Science Challenge Day

Dear Third & Fourth Graders,

Thank you to all the students who have shared their initial builds for their electric and solar cars. The first build is only one part of the challenge. This build is using another engineer’s design and plan- the second part and most important is what YOU decide to design.

This can be identifying any problem and/or making the car faster, smaller, adding weight etc. The students will need to follow the Engineer Design Process and create a small tri-fold poster displaying their work. They will need to have small pictures and written work should be typed. Neatness is imperative!!!

Challenge Day is the third part of the project. It is a fun day to simply race the cars against each other. Even if your car is not working it will not affect your grade. Grading will be based on your presentation and reflection on what you learned. Participation in the Challenge will also be given points, again as long as you have your cars there-performance does not determine the grade.

I have stressed and stressed to the students and parents do not wait to start on this project. It has been posted since December. Initial builds were due before we go on Easter break so that you have plenty of time to explore how to improve your cars and work on your data. Record all your trial- keep detailed notes-how far does it travel? How fast? The challenge is not to simply follow directions and build the cars but to look at the build and see what you think would improve it. See the website to get other ideas and details. Thank you all and let the engineer process begin!!!!!!