

Good afternoon, families! We hope everyone was able to enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday break!

\*Classroom **spelling bee** will be Wednesday, November 30, 2016.

\*Our boys & girls **basketball teams** have their first home game this Thursday at 4:15pm vs. Daniel Wertz in the gym!

\*Our **winter party** will be on Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, 1-2pm. If you are willing to plan the party (mainly some snacks and 2-3 activities usually), please let us know. Also, let us know if you are willing to help out by sending in items or by coming in to help that day.

\*Next week, the students will have the opportunity to buy Christmas gifts at Jenny's Penguin Patch **holiday shop**. The gifts range from 25 cents to \$10. The students brought home a paper with details. Mrs. Nance's homeroom will go to the shop on Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> 1:30-2pm. Mrs. Curl's will go on Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 1:30-2pm.

\*\*If you are willing to VOLUNTEER to help PTA with this event for the kids, please go to this link: [www.volunteersignup.org/WLPB7](http://www.volunteersignup.org/WLPB7) (Santa shop)

\*A **Breakfast with Santa** event is being held at WT on Saturday, Dec 10<sup>th</sup>, 8-12 in the cafeteria and gym. The cost is \$5, and includes breakfast and pictures with Santa. The event will also include vendors from Thirty-One, Scentsy, Home Team Swag, and other handmade crafts. Some students already brought the form home, while others left it in their mailbox yesterday. RSVP by Monday, 12/5 with form & payment.

\*\*If you are willing to VOLUNTEER to help PTA with this event for the kids, please go to this link: <https://www.volunteersignup.org/Q9AJE> (Santa breakfast)

\*In **Math**, we started our first Fractions unit today, which covers Fraction Number Sense. It is a tough one for many students, especially if they do not know their multiplication facts fluently. It will cover:

- equivalent fractions
- simplifying fractions
- common denominators
- comparing & ordering fractions & mixed numbers

This is all before winter break! The test will be Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>. The math page of the website ([www.NanceNinjas.com](http://www.NanceNinjas.com)) already has more details and lots of examples, tutorials, games, and other links on these topics for use at home. Students may always use workbook pages and textbook pages, even if they are not assigned as "homework". There are 2 pages for each lesson: one "Reteach" and one "Practice". Today, we worked on 9-1 (Equivalent Fractions) in the workbook. They could choose which level they were more comfortable with. If they choose to finish it tonight, I will go over it with them tomorrow. Tomorrow, we will move on to 9-2 (Simplifying Fractions).

This section is the foundation of the following units that cover Adding & Subtracting fractions and mixed numbers (which will be right after winter break), and Multiplying & Dividing fractions & mixed numbers (mid-January into February). If students have a strong grasp of the Number Sense topics, the later units are much less stressful for them.

\*The students have a **DARE essay** due Wednesday. It is the final requirement for DARE class. The DARE graduation will be held on Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. As stated earlier, it is not a big deal, and parents are not expected to come. They are welcome to, though! It is a small "ceremony" where Officer Spradlin speak to the kids about everything they covered, a few students read their essays, and all of them

receive their certificate. They will receive a tshirt that morning. They WILL NOT receive a certificate or tshirt if they do not submit the essay!

## **READING / ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**

***In Reading***, students will take a test on Friday over main idea and supporting details of a nonfiction text. The standards listed below will also be on the assessment. 5.RN.2.1 Quote accurately from a text when drawing on inferences from the text.

5.RN.2.2 Determine two or more main ideas of a text. Explain how the main ideas are supported by key details.

5.RN.4.1 Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support claims in a text.

5.RV.2.1 Select and apply text features to determine the meaning of unknown words.

***In Writing/ ELA***, students will continue to work on their informational reports on their legendary leader, Google slides, and 2 minute presentation.

I sent home a paper version of the wax museum items, but I am also adding the link for you to see.

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1XmvfJ32RE\\_U0AoQUjaQMUJAaRnErU\\_Jd\\_k5MWzu--yE/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1XmvfJ32RE_U0AoQUjaQMUJAaRnErU_Jd_k5MWzu--yE/edit?usp=sharing)

Thank you!

Sincerely,  
Cassie Curl

**Simone Nance, Ed. D.**

West Terrace Elementary  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade Team