



February 1, 2012

Dear Parents,

I can not believe I am writing another newsletter so soon after the last one. Where did January go? Time has gone quickly because we have been very busy in the grade 4/5 classroom.

We are well into our Media Studies unit. Advertising in the *Hamilton Spectator* has been analyzed, with particular focus on effective display ads. As a final demonstration of your child's learning, he/she is designing an ad to promote an upcoming event at Hamilton Place. All ads will be submitted to the *Spectator* and their client will select one to be published in the newspaper on Feb. 24 or 25. Student photos will also be included in that issue, so please watch for a permission form to arrive home soon.

As you are well aware, oral presentation has been our other **language** focus. The students will begin to present their speeches next week, starting on Tuesday. We will draw names for order of presentations, and your child will know what day to present. You may certainly come to listen as your child shares his/her speech.

Everyone is excited as our Medieval Times trip fast approaches. We will have a visit (Feb. 21) from a cast member prior to our trip. Our class forwarded ten questions that will be answered when our guest arrives. This trip will introduce our **Social Studies** unit on past civilizations. The fours will study the Middle Ages, while the fives learn about ancient civilizations. If you would like to enrich your child's education in this area, please note that the ROM currently is hosting an exhibition on the early Mayans until April 9. Both Miss Gretsinger and I have attended, and we certainly learned more as new archaeological finds continue to be discovered.

In **math**, we are moving from the basic multiplication facts to two digit multiplication. A variety of strategies are being used in the classroom, and they may not look familiar to you. Ask your child to teach you. Division will follow. By month's end, I hope to address 3-D geometry. (Please continue to review basic multiplication facts on a daily basis.)

The grade four students have started to work with pulleys and gears in **science**, while the fives learn more about energy conservation.

Finally, report cards arrive home next week. After reviewing the comments with your child, please assist him/her in setting a goal for the final term.

I hope this letter keeps you up to date. If you have any questions, please jot a note in your child's agenda and I will respond as quickly as possible.

Working together to educate your child,

C. Mojeski