

THE TOP SCOOP

TEEN OUTREACH PROGRAM (TOP) NEWSLETTER

THE LATEST AND GREATEST

Students started the month of December by honoring World AIDS Day. More than half of the students in TOP stayed after school to learn about the history of HIV/AIDS, about stigma, and learned how to identify the myths vs. the facts. Students also crafted over 50 red-ribbon pins, which is the international AIDS awareness symbol, to give to their fellow classmates. The students who stayed after school for this project displayed an impressive amount of maturity when talking about a topic that many adults often avoid. Students who participated in this community service learning project shared the knowledge that they gained with the rest of the 8th graders, so that everyone can feel equipped to confidently "act on the facts." We celebrated with a pasta party, homemade sauce and all!



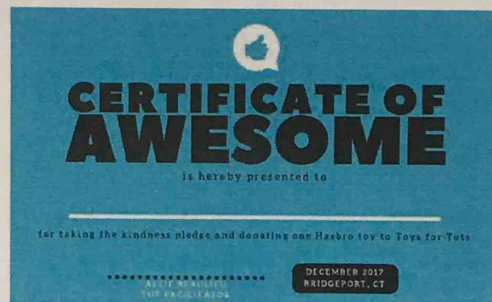
IN CELEBRATION OF WORLD AIDS DAY 2017



ANOTHA ONE

DJ KHALED VOICE

In partnership with Youth Service America (YSA), TOP students were able to each have a toy donated in their name to Toys for Tots. YSA ran a Rising Kindness campaign, which called for youth to be fearless, be kind, and pledge to stand up for a cause of their choice. Once the pledge was taken, Hasbro donated a toy on their behalf. A total of 47 toys went to other kids who were affected by the recent natural disasters, such as Hurricane Harvey or Hurricane Maria, and students took a stand for things that are important to them, like equality for all.



KINDNESS RISING

YOUR PLEDGE TO

(BE) FEARLESS KIND

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It's hard to imagine that we are half way through the year! During the first two marking periods, students have already completed an average of 6 community service learning hours, as well as completed many different lessons from our curriculum.

When we're not doing CSL, and use our TOP curriculum, students have worked together to learn about things like:

- their community
- what values are and why they are important
- changing places with the opposite gender to understand each other better
- comparing and contrasting childhood experience to the adolescent experience
- problem solving through lateral thinking puzzles

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

NATIONAL
SUICIDE
PREVENTION

LIFELINE™
1-800-273-TALK
www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Connecticut

2-1-1

Get Connected. Get Answers.

➔

Q&A: How does TOP count for a grade?

TOP grades count for participation and get factored into the overall library grade.