**Write a PERSUASIVE Letter to Neil Diamond**

We want to try to persuade Neil Diamond that visiting John Paterson School on his day off is a good idea! Here are some details, then some suggestions, then some guidelines for your letter:

**Details**

* Neil Diamond will be in Brooklyn, New York on Thursday, March 26th for a concert.
* Neil Diamond will be in Connecticut for a concert on Saturday, March 28th.
* We want Mr. Diamond to visit John Paterson School on his day off – Friday, March 27th.

**Suggestions**

These are just some ideas for how to go about writing your letter. Ask your teacher for more.

* Be sure to say who you are and the name of our school.
* Let Mr. Diamond know we are performing one of his songs, “Childsong”.
* Give Mr. Diamond some reasons why it would be good for HIM to come to our school.
* Give Mr. Diamond some reasons why it would be good for US to have him at Paterson.
* Be sure to invite Mr. Diamond to our school on Friday, March 27th.
* Neatness and good grammar are important! A sloppy or poorly written letter is NOT persuasive! Word your sentences carefully, and do a spell check.
* You may use a computer, but there is something more personal about a hand-written letter. Edit your work on a computer, and then handwrite it onto a piece of paper for a nicer touch. (Not required, but Mr. Kemp strongly suggests a handwritten letter.)
* Optional: Say something positive to Mr. Diamond about his music.
* Optional: Ask Mr. Diamond a question about “Childsong” or something else.

**Guidelines**

* You will receive the address for Mr. Diamond only after you have shown your letter to Mr. Kemp or to your teacher.
* Mr. Kemp will provide letter writers with an envelope and a stamp if all the Guidelines are followed.
* If you use a computer, ask your parents or teacher how to make the letter double-spaced. (It will look neater that way.)
* Keep your letter to one page long at the most.
* Letters must include the following. (Use this as a checklist):
  + Your name
  + An invitation for Mr. Diamond to come to Paterson on Friday, March 27th.
  + A persuasive reason for Mr. Diamond to join us at Paterson School.

\*Important – Please keep your expectations realistic. It is much more likely that Neil Diamond *cannot* join us at Paterson School. Still, you never know! Once in a while, big celebrities and other important people surprise us with unexpected visits. Maybe visiting John Paterson School is exactly what Mr. Diamond would love to do on his day off! Let’s try to persuade him to do that! ☺

**DEADLINE FOR LETTERS IS  
Thursday, February 26th.**

Musically yours,

Mr. Kemp