Dear Parents,

Thank you for everyone who was able to attend open house and to those who sent in and came in to help out with parties today. We hope everyone has a great break and enjoys the holidays. Safe travels to those of you who are headed out of town!

School resumes Monday, January 6.

Choir
Choir Goes to the MMEA conference on January 23. There is an optional practice on Saturday, January 4 from 11am-2pm.
Choir members are all meeting together in the afternoons on Thursdays from 3:25 to 4:30 until the Tan-Tara trip on Thursday January 23

CPS Fine Arts Extravaganza
Wednesday, January 8 we will be attending the Fine Arts Extravaganza. We will be leaving right after normal arrival time and returning before the end of the school day. Please make sure your child arrives at school on time that day. Students will need to either bring a lunch from home or pick up a sack lunch from the cafeteria to take with them.

Instrument Enrollment Nights for next year are at 6:30 on:
   Thursday, January 9 at Gentry,
   Tuesday, January 14 at Lange
   Thursday, January 16 at Smithton
Students may attend whichever is more convenient or fits into your schedule. Which school you are scheduled to go to does not matter for this.

Mini Courses
Mini courses will begin the week of January 13. Enrollment will begin online on Thursday, January 2. The course catalogs and instructions were given out this week and should have come home yesterday or be coming today. The Google doc with information can be found here: 2020 Mini Course Descriptions

Reading:
This is the time of year that we see our biggest losses in this area. Please try to give your kids reminders to continue to 20 minutes every day.

Science: Mr. Earls
We have now begun a unit called Water Planet. This unit covers the Solar System, Heat, and Weather and Matter. We have started with the solar system portion where the main objectives are:
Sequence the moon phases in the correct order (we have been working on this since the first week of school, so I am hoping with a little review we should be good for a quiz).
Describe the physical features of the planet Earth that allow life to exist.
Compare and contrast features of the Sun, Earth, Moon and other planets.

**Social Studies: Mrs. Wilcoxson**
We finished our study of the European Explorers. The students took notes on their explorer, wrote a summary, and presented to the class. Our next unit will be discussing the differences between the New England, Middle, and Southern colonies. The students are reading the textbook and taking notes as they read. They are completing a comparison chart on the colonies and will also be making a poster to show the differences. Posters will be hanging in the hall as kids finish.
Wishing you all a Happy Holiday with your family and a Happy New Year!

**Math: Mrs. Everett**
We will begin Unit 4 when we return from break. Topics covered are:
Reading and writing decimals
Writing decimals in expanded form
Comparing and ordering decimals
Rounding decimals to the nearest whole number, tenths, and hundredths
Plotting points on a coordinate grid
Using a coordinate grid to solve problems
Adding and subtracting decimals using a visual model and by stacking and lining up the decimals

Happy Holidays. Enjoy the break!

Sincerely,

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