



February 1, 2021

**Dear 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade HFGS Parents,**

I am happy to announce the beginning of our **robotics and chess programs**. Both programs will offer an outlet for students to enhance skills such as creative and critical thought and develop camaraderie amongst classmates and fellow students across different grade levels.

In regards to **ROBOTICS**, students can utilize a STEM kit or LEGO set that they already have at home or you may purchase a new set for our program. There are many age-appropriate and relatively inexpensive STEM kits available online. For instance, a quick search on Amazon will yield several options that range in design and price. Wooden construction kits and electronic sets with motors are just two options that cost around \$20. These kits also typically allow the child to construct different designs with the very same kit. I would like to offer the class to 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students on Mondays and Fridays from 3:15 to 4:00 p.m. Students can spend Mondays constructing and I can help guide them during this process, while Fridays will be spent giving students the opportunity to present their work to their fellow schoolmates in the program.

Communicating what they did and how they did are also vital components of a robotics program.

The first day of class will be held on Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup>. This will give you ample time to purchase a set if need be.

The **CHESS** program will take place from 3:15 to 4:00 p.m. as well, however those sessions will be held on Wednesdays and Thursdays. The program will be available to students from grades 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>. We will begin by becoming versed in the fundamentals of chess, followed by a gradual exposure to defense-based and offense-based strategies. Students will practice the lesson of the day by playing against each other on the Chess Prime 3D app (free on the App store). Since all our students have an iPad, it will be easy to utilize this app to synchronously play against each other. The child simply needs to iMessage the classmate with an invitation. I will discuss all these details on the first day of class. Students also have the option of practicing against the computer at varying levels of difficulty. The first day of class will be held on Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>.

If your child is interested in participating in one or both programs, please provide your signature of consent. Should you have any questions, please email me at [kkiladjian@hfgsglendale.org](mailto:kkiladjian@hfgsglendale.org).

**Sincerely,**

**Mr. Krikor Kiladjian**

**Robotics:**

Child's Name	Parent's Signature	Date
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**Chess:**

Child's Name	Parent's Signature	Date
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