December 3, 2012

Dear Families,

One favorite thing in fifth grade has been when the children are mad their time is up for some subjects which is how I am feeling about it being December already!

Next Friday is our wax museum open house. So, please expect LOTS of practice to begin Friday and continue until next Friday. *Costumes are recommended, but optional.* The best ones are simple and no or low cost. (My own son used his own clothes and a hat purchased from Goodwill for $1, and made a great looking Wilbur Wright.) Please do continue to have conversations about history.

Your child **may** also bring a bank home to decorate. Unlike previous Wax Museum we WILL NOT have buttons to start speeches but coins or bills. Any coin or bill will start the wax figure’s speech! The kids can then add their income to their individual camp fund. They are very excited about this **new feature**!!

The first day of winter falls conveniently on the day before winter break. Our class will be enjoying a few winter fun activities that day. One that needs your help is a book exchange (what else would you do when the wind chill is too low to be outside). Later this week your child will bring home a book order filled out by their secret student. You’ll need to assist them in selecting 5 dollars or less worth of books for their secret student. Please have these returned by Friday. If you prefer online you’ll have until Monday, December 10. THANK YOU!!!

Dates to Remember

**December 7 Have book exchange book order complete**

December 14       Wax Museum
December 21 Winter Fest
Dec. 24-Jan. 4      NO SCHOOL for Winter Break
**January    All Month Crazy Coin Contest for Author Visit in March**
January 14 Chicago Parent Meeting at 5:30pm, in the Anchor
January 21    Records Day, School for teachers only

The students are very excited to welcome Kara to our class this week!

As I mentioned during conferences our class uses the Ten Marks website for most of our math practice. You can sign up to view your child’s reports too. Just use the directions you received at conferences or in last week’s red bag. If you need another copy, just email me and I’ll send it out to you.

REMINDERS

* Our class website is more current than these newsletters if you want more information. Also please let me know what to add if you ever cannot find something. This is my first attempt with a class site.
* We will be taking a 22 mile trip at the end of the school year. So getting a few mile trip in is good for everyone.
* Sleep-overs are another thing to practice. If your child has never slept away from you the parent, now is a good time to try it out with grandparents or friends in a familiar environment before we travel to the Museum of Science and Industry for the snoozeum experience.
* Talk to you about their learning while they are showing you their agenda and having you initial! Every repetition of their learning makes it stronger. Con
* Notice the students should be reading a total for 30 minutes or more a day: at least 20 minutes silent and at least 10 aloud.

Enjoy these wonderful kids!

Sincerely,

Patti Walcott

pwalcott@zps.org, Office 748-3375, Voicemail 748.4777x2719, mrswalcott.weebly.com