



**THE YUNG WING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
40 Division Street, New York, N.Y. 10002  
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Alice Hom, Principal  
Melissa Helman, Assistant Principal Yi Law Chan, Assistant Principal

December 15, 2012

Dear PS 124 Community,

On Friday, there was a tragic shooting at an elementary school in Newtown, Connecticut in which 20 children and 8 adults lost their lives. Everyone continues to be in shock and horrified about the events that unfolded and ask, "Why? How could this happen again?" Some of your children may be asking questions and sharing their concerns with you this weekend. Suggestions that have been offered by experts include:

- limiting their exposure to the media;
- letting them know that adults (in school) will do everything they can to protect them; and
- staying calm and listening to authorities in emergency situations.

The link to the National Association of School Psychologists offers Tips for Parents on Coping with Crisis and provides ways to support children through tragedies.

[http://www.nasponline.org/resources/crisis\\_safety/terror\\_general.aspx](http://www.nasponline.org/resources/crisis_safety/terror_general.aspx)

Your children's safety is a priority at our school and since our building has only one School Safety Agent stationed in the front of the building, **all students** beginning Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> must enter through the main entrance on Division Street in the morning. Only children should be entering for breakfast and **parents must remain outside**. Only parents with school business should enter, show identification and sign in at the front desk before proceeding to the main office. At 3:10 PM, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes will be dismissed through the gates on the Bowery Street side and an administrator will be supervising exit procedures. We ask for your cooperation to ensure the security of the students and staff in our school building.

Our school community is here to support you and your children. If you would like specific guidance and resources in the upcoming week, please reach out to me, Ms. Chan, AP, your child's teacher or our guidance counselor, Lillian Moy.

With sorrow,

Alice Hom  
Principal