



**EL HAJJ MALIK EL SHABAZZ – CS 262**  
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*“Every student matters! Every moment counts!”*

*Desiree Barter, Principal*

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February 1, 2024



Dear Families and Caregivers:

As we welcome a new month, I wanted to take a moment to emphasize the importance of attendance (coming to school daily) and fostering a love for reading in our children.

**Reading at home matters:**

Reading is not just a classroom activity; it is a skill and a joy that extends beyond the school walls. Research consistently shows that students who come to school daily and read regularly at home tend to perform better academically and develop stronger language skills. Moreover, it provides an excellent opportunity for quality bonding time between parents and children.

**Creating a Reading-Friendly Environment:**

I encourage you to create a reading-friendly environment at home. Set aside dedicated time each day for reading, whether it’s a bedtime story, shared reading during meals, or a quiet reading corner. By making reading a cherished part of your daily routine, you instill in your child a lifelong love for learning.

**Attendance Matters:**

Attending school regularly is a fundamental component of your child’s educational experience. Studies show a strong correlation between consistent attendance and improved academic performance. Students who attend school regularly are better positioned to grasp key concepts, maintain steady academic progress, and develop essential skills for future success.

Thank you for your continued support and if there are any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact CS 262 at (718) 452-5910 or your child’s teacher.

*Ms. Barter,*  
Principal