

Windham Center School Newsletter

December, 2008

From the Principal's Corner....

•Hope everyone stayed warm during our ice storm, December 11th. Our school was set up as a temporary shelter and we'd like to thank everyone for their help with this emergency.

•Our holiday break will be December 24-January 2. Enjoy your vacation and please return safely to us on Monday, January 5, 2009.

•Please mark you calendars!

- 1.Tuesday, January 13th – Early Release Day
- 2.Thursday, January 22nd – Winter Concert at 9:30AM
- 3.Wednesday, January 28th – 4th Grade Band Concert at 7:00PM
- 4.Thursday, January 29th – 5th Grade Band Concert at 7:00PM

•Thank you for all of your donations of warm hats, scarves and gloves/mittens. Your generosity will keep many people warm this winter!

•Please consider making some Reading Resolutions this new year!

- 1.Make reading a part of everyday for your children.
- 2.Read aloud to your child many times during the day.
- 3.Keep lots of reading materials available, variety keeps children interested.

Andy Desrosiers – Principal
Cherrie Fulton – Assistant Principal

Grade 3

Happy Holidays to everyone! We're bringing in holiday joy in third grade this month. We enjoyed our immigration units and learned lots about family traditions and celebrations. Our ancestor dolls are wonderful and we hope you can share your research on your family tree, traditions, and stories with your children some day.

With the start of the New Year, we will be really learning our multiplication and division facts. The old-fashioned method of memorizing will be used, as well as understanding the concept of "times and divided-by". Use of flashcards and daily practice at home is encouraged.

A special reminder that all third graders will be expected to dress appropriately for the upcoming winter recesses! If there is snow on the ground, students will be expected to wear boots. If there is DEEP snow, students will need to have snow pants on with the boots. Children who wear just sneakers outside when there is snow coverage will be getting awfully bored holding onto the fence.

With all the crazy times of bad weather and the lower economy, the third grade team would like to thank all of you that contributed to our "Gifts of Goodwill". The response

was overwhelming and the families in need will have a wonderful holiday season thanks to all of you!

Happy Holidays to all and a wonderful New Year. The Third Grade Team

Grade 4

Well, between the craziness of the recent power outages, and the stormy season... the holidays somehow snuck up on us! Where has the time gone?

Fourth grade has been very busy. We have all enjoyed the 6 weeks of the Granite State Fit Kids program. Students got to learn about keeping our bodies fit and healthy! It is such a great program, and we are always so thankful to have Dr. Chuck Capetta offer us a chance to take part in this very special health awareness activity.

We thank all of the families for helping us have very special holiday parties in the classrooms. It is always such a nice time of year, and the students get very excited about the class parties. Thank you all for everything!

Have a very special holiday season and Happy New Year to everyone!

The Fourth Grade Team

Grade 5

The 5th grade team has had a very busy December. We have continued to study the Middle Colonies in Social Studies as well as Weather Systems in Science. Plugging away at math, students have been working with long division and fractions. Students have been getting in to the holiday spirit with activities such as Gingerbread House creations and Unknown Gnome. The children have been handling the aftermath of the recent ice storm with great resilience and continue to focus on their academics. We are all looking forward to our break and a happy 2009.

Musically Speaking

As the holidays are approaching, the third graders are learning how to play songs on their recorders and our fourth graders are preparing for a performance. On Thursday morning, January 22nd at 9:30am, our fourth graders will be performing recorder songs for you along with singing songs from "Snow Biz," a fun-filled musical salute to the Joys of Winter! We have been working hard on learning the lyrics, harmony parts and adding choreography moves and instruments too!

Our fifth grade Show Chorus has also been busy preparing for their performance of "Gotta Be Jazz." This is an upbeat show which features Jazz Classics: America's Music. The chorus students are practicing two-part harmonies while learning how to snap on the

off beats and move at the same time! We look forward to performing for you on Thursday night, January 29th at 7:30 following the Concert Band.

Sincerely,
Nancy Fothergill

Library News

Book Club News: Announcing the titles for January's book clubs: Breakfast Book Club meets January 26 to discuss Andrew Clements' *No Talking*. Lunch book groups will meet twice during January. Third grade will read *Unicorns: Magical Creatures from Myth and Fiction*. Fourth Grade will read *The Big One-Oh*, a Great Stone Face nominee. Fifth grade will read *Virus on Orbis 1*, also a Great Stone Face pick.

Ladybug Book Award: The winner of the 2008 NH Ladybug Picture Book Award goes to the book *When Dinosaurs Came with Everything*, written by Elise Broach and illustrated by David Small.