Dear Parents,

Thank you to everyone who attended parent-teacher conferences. If you have questions or concerns please let us know.

Please be on the lookout for many graded items coming home in Friday Folders today.

Winter Weather:
Please make sure your child is bringing appropriate clothing to go outside each day. Any time the wind chill or “feels like” temp is 15 degrees or below, we will not go outside for recess. If the temp is between 15 and 20, the office will have discretion based on the following factors: wind, sunshine or clouds, and precipitation. Please make sure your child is bringing appropriate clothing to go outside each day.

Tuesday November 26 is the last day of school before Thanksgiving break. Have a great break and a happy Thanksgiving! Safe travels to those who are headed out of town.

Wednesday, December 4 is an early dismissal at 12:50.

Winter Open House has been set for Friday, December 20. The 5th Grade time is 11:15
Other Grade Level Times are:  
9:00 – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade  
9:30 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade  
10:00 – Kindergarten  
10:20 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade  
10:30 – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade  
11:15 – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Winter Room Parties are from 2:00-2:30 on Friday, December 20. 5-Earls and 5-Holman have party planners. If you would like to be a party planner for 5-Wilcoxon or Everett pleas contact your homeroom teacher.

5th Grade has adopted the Central Missouri Honor Flight to support for the holiday season. This group takes monetary donations to organize trips and transports veterans to Washington, D.C. to visit and reflect at their memorials. World War II survivors and senior veterans are given top priority for these trips. We will begin accepting contributions after Thanksgiving break. Contributions will be accepted thru December 20<sup>th</sup>. Thank you, in advance, for any contribution that you make to this worthwhile endeavor.
For more information you can visit their website at: http://centralmissourihonorflight.com/

Reading:
Please make sure that all kids are reading at least 20 minutes every night(All kids should be doing this for homework). We are entering that time of year where the biggest losses seem to happen, and are also about
to hit the next testing window, which is the one they use to start sorting out middle school placement. Please help us try to stay on track.

**Social Studies: Mrs. Wilcoxson**
We have wrapped up our study of Native Americans. The kids worked hard in their group taking notes and created a poster on their region of study. These are hanging in the 5th grade hallway. Their graded note packets will go home this week in Friday in folders. Suitcases are also coming home this week.

Our next unit is Exploration. We began learning about European explorers that discovered a part of North America. We will use chapters 3-4 in the textbook to start our inquiry and will continue with many trade books. The students will be researching an explorer on their own and will take notes and present it to the class as they finish.

**Science: Mr. Earls**
We are finished with the ecosystem specific objectives and the tests should be coming home today in *Friday Folders*. We are now moving into a mini animal (consumer) unit. We will now be classifying animals into their two main groups: the Vertebrates and the Invertebrates. We will begin by going through the confusing world of invertebrates together. Students need to know that these are animals with no backbone. They also need to know that arthropods are the largest group of invertebrates. We will be doing some research on some specific invertebrates which will become part of a project we will be doing that will cover both vertebrates and invertebrates. We will then begin focusing on vertebrate animals; animals with backbones. Students will need to know the body covering, how the babies develop, if the animal is warm or cold blooded, and how the animal breathes for mammals, fish, birds, reptiles and amphibians. We will be reinforcing structural and behavioral adaptations that were covered in 4th grade as well.

**Math: Mrs. Everett**
Recently we have been focusing on:
- Reporting remainders as a fraction
- Placing fractions on a number line and comparing fractions using a number line
- Changing from fractions greater than one (improper fractions) to a mixed number, and from a mixed number to a fraction
- Estimating answers to fraction addition and subtraction problems, using benchmarks of zero, ½, and one

Coming Up:
- Finding a common denominator to add and subtract fractions with different denominators

Attached with this e-newsletter is the practice test and answer key for the Unit 3 Fraction Concepts test. I hope to give the test the week before winter break, and I will confirm the date closer to that time.

**Writing: Ms. Holman**
At the end of our first trimester, we used some of our writing classes to engage in self-reflections about our work in our classes with our different rotation teachers. Students were asked to reflect on their success ready work habits, effort and academic performances. To do this, students wrote letters to their families from the perspectives of their core subject teachers. These letters were either shared with families during their Parent/Teacher Conference, copied and sent home in this week’s Friday Folder or placed and written about in your child’s Writer’s Notebook! You can imagine how fun it was for us teachers to read these letters and see the students’ thoughts through their lenses!
In addition, our most recent spelling test has been graded and can be found in this week’s Friday Folder. The words for this test were chosen in response to the need for work with these words after taking the recent social studies’ continent and ocean test. Our next list of spelling words will be given to students on the Monday following Thanksgiving break.

Have a great weekend!

Sincerely,

The 5th Grade Team
Fairview Elementary School
Brian Earls
Laurie Everett
Tiffany Holman
Renee Wilcoxson