



Sistas of the Earth

Greetings Mamas!

I have been mentoring MS girls through SOTE since the first semester of school year. In that time we've had a successful bake sale, created a logo (*see above*), and a parent, Mama Jamillah Churchill, visited on several occasions to share her life experience from playing basketball at UC Berkeley, working as a model for several years, to reinventing herself as a trauma nurse. An extraordinary sister!

As part of our gatherings and in conjunction with the MS social studies curriculum, I had intended to screen *Precious: Based on the Novel Push by Sapphire*. I decided to cancel the screening after seeing it myself and having numerous discussions with other sisters. We did screen Chris Rock's *Good Hair* before the break as part of a social studies section. Several of the girls wrote a review of the film, which I'm going to incorporate into a mixed media piece to display at Ile Omode.

We've had on-going discussions about getting printed t-shirts with the SOTE logo (*see above*) or have the girls designing their own charm bracelets. As always, any feedback or suggestions are most welcome.

Our meetings are an open forum and we've covered many subjects such as the culture Ile Omode, things the girls would like to see change (or not), their hopes and aspirations as they grow, popular culture and those public figures that they perceive as role models in their lives. In one meeting we did some visualization exercises to examine and discuss the impact celebrity has on their perception of sisters in the public eye. Without consulting one another all pictured Jennifer Hudson in *blue* or Beyonce in the *Caribbean*.

I would like to plan a **SOTE mother and daughter brunch** one Saturday or Sunday before the ATL trip. This would be a fun get together for the girls outside of school to bond, dress up, and break biscuits together. I have several café's in mind; Lois the Pie Queen (Adeline), Blackberry Bistro (Park Blvd.), or Roscoe's (Jack London Square). Also if you'd willing to open your home to host a brunch, please let me know!

SOTE meets Mondays at 3:45pm after school in the Harriet Tubman room (3rd floor) or Marcus Garvey room, 1st floor.

Many blessings!

Mama Lisa

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