

Name: _____

5th Grade News

November 19, 2009

Dear Parents,

It was so good to see all of you at conferences. Knowing you helps us know your children. It is evident they are much loved.

Highlighting Some Upcoming Events:

- *Tomorrow we go to the History Center. Students are to be in uniform and need to have a bag lunch.*
- *Next Tuesday (11/24) is our Thanksgiving Feast. Please help your child bring in the assigned offering.*
- *There will be no school on Wednesday through Friday next week.
Happy Thanksgiving!*

*****Students need to bring in an empty cereal box for an upcoming project by no later than Monday, November 30th. Please send extras if possible.**

Our Classes:

Math: (Mrs. Thomas) We have been jumping in and out of our red Course 1 MSM book as we do some basic work in geometry, decimals, and fractions. Upcoming Checkpoints and Test will cover what has been practiced in the Level 5 Green Math book. Watch planners for the test date. In addition to our regular work, we visit Mrs. Doekson in the Resource room each Thursday for some time in Accelerated Math. This challenging work will come in handy down the road as we practice the skills we learned when we see them in our textbook.

Math: (Mrs. Bates) MSM Course 2: As the students begin Chapter 5, they will learn to add and subtract fractions and mixed numbers. They also multiply and divide fractions and mixed numbers while learning about customary units.

Math: (Mrs. Lehman) Students are using 1 digit divisors to divide whole numbers and decimals. We will be working on factors and divisibility as well as prime and composite numbers in Chapter 3 and continuing our work in Chapter 9 with measurement, the metric system and time. Knowing and practicing multiplication math facts is key to doing well in these two chapters on division.

Math: (Mrs. Rustin) We continue our work in Division. Students are currently dividing three-digit whole numbers by one-digit divisors, dividing with zeros in the quotient, and will begin finding the quotients of money amounts divided by one-digit divisors. Practicing basic multiplication facts is imperative as we go through the next two chapters on division.

Religion: The season of Thanksgiving continues. We have written psalms of thanks and praise and done projects reflecting the abundant blessings of our God. As we move into Advent, we will call to mind God's greatest gift of all... Jesus Christ. All of our focus will be on the preparations we make to greet our savior once again. In addition we will work in music to make this year's program the best ever. Rehearsals begin next week. **Our program is Dec. 10 at 6:30.**

Science: Metric Posters are finished and will be displayed following the project presentations. They look terrific! We will continue to work with metric measurements, then, we will start our Physical Science Unit – Matter and Its Properties. Kirk Mona from Warner Nature Center gave us a great preview of chemical reactions on Monday when he came to tell us about acid rain and pH indicators. As always, his was a great way to get kids involved in some good thinking.

Social Studies: We will finish our MN geography and map unit using the Official Highway Map of Minnesota and a Map Unit test on Monday, November 23rd using the notes, pp. 40-41 of the textbook and Map Skillsheet. Then, we are off to Ancient America and Chapter 3 of our textbook. **Students will need to bring in a clean, dry plastic gallon milk jug for our mask project. Please send one or more in as they are emptied at your house.**

Language: Students participated in the Second Annual Fall Writing Extravaganza this week. The topic for this writing reflection was "Write about your best day ever!" Students brainstormed, wrote, and shared their writing reflections in class and enjoyed a warm glass of apple cider too. We are currently working on our first explanatory writing assignment and continuing our work in grammar on verbs. **Students need to bring in an empty cereal box for an upcoming project by no later than Monday, November 30th. Please send extras if possible.**

Reading: This week we read, *The Paper Dragon*, a story of dragon destroying villages, and who challenges an artist to perform three tasks in order to save his village from destruction. Skills focused on in this reading selection are Sequence of Events, Vocabulary, Comprehension, and Figurative Language. **READO was due this past Tuesday. Trimester 2 READO guidelines will be sent home soon.**

Mrs. Doeksen's Reading: We are continuing to work on Hanah's Suitcase, an investigative story about the Holocaust. We are writing Explanatory pieces now. Our first assignment was to write about "How To Write A Book Report". Each week your student needs to write an Explanatory piece. We are continuing to read the Maud Hart Lovelace books. The voting will take place in March.