

Sunday, November 27th, 2011

Dear 2nd Grade Families,

I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving! If you are like me, you are probably a few pounds heavier than you were a week ago! Nonetheless, it was wonderful to have a week of relaxation and time spent with family and friends...and getting to sleep in wasn't so bad either! =)

Just a few reminders before I jump into our studies for the upcoming week. CCA's Christmas and Drama Program will be held Friday, December 2nd at Weld Central Junior High. Please park at the back of the building as the front entrance will be locked. Please arrive by 5:40 as the performance will begin at 6:00.

Please turn in reading trackers ASAP. They are due the 8th, but the sooner they are turned in the better. Many children have already turned theirs in—thank you!

We will be holding our classroom Christmas party on Friday, December 16th, which is the final day of school before Christmas break. We will have foods and a game as well as a gift exchange. I'm asking that girls bring a gift for a girl and boys bring a gift for a boy. The price limit is \$10. If this is a hardship, please let me know and it will be taken care of. Please send the gift wrapped and addressed "To a girl/boy, From your child." Please send your child's gift exchange gift in the week of December 13th. (I am mentioning it now for those of you who want to get shopping done early.)

We will be saying goodbye to Mrs. Emery, our student teacher this week. We have sure enjoyed having her in our classroom. She has been an eager and willing helper, aiding me and all of the children. We will surely miss her, and we'll have a little going away party for her on Friday.

As you know, we will be saying goodbye to Mr. Ewing on Wednesday, November 30th. The students have created pages for him, thanking him for all that he has done for CCA, that will be bound into an all-school book for him so he can remember us all.

On to our studies for the week! Our Imagine It! story is titled "Out and About at City Hall." As always, please re-read the week's selection on Wednesday evening.

In math, we will multiply by 2, we will act out and draw pictures for equal-groups stories, we'll write number sentences for equal-groups stories, and we'll identify perpendicular lines. We will also take an assessment this week.

In history, we will learn about the Gold Rush and life in California during this time. We'll learn the fascinating story of the Pony Express, and we'll learning about the coming of railroads to our nation, namely the Transcontinental Railroad. We will learn about the challenges faced by cowboys, farmers, and miners in the west, and we'll take a look at how cattle drives worked!

In science, we continue our unit on Simple Machines. This week we will focus on screws, and we'll learn that they are really made of an inclined plane that curves

around a shaft. We'll also learn about levers, which are simple machines that can lift heavy weights with less effort.

In writing this week, we continue with our persuasive letters. We will also have a Shurley Test this week. No need to study, we'll do all the prep needed in class. =) We'll also work on subject/verb agreement.

You should have enough spelling lists at home to get your child to Christmas break. If you ever need additional copies for your child to study from, just let me know.

I believe that is all for this week! I hear snow may be back in the forecast. The precipitation would be welcome given the warm weather we've had recently! Enjoy the week!

Warmly,
Stacy Thompson