Dear Pre-K For All Families,

For the month of November, we will focus on the concept of All about Us.

Now that your children have done an in-depth exploration of their senses and learned to explore the world around them, they are ready to learn more about themselves and the people around them. This unit enables children from all backgrounds and communities across the five boroughs to gain a solid foundation for future success. The All About Us unit supports that objective by providing opportunities for children to explore, learn about and embrace what makes them important and unique. Children will explore and learn about the features, unique attributes and their roles in both their family and classroom communities.

In this unit children have the opportunity to build on their knowledge of the people and experiences that are closest to them. In the second two weeks of the unit, children will explore and share their family composition and customs. Families are invited to share customs or activities with the class that are special to them, such as a family tradition or activity they do together. Families who speak languages other than English are invited to share those languages with the class in various ways. Children recognize differences and similarities between themselves and the people around them in a way that celebrates all children and families. There are two ideas for a culminating activity for this unit: either inviting each child to create a piece of fabric to be connected into a quilt, or inviting each family to share a recipe that they love for a classroom recipe book.

Here is a list of some of the key vocabulary words that we are learning through this unit of study. We encourage you to use these words with your child as appropriate:

~adopted ~afraid ~alike ~angry ~aunt ~big ~bored ~brave ~brother ~comfortable ~community ~confused ~creative ~cousin ~culture ~curly ~different ~ecstatic ~excited ~family ~father ~favorite ~feelings ~first name ~friends ~frustrated ~gloomy ~grumpy ~grandfather ~grandmother ~happy ~hopeful ~important ~individual ~interest ~kind ~last name ~love ~mad ~manners ~mother ~nervous ~older ~peace ~playful ~polite ~portrait ~prefer ~relaxed ~respect ~sad ~same ~scared ~self-portrait ~share ~short ~shy ~siblings ~silly ~sister ~small ~special ~straight ~strength ~strong ~tall ~teamwork ~thoughts ~together ~uncle ~unique ~wavy ~younger