



Brooklyn Parents, Families, and Friends,

The week of December 5th to 11th is **Computer Science Education Week** around the world. The signature event of CS Ed Week is **Hour of Code**. The purpose of Hour of Code is to foster awareness and enthusiasm for computer science education within school communities. Hour of Code events help to build confidence at schools so teachers and students know “*We’ve got this!*” They can teach and learn computer science.

CodeBrooklyn (www.codebrooklyn.org) is a campaign to encourage all Brooklyn schools to start teaching coding and computer science, beginning with an Hour of Code during CS Ed Week. **Last year 81% of Brooklyn schools took part in Hour of Code - the highest percentage of any comparably sized urban area in the world. This year we want to get that number higher still.** We’re thrilled that your child’s school is participating in Hour of Code.

When people hear “coding” or “computer science”, they may think of programmers at tech companies building websites or apps for their phones. And while those traditional technology jobs are a growing career field, computer science and “coding” (being able to program) are becoming essential skills for careers in fields not traditionally associated with technology, from biology and medicine, to finance or climate change.

Computer science also complements the subjects that students are learning at school including math, science, music, and even ELA and social studies. Hopefully, after completing the Hour of Code your child will be excited about computer science, believe in their ability to learn to code, see the connection between coding and their academics, and see new possibilities for their future careers.

We hope you’ll ask your child about her or his Hour of Code event. There are numerous ways for kids to continue their computer science studies, whether at home, on a mobile device, or on a computer at the local library. For ideas about continuing to inspire your child to learn to code, check out www.codebrooklyn.org/resources.

Thank you for your support as your child engages in the exciting journey to learn coding and computer science – the keys to opening the door to a lifetime of college and career opportunities.

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