Dear Families,

This year will be an exciting time for the students in my classroom. They will be learning social studies concepts in a highly engaging way.

Our school is using *Social Studies Alive! My School and Family.* This program truly engages students in learning. Your student will be an active participant instead of a passive observer by experiencing civics, economics, geography, and history through imaginative teaching practices that include dramatic role playing, creative simulations, dynamic group projects, and writing from a historical perspective. Your student's program contains exciting online resources, including biographies, lesson games, and reading support. In addition, they will have an Interactive Student Notebook to help them organize ideas.

Curious about what your child will be learning this year? This year, students are introduced to the structures of schools and families. The curriculum will cover how to get along with classmates, follow school rules, and identify people who work at a school. We will go on to explore how to identify the groups we belong to, how to be good helpers at school, and how to identify the needs and wants of families.

Here are some tips on supporting your child's academic progress in this class:

- Discuss history and current events with your child, and listen to what your child has to say.

- Ask to see your child's Interactive Student Notebook work on a regular basis so that you can see for yourself what your child is learning.

- Finally, extend learning beyond the walls of the classroom by encouraging your child to notice civics, economics, geography, and history in their own community. This can take many forms including visiting a historic monument in your community, taking your child with you when you vote, or discussing how your local climate impacts choices you make.

I want to thank you in advance for your support. I am looking forward to an exciting, enjoyable, and enriching year working with you and your child.

Sincerely,

Your child's teacher