Dear Parents,

On Wednesday, January 8 we will be attending the CPS Fine Arts Extravaganza. All students will need to either bring a lunch from home for this day or pre-order a sack lunch from the cafeteria. **We need to turn in a count for this next Thursday, December 12.** Please discuss your preference with your child by then.

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 20th. 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/](http://centralmissourihonorflight.com/)

**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.

**Winter Open House** is Friday, December 20. The 5th Grade time is 11:15

Other Grade Level Times are:
- 9:00 – 1st Grade
- 9:30 – 3rd Grade
- 10:00 – Kindergarten
- 10:20 – 2nd Grade
- 10:30 – 4th Grade
- 11:15 – 5th Grade

**Winter Room Parties** are from 2:00-2:30 on Friday, December 20.

**Agendas:**
Please look for agendas to come home and sign them. Also help us persuade those who have quit writing things down in them to begin doing so again. They should be writing a math homework down normally on Monday through Thursday and should also be writing down to read 20 minutes for each of these days.

**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 happen. Please help us try to stay on track.

**Social Studies:** Mrs. Wilcoxson
The kids have been reading Chapter 3 in the textbook and learning about European explorers. The kids have been researching an explorer, taking notes, and are writing summaries about their person. They will present these to the class next week. Our next unit will be learning about the Thirteen Colonies.

**Science: Mr. Earls**
We have been working on an animal packet project the last 2 weeks. We will be finishing vertebrate characteristics to begin next week and hopefully finishing the project by next Friday.

**Writing: Ms. Holman**
During the last several writing classes, students have been writing an essay on the things that they are most grateful for at this point in their life. Writers have been using an organizational process to set up the structure of their essay and put their thoughts together cohesively. As students create the body of their essay, they are being challenged to really think about the things that give them feelings of thankfulness and appreciativeness. As they do this, they are reminded that good writers write about things that they know a lot about, things that they can write a lot of detail about within a given paragraph. Hence, it has been interesting seeing what comes up in these essays are things that students are grateful for as fifth graders! Copies of essays will come home upon completion! I hope your holiday break was filled with many joyful and grateful moments with your family and friends!

**Math: Mrs. Everett**
Recently we have been focusing on:
- Estimating answers to fraction addition and subtraction problems, by rounding fractions to the nearest half
- Changing from improper fractions to a mixed number, and from a mixed number to a fraction
- Using models (fraction circles, number lines, and drawings) to add and subtract fractions and mixed numbers, including story problems
- Solving mixed number addition and subtraction word problems, with the same denominators
- Finding equivalent fractions
- Adding and subtracting fractions with different denominators

We will have a test over Unit 3 Fraction Concepts on Monday 12/16. Practice Test is attached again!

Have a great weekend!

Sincerely,

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