

5th Grade News

January 21,2010

Dear Parents,

One would think that the mid-winter season would be slow and quiet. Not so at SCCS. We are looking forward to some busy weeks, and quite a few things need your attention:

- **The Catholic Schools Week Open House is this Sunday, January 24. Please come in and see what we have been up to.**
- **Our service project for the Veterans Home will be completed in class next Thursday. This is a change from our original plans to do this on Tuesday. Please help your child remember his/her donation to the Care Bags.**
- **If you have not returned your permission for our field trip to Warner Nature Center on February 8, please do so as soon as possible. Chaperones are still needed.**
- **Our school is taking up a collection for the victims of the devastating earthquake in Haiti. If you are so moved, please send in donations to this cause by our retreat day next Wednesday or Friday at the latest. Collections will be done in homerooms. All money will be sent to Feed My Starving Children. See the accompanying note.**
- **Mid-trimester grades will be on-line. Please stay up-to-date by checking PowerSchool often. Winter conferences will be on Feb.11 and 12. Be sure to sign up for a time by tomorrow if you have not already done so. Forms for this are on the school website.**
- **It is time to restock individual school supplies. Pencils are especially in short supply around here, and many students do not have red checking pens, calculators, scissors or glue. Please ask your child if (s)he needs more of these items and if so, send them. Thanks.**
- **It has become necessary to change our indoor lunch/recess day for late assignments. We will now be keeping students with delinquent assignments in on Wednesdays. All missing or late work needs to be turned in by the end of the day on Tuesday in order to avoid the indoor lunch work time. See attached information and return slip.**
- **A final reminder: Gum is never allowed in school unless given by the teacher!**

Sincerely,

Mrs. Lehman, Mrs. Rustin, Mrs. Thomas

A Summary of Our Classes:

Religion: We will finish up lesson 16 in our text which is an introduction to the Sacraments. Then we will be collecting items for our Care Bags for the Minnesota Veterans Home as well as money for the victims of the Haitian earthquake. (see above).

Reading: This week we read, *An Island Scrapbook*, a story of a mother and daughter who make fascinating discoveries as they explore a barrier island from dawn to dusk, taking their sketch pads with them. Next we read, *The Big Storm*, about a major storm that affected most of the United States in March of 1982. Fact vs. Nonfact, Suffixes, Judgments and Decisions, and Drawing Conclusions are the focus of skills in these two reading selections.

Language: This week we worked on Subject/Verb Agreement, and Agreement with *be* and *have* in grammar. Our focus in poetry is on Limericks. Limericks are a five-line poem with a rhyme scheme and usually a humorous tone. Students will hear, write, and share limericks in class.

Spanish: Students have been assessed on the second and third parts of the house vocabulary. They will continue learning the appliance and bedroom accessory items through the writing of complex sentences and flashcard practice.

Math:

Thomas: Coming up: a chapter test on Wednesday/Thursday, on Data and Statistics. We will then move into a quick study of decimal operations. We will use both the green 5th grade book and the red Middle School Math books.

Lehman/Rustin: We took the Chapter 4 test early this week. Please watch for those to come home for a signature. Next, we begin Chapter 5 Data, Graphs, and Probability. Students will collect data, read and make different types of graphs, and use graphs to figure the range, mean, median, and mode. This chapter also focuses on probability, predicting outcomes and interpreting data.

Bates: Students are completing their study of rational numbers, the distributive property and the coordinate plane. They will be assessed on Chap. 6 near the end of next week.

Science: Our study of chemical reactions is nearly finished. After the quiz on this lesson, we will review the chapter and take the test (tentative) on Friday, 1/29. Following the test, we will study briefly Atoms and Molecules as well as our continued study on the Scientific Method. Kirk Mona from Warner Nature Center will be here again for the second outreach program on Monday, 2/1. This time we will explore insulators and do an experiment on this topic. The following Monday, 2/8, we will be at WNC for some continued winter studies. Please get permission slips in ASAP.

Social Studies: We are in the middle of Chapter 3 studying Ancient American civilizations. Our studies include discussion in class, taking notes and completing worksheets to reinforce what we are learning. The chapter test will not take place until February. Please watch your child's planner for the date. Please continue to send in the paper towel tubes for our next project.