Andrew Zhang M.S.407

I am quite thankful for many things this year. One of them is the fact that I think our teachers are pretty nice and actually teach us something, something most teachers lacked when I was in 5th grade. They have simplistic explanations if we do not understand something. Our teachers also make us have fun projects such as designing our own tomb if we had one, and making a comic strip in support of Men's Health Awareness month. These projects let us have freedom in what we want to do, and we could use different applications, style, and overall diverse methods to do them. They get through work with us quickly and efficiently, which was a vast difference from 5th grade personally. In fact, we also don't get much homework from them, even though I would get DAILY homework in 5th grade. They were also extremely strict for no apparent reason. Staring outside the window for barely a second? In trouble. I am quite thankful for these great teachers.

I am quite thankful for the massive amount of field trips we are having in school. We have gone on 2 field trips so far, and plan to go on 2 more in December. Just a month away! These trips are for work, but at the same time were still fun. We visited FreshKills Park, which in Dutch is basically "Fresh Waterway Park". The park was nice, as it was changed from a landfill that could literally be seen from space to a park with massive amounts of grassland, a river, and so many diverse species that it's surprising.

Lastly, I'm thankful that I live in peace. Staten Island is a very suburban place, and therefore very peaceful with almost all lack of any conflicts. There's no pollution, the sights are nice, and I have an easy way to school and back. Staten Island has many beautiful sights and it's easy to travel to other places, like New Jersey. It's not overpopulated, not filled with crime and chaos, and is overall just the perfect place to find some peace in a suburban area.