

# 4th Grade News & Notes

Week of January 25-29

## Upcoming Events

\*Thursday, February 4: Ice Skating @ Brentwood

## What's Happening at School?

**Math** - On Monday, the students took their test for Chapter 5. This chapter covered how to write & solve expressions, how to write & solve equations, how to identify missing or extra information in a word problem, how to identify & extend patterns, and how to find the rule for a given function table. After reviewing their tests on Wednesday, the students took a quick pretest to identify what they may already know about the concepts that will be covered in our next chapter. Finally, the students had another opportunity to demonstrate their mastery of math facts (addition, subtraction, multiplication, & division) through our monthly timed tests. **Multiplication and division facts will play a HUGE part in our next 3 chapters.**

**Reading** - The class read and discussed a short story of redemption entitled *One Thousand Dollars*. The story tells of a young man who is left \$1,000 in his uncle's will, and he must account for how he spends it, be it foolish or wise. After quite a bit of work with similes and metaphors, we also expanded our experience with figurative language this week by learning about two new concepts: imagery and hyperbole. We read and discussed the tale of *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*. While reading the story, the kids tried to identify as many examples of figurative language as they could. Finally, we discussed some elements of mysteries and began our new read aloud, *The Calder Game*. As always, the students spent time reading independently during our Readers Workshop.

**Language** - The class reviewed and practiced three more comma rules used for interruptions, interjections, and direct address. The classed was also reintroduced to the wonderful world of pronouns, which many already seem to be comfortable using. Finally, the kids were given a good amount of time to work on the rough drafts of their new narratives, which will hopefully integrate the use of theme, dialogue, and similes/metaphors.

**Science** - *Information Not Provided*

**Performing Arts** - This week students practiced reading play scripts, but the highlight of the week was our school election. On Wednesday of this week, all 4th graders voted in 2nd term elections for the Student Legislative Body (SLB), and 4 of the

5 eligible students ran for office - very impressive! Those running for office were required to present a poster, video, or speech to all students in grades K - 6 in the Great Hall. The students take the elections seriously because they know that laws that are passed really are put into effect. They are learning how to participate in a democracy. The 4th grade representatives, who just finished serving, helped run the election as election officials; they took part in the process by checking in voters at registration, helping them understand the ballot, and maintaining order and regulations in "Election Central."

**Spanish** - *Information Not Provided*

**Studio** - *Information Not Provided*

**P.E.** - This week in P.E., the students worked on team handball. They also worked on ice skating skills.