Buzz Aldrin Mission Statement:
We believe that all students can learn, achieve, and grow, in a safe and secure environment.

- **Model Congress Update:** On Tuesday, December 13th, the following members of the Buzz Aldrin Middle School Model Congress participated in a series of district-wide debates at Montclair High School.

Students have been preparing for the past several weeks and all of their hard work paid off! They debated topics including but not limited to U.S. foreign policy with Iran, high speed rail, incandescent light bulbs, nuclear waste, the four day work week, fuel efficient cars, diversity in the Military and the cost of organic foods. Our students debated with Model Congress members from Renaissance and Glenfield and were recognized for several individual awards. We are proud to announce the following students were recognized for individual awards:
  - Honorable Mention: Lily Mingione, Amelia Huey and Ben Cohen-Vigder
  - Third Place: Sheehan Jeydel
  - Second Place: Jackson Pagliaro
  - First place: Claire Washington

All Model Congress students that attended the debate on Tuesday should be very proud of themselves for their hard work and for representing BAMS so well! Next Tuesday, December 20th, will be our last Model Congress meeting of the school year and when we return from Winter Break we will begin meeting for Model UN. Please contact Mr. Turner with any questions about Model Congress or Model UN. Jturner@montclair.k12.nj.us. Thank you so much to Mr. Turner and all the students who participated for doing such a tremendous job!

- **Yearbook Reminder:** Please see the attached flyer for yearbook updates and information for how 8th graders and upload and submit their baby photos for the yearbook.
**Spirit Week:** Next week, our student council is running a winter spirit week. Each day has a specific theme. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

- **Monday – Sports Day!**
  - Wear a jersey or sports gear to represent your favorite college or pro team
- **Tuesday – House Spirit Day**
  - Each house will dress in specific colors to show your house pride!
- **Wednesday – Hat Day!**
  - Wear your favorite crazy hat, holiday hat, or hat in general!
- **Thursday – Comfy Cozy Day**
  - Dress in your favorite comfy and cozy PJs or sweats
- **Friday – Ugly Holiday Sweater Day**
  - Wear the most hideous holiday sweater to end 2022 on the best note!

**Updates from the PTA:**

- **STAFF/TEACHER COOKIE BANQUET** is this coming Monday, December 19th. Sign up below to participate. BRING DONATIONS MONDAY MORNING to the office! Please label with basic ingredients so people with allergies are kept safe. Thank you to our volunteers!
  - [https://signup.com/go/aYkPiSM](https://signup.com/go/aYkPiSM)

- **REFLECTIONS ART CONTEST** entries are due Sunday 12/18, but we’ll let students bring in physical submissions of art on Monday to Mr. Mandel in Room 18. Don't forget the artists statements!

- **TEACHER/STAFF HOLIDAY GIFTS** - the deadline is Tuesday 12/20 - grab your credit card and donate NOW!
  - TEACHERS/STAFF BY HOUSE (approximately 6-8 people per house)

**Dr. Martin Luther Kind Oratorical Competition:** Please see the attached flyer for the 25th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Oratorical competition. This competition is open to all 7th and 8th grade males in Essex County. This is an opportunity for students to share their thoughts on today through the lens of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. It is time once again to encourage our young men to submit their 6-7 minute video on the Topic "Dr. King's Perspectives on the World Today". Preliminary submissions are due no later than Wednesday, December 21st at 5pm EST.
Important Details: Submissions for the Preliminary round must be uploaded by Wednesday, December 21, 2022 at 5pm to www.theaalfoundation.org/mlk.

- Topic: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Perspectives of the World Today
- Speeches must be no less than 6 minutes and no greater than 7 minutes.
- Criteria for Judging (Opening, Logic, Creativity, Eye Contact, Voice/Diction, Originality, Appearance, Preparedness, Effectiveness and Time)
- Suggestions for a strong video:
  - Participant Should be Standing
  - Dress should be business-casual (jacket, khakis, tie or suit)
  - Camera must be stationary (rest it on a table, chair, etc.)
  - Background should be a plain, flat surface.
  - Camera should be framed from the waist up.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out via email at mlk@theaalfoundation.org or visit www.theaalfoundation.org/mlk.

- Hanukkah begins sundown on Sunday, December 18th. "Hanukkah" means dedication in Hebrew, and the Jewish holiday, also known as The Festival of Lights, represents joy. It's punctuated by an eight-night display of dancing flames atop candles held in intricate menorahs, conveying warmth, comfort, and a miracle. I wish everyone a Happy Hanukkah to all those who celebrate!

Next Week’s Schedule of Days
- Monday, December 19th – E Day
- Tuesday, December 20th – F Day
- Wednesday, December 21st – A Day
- Thursday, December 22nd – B Day
- Friday, December 23rd – Zero Day

Please mark your calendars:
- Friday, December 23rd – Abbreviated Day Schedule
- Monday, December 27th – Monday, January 3rd – Winter Recess, Schools Closed

“It’s easier to treat people properly than to repair broken relationships.”

– Frank Sonnenberg

“Judge a person not by how he treats you, but how he treats others.”

– Betty Jamie Chung