is an optional project as students will be learning and participating in the Scientific Method in class. The primary objective of this project is to have students approach a problem scientifically. This includes:

- *Asking questions and forming hypotheses
- *Creating experiments to test those hypotheses
- *Organizing data and drawing conclusions
- *Writing about scientific research

The project must be **experimental** in nature or **research-oriented**. In other words, students must do an experiment to determine the answer to their question instead of just looking it up in a book. We encourage students to pick topics that they are genuinely interested in, since they will be working on these projects for the next couple months. Topics must also be based on something students do not already know.

The student must complete the project; however, teachers, parents, etc may provide assistance. It is very difficult to work alone without the exchange of ideas, so we encourage you to brainstorm with your child on different ideas and possible topics your child may want to pursue. A list of websites has been included to aide with project ideas. Please take a moment to review these with your child in order to generate topic ideas.

http://www.sciencebuddies.org/ http://www.freesciencefairproject.com/ http://www.all-science-fair-projects.com/ http://www.free-science-fair-projects.com/

We look forward to working with you to make this a valuable learning experience for your child. We appreciate your support on this important project. An information night to kick off the Science Fair will take place on January 8th and a Make and Take Night will be scheduled in February, additional information to follow. As acknowledgement and part of your child's homework, please sign, date, and return the bottom portion of this letter by January 10.