



# News from the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade at Cloverly Elementary School

December 23, 2011

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Happy Holidays! We hope that everyone is able to relax and enjoy this holiday season. The children have been working hard and certainly deserve a restful break and some "play time". Talking about needing rest, Mrs. Grey started her maternity leave December 12. We want to give a warm welcome to her long-term substitute, Mrs. Lowe.

As we approach the new year of 2012 we want to continue to encourage timely homework completion, positive work behaviors, and consistent attendance to school. Please encourage your son or daughter to treat our return in January with a renewal of self motivation and personal goals. As we enter the second half of the year, our expectations will continue to increase to meet the demands of the fifth grade curriculum; therefore it is very important the children come back highly motivated and ready to learn.

We hope you have a wonderful, restful, and family filled winter break!

The Fifth Grade Team

*Mr. Cline, Mr. Gravell,*

*Mrs. Lowe*

## Reminders

**\*Students' January Reading Calendar, Book Talk and Current Event Report are due Wednesday, February 1, 2012.**

## Upcoming Dates:

Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup> - Monday, January 2, 2012

No School, Winter Break

**2012**

Return to school on

Tuesday, January 3, 2012!

Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup> - No School, MLK Jr. Day

Monday, January 23<sup>th</sup> - No School, Professional Day for Teachers

Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> Marking Period Begins

Emails

[David.H.Cline@mcpsmd.org](mailto:David.H.Cline@mcpsmd.org)

[Maneth.P.Gravell@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Maneth.P.Gravell@mcpsmd.org)

[Gina.M.Lowe@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Gina.M.Lowe@mcpsmd.org)

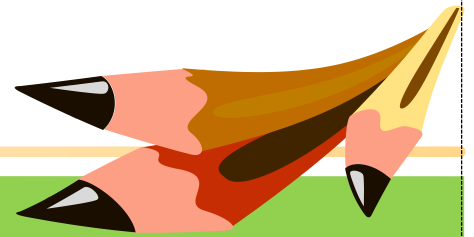


LOOK, what we have been up to!

**Language Arts:** Students have reviewed identifying the various types of figurative language. They have used structural features to identify poetry as a literary form and distinguish differences among various types of poetry. In January, students will revisit nonfiction texts and work to identify and practice positive test-taking strategies.

**5<sup>th</sup> grade Math:** Students have been multiplying and dividing decimals by whole numbers and comparing and ordering decimals. In addition, they have learned how to compare and order fractions in equivalent forms, including improper fractions and mixed numbers with like and unlike denominators. When students return from break they will read, write and represent interchangeable simple fractions, decimals and percents using symbols, words and models. Again, please make sure your child is studying his or her multiplication and division facts daily.

**Math A:** Students have been multiplying and dividing fractions and identifying computational estimations. In order to meet the objectives, students need to be able to answer the following essential questions: *How do operations with fractions compare to operations with whole numbers and decimals? What is the purpose of estimation? How can estimation skills and algorithms reinforce one another?* When students return from break they will be learning how to identify ratios and percents.



**Writing:** Students used their creativity and imagination to construct poems about various topics of interest. Students worked to include various types of figurative language in their writing, specifically metaphors, similes, personification, onomatopoeia, and alliteration. We have now begun our second writing project which requires students to select an area of expertise to write to inform others about.

**Science:** Students are now studying electricity and magnets. Students have learned about protons, neutrons, electrons and the types of charges they have. They have also been working on identifying the measurable effects of electricity, for example light, sound, movement and heat.

**Social Studies:** Over the past few weeks, students have been studying the events leading up to the signing of the Declaration of Independence. After winter break, students will focus more on the specific struggles related to the American Revolution, the formation of the American government, and the power of economics.

