

# 4<sup>th</sup> Grade December Newsletter

## January News

Dr. Joanne B. Smith, Principal  
Mrs. Elizabeth Deigan, Assistant Principal



## What are we learning?

### Reading

This month we will be conducting an author study on Eloise Greenfield as well as examining characteristics of reading literature to be informed. This is the next genre of literature we will discuss following fables, fantasy, poetry, realistic fiction, and historical fiction.

### Writing

4<sup>th</sup> grade students are continuing to use the "6+1 Traits of Writing" (organization, ideas, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, conventions, and presentation) to improve their compositions. They recently finished an involved assignment/report on a particular state and next will write a comprehensive ecosystems report on the adaptation of a particular animal or plant to its surroundings.

### Math 4

Unit 3 focuses on common and decimal fractions as well as probability. Students look at the relationship between common and decimal fractions and at how to perform some of the basic number operations with fractional parts. Students also apply their understanding of fractions to the concept of probability, as they learn to quantify the probability of an event.

### Math 5

In Unit 3, students continue to explore concepts of number and operations as they read, write, and represent simple fractions, decimals, and percents. Students compare, order & add/subtract/multiply/divide fractions and decimals. Students will compute percentages of 10, 20, 25, 50, and 100 percent of a number.

Math 5 Unit Assessment- Feb. 9 & 10.

### Calendar of Events

**January 3-  
Return from Winter  
Break**

**January 23-  
Professional Day for  
Teachers & No school  
for students**

**January 26- Parent  
Night 6:00-7:00 p.m.**

### Save the Date!!

**Martin Luther  
King, Jr. Day!!**

**January 16, 2011**

**MCPS- No School**



### We're Going To Be Published!!

All of the 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes are having their written work published through a website called

[www.studenttreasures.com](http://www.studenttreasures.com).

This company produces hardbound books for students and the 4<sup>th</sup> grade has been working tirelessly on their writing. Each class will have published works in poetry, realistic fiction, informative writing, state reports (science), and ecosystems adaptation. We will also be purchasing these books for the main media center to have on hand for all students to read at their leisure. In addition, we are going to find out more information on how to make these books become available as accelerated reader books that the students can take tests on!!! Great work 4<sup>th</sup> grade!!

### CONTACT INFO

As always, please contact us with any questions at 301-649-8051 or at the following:

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*4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher Mission  
Statement: We will inspire all  
fourth grade students to become  
life-long learners and to achieve  
their goals both academically and  
socially.*