



# Happy Holidays to all our Clearspring Families!

## Fifth Grade Newsletter December 2011

### Reading Update:

We finished our first novels classes are beginning their next novel. Please take advantage of the winter break to have your child do some extra reading for their independent reading log and year goal of 25 books!

Just as your 5<sup>th</sup> Grader(s) has/have had a reading packet for their previous novel as a guide during each "unit" they will get a new packet for their new novel as well. Please remind your child(ren) that the assignment sheet on the front of the packet is meant to serve as a guide so that they know for what they will be responsible.



### Homework Reminder:

Students should be writing all assignments down in their planner daily. As part of their homework, all 5<sup>th</sup> graders are expected to read for 20 minutes per night (whether written in the planner or not).

### "Math A" Minute:

We just completed the first half of Unit 2 and took the assessment. As we continue to progress through Unit 2 we will be multiplying and dividing fractions. This will include mixed numbers. If time allows before Winter Break we will do some enrichment on integer operations. I would like to point out that Math A is the last course in which fraction and decimal concepts are taught as part of the curriculum. As students advance in their math courses it is expected that students are proficient in fractions and decimals. If your child is struggling I am available at recess everyday. If you wish to practice at home the odd numbered problems have answers in the back of the book. The back of the book also contains an extra practice section that can provide additional problems to practice.

### "Math 5" Mania:

We will begin working on Unit 3. The focus in Unit 3 is on whole numbers and performing operations with decimals and whole numbers. We will use a

variety of strategies to solve problems with fractions, decimals, and percents.

Please encourage your child to ask questions in class to clarify their understanding of these difficult concepts.



**Clearspring is collecting non-perishable food items to help those in need. Please send in your donations by December 16. Thank you.**

### **Some upcoming events:**

- ◆ Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> - In school science field trip
- ◆ Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> - Winter Concert at Baker Middle School
- ◆ Dec. 24-Jan. 1 - Schools closed for Winter Break
- ◆ Jan. 3 - Classes resume

### **Contacting the teacher:**

**If you need to contact the fifth grade teachers, email is the fastest method.**

**Mrs. Hoffman -**

[Daniella M Hoffman@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Daniella_M_Hoffman@mcpsmd.org)

**Mrs. Stile -** [Jennifer Stile@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Jennifer_Stile@mcpsmd.org)

**Mrs. Wilhelm-**

[Stephanie L Wilhelm@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Stephanie_L_Wilhelm@mcpsmd.org)

**(There are underscores between each part of the name.)**

- ◆ **If you would like to receive this and other school related communications electronically, please email your child's homeroom teacher.**

Please enjoy a safe and happy Winter Break.

-The Fifth Grade Team

