



Volume 1, Issue 3

December Issue

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5th GRADE

December News

Happy Holidays!

Happy Holiday! It's hard to believe it's already December! I'm truly enjoying every moment that I am spending with the students in Room 212. I'm impressed with how much progress students are making academically and socially. I feel fortunate to be working with such dedicated and thoughtful individuals. In addition, I feel fortunate to be working with all of their families. Thank you for all of your support. It has meant a lot to me! I hope you all have a safe and enjoyable holiday season! I look forward to the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year!

Report Cards

Report cards are one of the tools educators use to communicate individual progress throughout the year with students and their families. This is the third year of the implementation of the standards-based report card. I hope that by reporting student progress on individual concepts (standards), both you and your child will have a better understanding of his/her strengths and areas for improvement within each subject area. Please use the report card as a conversation piece with your child at home. It is a great starting place for setting goals for second trimester. And, above all else, please use the report card to CELEBRATE the progress your child has made so far! I will be sending the report card home in a manila envelope on Friday, December 1st. Please discuss the report with your child and return the envelope by Friday, December 8th. As always, please let me know if you have any questions pertaining to the standards-based report card and/or your child's progress this trimester. Thank you!

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December Book Report

This month's book report is a Bloom's Taxonomy Book Report Poster. The report is designed to help deepen students' understanding of the text as students move through each level (Remember, Understand, Apply, Analyze, Evaluate, and Design/Create). Students will use a poster to respond meaningfully about the main problem in the book, characters, lesson/theme, critique of the story, book recommendation, and they'll compose a poem about the book. Please be on the "look-out" for the template and rubric. Both should be arriving home with your child soon. The book report is due December 18, 2017.

Special points of interest:

- * Report Cards
- * Upcoming Dates

Winter Reminders

Now that winter is here to stay (BRR!!!), please remind your child to wear his/her snow gear to school everyday. Dressing appropriately for recess will help students enjoy their time outside in the fresh winter air!

Also, please remind encourage your child to pack their shoes (and possibly even extra socks) in their backpacks so they don't have to wear wet foot gear throughout the school day. This is especially important on phy-ed days (Monday, Tuesday, & Thursdays). Thank you for your help.



CURRICULUM

Math Students continue to work within unit 5. This unit has three main areas of focus: to review fraction concepts; to practice turning fractions into decimals and percents; and to review the properties and constructions of bar and circle graphs.

Literacy Throughout the month we will continue to participate in lessons from *Units of Study for Teaching Reading –A Workshop Curriculum Grade 5*. Our next unit is called, Argument and Advocacy—Researching Debatable Issues. The unit encompasses three bends: Investigating Issues; Raising the Level of Research; and Researching a New Issue with More Agency.

We continue to participate in Daily Language Review (D.L.R.) lessons for fifth grade. This frequent and focused practice leads to mastery and retention of the skills practiced. The skills that are covered are punctuation, grammar, comprehension, vocabulary/word study, reference skills, and capitalization.

We are also learning and practicing writing according to the Six Traits Model. This program teaches the writing traits across the stages of the writing process and across the curriculum.

Finally, students will begin exploring a new spelling curriculum called, Words Their Way. Students will participate in lessons and activities that focus their attention on critical features of words: sounds, patterns, and meanings. This curriculum is a developmentally approach to phonics, vocabulary, and spelling.

Science Students will become engaged in a new science unit called *How Landforms Change*. Students will become engaged in lessons surrounding the unifying concept that Earth is constantly changing. They will investigate three subconcepts: the outermost of Earth's four layers is the crust, where all landforms are found; movement within Earth's crust builds and changes landforms; and physical and chemical weathering change landforms.

Social Studies Students are studying American history. Throughout the month students will explore Colonial America. Students will study the Southern Colonies including Williamsburg, Jamestown, Pocahontas, John Smith, and the House of Burgesses.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS



UPCOMING DATES



Nov. 27...No School Day for Students/ PD Day for Educators

Nov. 30...Children's Craft Fair and Bake Sale
(6-8 pm—Village Hall)

Dec. 1...November Reading Minute Calendar Due

Dec. 1... Report Cards Go Home With Students

Dec. 4...Poynette Fall Spiritwear Order Due
(www.agpestores.com/xperts/groups.php)
access code **PUMAS**

Dec. 4...Holiday Splash (6:00-7:30 pm/ PHS)
Live Music, Treats, & Crafts - Bring a nonperishable food item to donate to the P.A.D. Food Pantry

Dec. 4-8...V.I.P. of the Week (Mercedi)

Dec. 11-15...V.I.P. of the Week (Ava)

Dec. 12...NHS Free Community Book Exchange (3:45 pm -
Elem/Middle School cafeteria)

Dec. 12...Elementary Holiday Concert (2nd & 3rd Grades)

Dec. 13...Fall Spiritwear Order Pick-Up Date (after 4:00 pm)

Dec. 18... Book Report Due (*Bloom's Taxonomy Book Report*)

Dec. 18-22...V.I.P. of the Week (Owen)

Dec. 19...Middle School Band/Choir Holiday Concert (7:00 pm
Elem/Middle School Gym)

Dec. 28...Family Read at the Poynette Public Library
(Tale of Despereaux—10:30 am—Sign up at the
circulation desk or call 635-7577)