

GRADE 5 NEWS

December 15, 2011

Dear Parents,

What a month we have had so far! December is always busy at SCCS, and this one has fit right in to the pattern. While our busyness sometimes can't be avoided, we can find joy in it when we remember Who all this activity is for. We give our time, our talents, and our things to others because "the love in our hearts wasn't put there to stay, love isn't love, 'til it's given away.

We thank our Lord for each of you. May you all have the most happy and blessed Christmas ever. You are loved.

Mrs. Thomas and Mrs. Lilja

A Look into the Future:

- Monday, December 19: 3M Visiting Wizard Cryogenics Program
- Thursday, Dec. 22: Dress in Red and Green- this is a no-uniform day!

We will have a Christmas party!

- ❖ Send in a wrapped gift (\$5 or under, please) appropriate for either a boy or girl by Wed. Dec. 21.
- ❖ Students may bring a somewhat healthy treat to share with class; we will have a sign-up sheet available. (Not everyone will need to bring a treat.)
- Friday, December 23 – January 2 – Christmas Break
- Tuesday, January 3 – Math Geometry Project is due (see Math below)
- Monday, January 9 – Solubility Experiment is due (see Science below)

MATH CT: We have finished Chapter 6 on basic geometry. We will continue to study geometry to become familiar with the concepts necessary to complete the take-home task due January 3rd. Please ask your child about this project. We will also have a **cumulative test** on the concepts covered in Chapters 1-6 of our textbook. Care will be taken to review those things that are emphasized on the 5th grade MCAIII test pre-view. After Christmas break we will begin Chapter 7 – Fractions. Accelerated Math will also be revised and work on more advanced objectives will be offered. Students will still be expected to complete at least one AcclMath paper per week.

MATH BL:

With the festivities of the past two weeks our Geometry test will be pushed off until the following week. This will give us time to review all the concepts that have been covered thus far, as well as the current chapter. Students should plan to take this **cumulative test** on Chapters 1-6 next **Wednesday December 21st**. **Reminder:** Parent signatures for the Geometry Projects are due the 14th and the projects are due January, 3rd.

Language Arts:

Reading – Students are finishing discussions for packet #4 in class. We will finish the book before break with one more packet to go. Students will review elements of Out of the Dust upon returning from break and can expect final test/project criteria at that time.

Spelling - students will be assigned Unit 9 in their Spelling workbook and should expect a test on Unit 9 next week.

Writing- Students will participate in peer editing for their final drafts of the opinion essay which are due Friday.

Grammar – We will do our best to finish the Verb Unit before break, but may need to post pone the test until after we return from Christmas break.

SCIENCE: Next Monday, Mr. Jim Pedginski will visit and delight us with the 3M Visiting Wizard program that has become an annual event. We have covered in our science classes some of the concepts he brings with him. We are presently on lesson 2 of the first chapter of Unit E – The Building Blocks of Matter. Each lesson is followed by a quiz. The second quiz will be early next week. Also next week each student will receive directions for a **Solubility Experiment** which needs to be completed and turned in by January 9. The process is somewhat time consuming so I would suggest doing this over Christmas break if possible.

Social Studies: Following our examination of the earliest people of Minnesota, we will explore the first civilizations of the Americas – beginning with the people of Central and South America. A mask project will accompany our study. Please send in a clean, empty plastic milk jug for this project if you have not already done so.

Religion: We have been studying the intricacies of this blessed season in song, art projects, and study sheets.

We will learn a bit about the Jewish festival of Hanukkah as well. A video (Miracle At Moreau) that ties together our celebrations and brings out the love of Jesus to all, will be shown on Thursday morning, December 22. There will be a test on the “Jesse Tree” symbols and a prayer service before our Christmas party on Thursday, Dec. 22. Your child will bring home a request for a gift (\$5 or under) that would be appropriate for either a boy or a girl. We are not drawing names this year, but everyone will get a gift in our game. Each person may also bring in a treat to share.

***** A note about The **Timberwolves “Read to Achieve”** program.

Any student who participated needs to read at least 500 pages and turn in their Starting Five Reading Card to Mrs. Koenning by January 6.

Participants will receive a T-wolves prize package.