



Lucy V.
Barnsley Elementary School

Fifth Grade Center
News



November, 2011

Report cards are done for the first marking period, and students are eagerly awaiting the arrival of Thanksgiving! Teachers are in the process of conducting conferences and looking forward to meeting with you to discuss your child's progress. If you have not confirmed your conference date and time, please get in touch with your child's teacher ASAP. We hope you have been able to use Teacherease as one of the ways to keep in touch. We suggest you check it once per week to note any new data that has been posted. If you are having any problems with Teacherease, please let one of us know via e-mail.

Now that the first marking period is over, students should be evaluating their own progress and making new goals for themselves. You may want to discuss these goals with your child and give them your input.

In reading, we have finished our hero unit and we are moving on to the study of choice and consequences. We will be reading a variety of stories from *The Edge of Survival*, as well as two novels. We will be discussing choices that characters make and the consequences, both positive and negative, which result. This will lend itself to interesting discussions about students'

personal decisions and the consequences that follow.

In writing we will continue to stress the importance of the well-constructed introduction, body, and conclusion. We are focusing on vocabulary development as well. Students will be composing essays based on interview questions, and will be making a gift for their partners that they will present at our potlatch celebration before Thanksgiving.

LAR-Your child should now be working in the second spelling book. Public speaking and grammar will continue as usual. In this quarter students will have art and music to inspire their writings as we work on well-developed paragraphs along with the 6 traits of writing.

Math A-Unit 2 is a 13 week unit. It is a comprehensive study of methods used to calculate and convert fractions, decimals, and percents.

Math B- If $a=2$ and $b=-8$ then $2(b^2+a)-3(-a-b)=?$ Does this look familiar? We are still in the throes of unit 2 and students are madly solving all sorts of algebraic equations. Variables, integers, and the distributive property should be terms you are hearing in your household. Look for those weekly quizzes to monitor your child's progress.

IM- We are finishing our unit on scientific notation and real and rational numbers. We will have a unit test in the next two weeks. Unit 3 is a geometry unit. Students will learn about geometric properties, construct figures with a compass and protractor, proportions of polygons, and 1-, 2- and 3-dimensional figures. It is an exciting and challenging unit.

Science- Students are wrapping up the forces unit by constructing and testing parachutes to see what variables affect the landing. Since we are using newspapers, students will not be diving out of windows, but they can be seen standing on the desks in order to launch their creations.

Soon we will be moving on to the study of electricity and magnetism. We have already seen evidence of some magnetic personalities, so this unit should be particularly attractive!

Social Studies- Students have enjoyed comparing the 5 eras of U.S. history. They were asked to come up with the next era and a corresponding hat or head device. Next we will begin learning about the Boston Massacre and its significance. Students will also engage in a historical investigation revolving around the Boston Massacre next week.



Congratulations to:

For earning 15 Cougar Coupons in October!!

Brandon Aldao Jarrett Clark Arthi Thyagarajan

Missing from Sept. Grace Wu, Arthi Thyagarajan, Ethan Opdahl, Anna Adhikari, Rachel Frampton



Important Dates:

Conferences- Be sure to check with your child's teacher if you have not confirmed the date and time of your conference.

10/7- Magnet application requests are due to teachers

11/10-11/11 Half Days

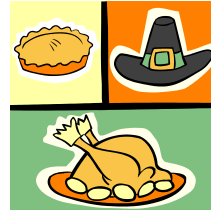
11/10 - Report card distribution. Please ask your child for his/her report card!

Thanksgiving break:

Wednesday, 11/ 23- HALF- DAY

11/24 -11/25 -No School

Enjoy your holiday!!



Lynn Camacho

Karen Davis

Michelle Hirsh