



December 15, 2023

Dear Sixth Grade Parents,

What an exciting week it's been. Your children did such a wonderful job singing in the Christmas program last night. Today, 6th graders did the mug exchange in the school hall and it was great to see the spirit of giving enacted in our classes. Even more special was another meeting with our 2nd grade buddies. Mr. Williams remembers his buddy when he was a lad at HRS. This is a truly magical tradition, unique to HRS, that will be impactful for both 2nd and 6th graders.

We hope your families have a wonderful break. Mr Williams will be playing a lot of music. He will also enjoy mellow days on the couch with his wife, reading good novels and watching movies. Mrs. Chido plans to go skiing a few times, enjoy movies on the couch with the kids, and baking cookies. We hope your break is filled with joy and relaxation.

Thank you so much for the generous holiday and birthday gifts (Mr. Williams 12/21) you gave us this year. We are very grateful to you, and it's been a joy having your children in class this year. We love how generous our school community is!

Curriculum Updates:

Math (Mrs. H):

Monday: *No school

Tuesday: *6.1 Using the % Proportion

Wednesday: *6.2 Find the % of a # Mentally

Thursday: *6.3 Using the % Eq.

Friday: *6.4 % of Change

Math (Mrs. C): We will begin Chapter 5, Integers and the Coordinate Plane. Students will learn to order integers and how to plot integers on the coordinate plane.

Math (Mr. W): We will finish the last two lessons of chapter four when we return from break. We will also review the whole chapter and hopefully begin the chapter four test by Friday. Students are learning how to multiply and divide fractions.

ELA: Please be sure your child is reading their book for our next book report that will be due on January 12th. They should be done reading by January 4th. When we get back from break we will start Unit 3 Vocabulary, work on the iPhone Apps book report and have a few reviews in IXL.

Social Studies: After the Christmas break, we will begin Lesson 11, Geography and the Early Settlements of Egypt, Kush and Canaan. Students will take part in an activity where they use their body to model the physical geography of ancient Egypt, Kush, and Canaan to learn about how environmental factors influenced early settlement in these areas. They will also learn to identify and explain the importance of three environmental factors in a landscape, such as bodies of water, landforms, plant life, and weather.

Pyramid Project

On Tuesday (12/12), students received the rubric and handout for the Pyramid Project and we used the entire class period to go through the rubric, look at past examples, and answer any question. I gave this information out ahead of time in case anyone wants more time over the Christmas vacation to plan or build the pyramid. Please know that students DO NOT have to begin this project until the first week of January. (Also, I won't be available to answer questions over the Christmas break about this project.) The Pyramid Project is due on January 26, 2024.

Science: Students continue the Living Systems unit by investigating vascular plants. Students will design and conduct an experiment to discover how water gets to all cells in a celery plant. They will identify the structures vascular plants have for transporting water and sugar to all the cells in the plant.

Religion: 6th graders will be learning about Mary the Mother of God and the Luminous Mysteries. Students will make Luminous Mystery booklets to demonstrate understanding of Luminous Mysteries.

Calendar Updates:

Dec 14th - Christmas Program

Dec 15th - Noon Dismissal (No PM BASE)

Dec 18th-Jan 1st - Christmas Break

Jan 2nd - School Resumes

Jan 12th - 8th Grade Pizza

Jan 15th - No School, Martin Luther King Jr Day (No BASE)

Jan 24th - Noon Dismissal

We hope you have a wonderful and relaxing Christmas break,

Mrs. Chiodo and Mr. Williams