Dear Family Members,

Our class is about to begin a Writer’s Workshop unit on Persuasive Essays. Persuasive essays are written to convince readers to believe or do something. They feature a strong point of view about an idea or problem and often suggest solutions. During this unit, we will read and analyze many published persuasive essays, and your child will have the opportunity to brainstorm, draft, revise and edit, and publish his or her own persuasive essay.

This is always an exciting unit in which children will explore controversial issues they’ve studied in the past. You may wish to spend some time talking with your child about his or her position on various controversial issues.

You can also ask your child questions to learn about his or her progress. For example:

• Have you brainstormed ideas yet? Would you like to share your ideas with me?
• What have you written so far?
• What part of writing do you enjoy most?
• What part of writing is difficult for you?
• Are there other issues that you’d like to write a persuasive essay about?

Thanks in advance for supporting your child’s writing experiences. I look forward to sharing his or her work with you!

Sincerely,