Dear Parents,

Last week I touched on the academic program that we offer

hurricane coming. I could see the hurricane in the distance it was coming towards me. I started to run back to my home. I could feel the wind it was blowing all around me. I looked to where my house was it was not there. The hurricane had destroyed it. I felt blood on my face. I wanted to be home safe in my house. Where was my family?

Just then I saw my friends walking towards me. “Hey guys, it’s me,” I yelled. “What has happened to your face are you ok?” they said. “Yes I am ok but my house is not and I don’t know where my mom or dad are,” I said. “Neither do we, all we know is we have to get out of here it’s not safe,” they said.

We started to walk all around us houses had been destroyed. We came to a river where we met some woman. “Come, with us we will take you to the refugee camp,” they said. “At the refugee camp there will be people who will help you like the UN, and the Red Cross,” they told us.

When we got to the refugee camp, which was a football stadium, I saw my mom and my dad. I was so excited to see them and so happy. We stayed at the stadium till it was safe to go back home.

The Grade 7 Social Studies students are participating in Pennies for Peace, a service-learning program of Central Asia Institute (CAI). CAI is a non-profit that provides community-based education in Pakistan and Afghanistan. Pennies for Peace invites young students to broaden their cultural horizons and learn about philanthropy - one penny (or piastre!) at a time. Through the end of April, the students will be collecting spare change in containers found around campus - the front desk, the library, the kiosk, and a number of classrooms. Help the students raise funds for building schools in remote areas of Pakistan and Afghanistan!

This project is part of a unit on the geography and history of Central Asia. We are working closely with a partner class at the Sewickley Academy in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, which is also participating in Pennies for Peace.

We have a 5 day weekend coming up. Some teachers may decide this is the perfect time to assign homework before final exams, as students will be missing 3 school days, and need all of the study time they can get! Here are some tips for completing assignments during the short break:

• Make sure you see your teachers if you have any questions about the assignments BEFORE you leave for break. Teachers may not check their email as frequently over the weekend, and you may not receive an answer until next week.

• Plan your weekend wisely. If you have assignments for several classes, make a schedule to help you complete

Equality and Freedom

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