

# Grade 5/6 Newsletter



November was a very busy month. Students worked extremely well together to organize and run our bake sale. The kindness, compassion and team work displayed was phenomenal. Thank you very much for the generous donations. It was definitely a group effort.

We continued to focus on social skills and healthy eating habits during our Breakfast Club last week. We had scrumptious granola bars, juice, a fruit tray and homemade biscuits. Again, your generosity was greatly appreciated. Mrs. Shuert has offered to organize the next Breakfast Club on Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup>.

In **mathematics**, we have just completed our unit on data management. Students were able to make various graphs (line, bar, circle, pictographs, scattered plot, Carroll and Venn diagrams). As well they calculated the mean, median and mode). A few students found this unit challenging and they are welcome to attend Math Club from 8:35-8:50 this week. Our next unit will be measurement. Students will be busy calculating time changes, perimeter and circumferences. A unit test will be administered in a couple of weeks. Students can visit the Nelson website, [www.mathK8.nelson.com](http://www.mathK8.nelson.com), to review the concepts for this chapter. Following measurement we will be studying numeration. We will be calculating addition and subtraction problems. As well, we will be using these skills to problem solve challenging questions. Over the holidays students are encouraged to play math games and review addition and multiplication facts.



In **language**, we are continuing to delve further into fiction books. Students will identify the features of narratives (setting, main characters, problem, solution and plot) through small group discussions and using graphic organizers. To help your child review, please have him or her explain these ideas and encourage discussions about the novel he or she is reading. Every night, students should be reading for at least twenty minutes. In writing, we will be focusing on descriptive words and phrases. Finally, students should be mulling over speech topics. Speeches will be presented at the end of January.

In **social studies**, students are completing their biographies on a Prime Minister (grade 5) or a world leader (grade 6). Most of the work will be completed at school during our computer lab time. We will begin our presentations at the end of next week.



In **science**, we are just finishing our unit on Diversity of Living Things and we will be starting our unit on Electricity (grade 6). We will be conducting many experiments involving circuits. Conservation of Energy will be the next unit grade 5 students will be studying.

We are just starting our unit on European handball in **gym** and our next activity will be scooterball. This is a great way to develop upper body strength! In **health**, students have complete wonderful posters outlining various safety issues. If you are in the school, please check them out. They are displayed on the hall across from our class. As well, we have a fabulous **art** display of Emily Carr inspired trees just outside our class on our bulletin board.



In extra curricular activities, several students have enjoyed playing volleyball on the school teams. We have just finished the season. Both the Boys and Girls teams improved tremendously over the season. We are very proud of all our athletes for their great effort and excellent representation of Smith School. Also Mrs. Hartig has been working with a few students from our class with Bells and Whistles. They are preparing for the play Annie. A permission form went home early this week so the entire school will have a chance to travel to Niagara Falls to enjoy this wonderful performance on Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>.

As a fun way to celebrate the season, we will be randomly selecting a “Secret Pal”. The first week, we will secretly make and give a card to our pal. Second week, we will give a special treat (a small, nut free, chocolate bar or candy) and the final week, we will exchange a present (must be less than \$5 dollars).

Hopefully, I will see you at our Christmas Concert on December 16th. With Mrs. Hartig's and Mrs. Pyper-Coombs help, our students have been working very hard to be prepared for this night. Also, I would like to extend the warmest wishes to you and your family and I hope you have a wonderful holiday and I wish you and your family all the best in the New Year!

Sincerely,  
Miss Flynn



