5th Grade News

Important Information

**Fifth Grade Camp:** We will be hosting an informational meeting for parents about our annual trip to Camp Warm Beach on February 2, 6:00 pm in the Café. Come to hear specifics about logistics, cost, activities, etc. If you are interested in coming with us to Camp Warm Beach as a chaperone (June 1-3), please let me know. I will draw names in a lottery for chaperones at the meeting. You do not need to be present to “win.” We will most likely need two moms and two dads to come with our class. Let me know if you have any questions about what being a chaperone entails. If you are unable to attend the Camp Meeting, I will send home paperwork and post the PowerPoint on the class website.

**January Book Review:** Students may pick any fiction genre to read and review for January. The book review essay is due on **Friday, January 29**. Remember that directions are posted on our class website under “Reading”.

**Science Fair:** All fifth graders are required to participate and complete an investigation. We talked about the project in class and students have the first few pages of the assignments that they need. While the Science Fair is not until **March 31**, we ask students to complete assignments along the way. All paperwork is posted on our class website under “Science”.

**Guest Readers:** If you have not yet come to our class as a Guest Reader, please consider doing so this winter (sign-up link emailed to you). This brief time (about 15 minutes) of sharing a favorite story (or part of a story) with us is an easy way to be involved in our classroom and the kids love it!

**Thank You:** Thank you to **Lauri Diane Pattillo** for helping in the classroom this week!

**Curriculum Notes**

**Math:** Students continued their learning and practice of fractions skills. This week the main focus was fraction/decimal/percent equivalents.

**Social Studies:** We started our study of European exploration of the New World. To begin, we learned about six major motivations that prompted the so-called “Age of Exploration” of the 1500s: curiosity, fame/fortune, religion, national pride/land, foreign goods, trade routes.
**Reading:** Our focus in reading this week was **current events/newspaper articles**. Students will be required to find and report on one current event article to the class between now and March. This is an at-home assignment. Directions are posted under “Current Events” on the class website.

**Writing:** Our grammar focus this week was **adverbs**. In writing workshop, students finished publishing an informational book about a topic of their choice. These published pieces highlight both each students’ informational writing skills and their understandings of nonfiction text features.

**Important Dates**

January 18…NO SCHOOL – Martin Luther King Jr. Day  
January 22…Science Fair Topic Due  
January 25…NO SCHOOL – Teacher Work Day  
January 29…Book Review Due; Science Fair Question/Hypothesis Due  
February 2…5th Grade Camp Meeting for Parents, 6:00 pm in the Café  
February 10…Science Fair Research Due  
February 12…Valentine’s Day Party  
February 15-19…NO SCHOOL – MidWinter Break

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