



January 11, 2012

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year and may 2012 bring you and your family much happiness. How quickly we have returned to our routines, so let me tell you about what will be happening in the grade 4/5 classroom this month. Two important pieces of information should have arrived home this week. Please look for them if your child has not shared them with you yet. First, the permission form for our trip to Medieval Times was given to your child today. Although the trip is on February 23, we need to confirm our reservation and provide payment in advance. If you would like to assist us as a supervisor, please forward your name. Do not include your payment at this point. At present we are hoping for 12 parent volunteers from the junior grades. That number may change depending on the number of student tickets we require. We will keep you informed. The students are really looking forward to this trip.

As well, your child has been provided with a booklet to assist them in preparing a 3 - 5 minute oral presentation. Each student brainstormed a number of possible speech topics, and with your assistance they have been asked to select one. Throughout this month, your child will learn how to write the introduction, body and closing for their topic. We will also practice presentation skills. Your child will be expected to do some of the written work and presentation rehearsal at home. Please note that this is not a large research project and that your child should do this assignment independently. Of course parental suggestions may be welcomed.

We continue with data management in math, then will move onto multiplication and division facts. I have switched the facts on Reflex Math to multiplication practice for all the students. Your child should take some time each evening to review these basic facts and improve their fluency.

The grade four students are at the final stage of preparing their homemade musical instrument for presenting next week. Thank you to all the parents who helped gather the necessary materials to support your child's learning. We will move onto the study of pulleys and gears before month's end. Grade five continues with energy conservation.

In French, the students will be performing their plays, "Trois Petits Cochons" on the 25, 26, and 27th. This is entertaining to watch, and it is amazing how much French they have learned already.

For extra-curricular activities this month, your child may sign up for chess, basketball and knitting club. Please encourage your child to enrich their school experience by trying something new.

I hope this keeps you informed of the happenings in our classroom. If you have any questions, please jot a note in your child's agenda.

Working together to educate your child,

*C. Mojeski*