

Fifth Grade News



December, 2009
Ms. Marta's Class

December Birthdays!
Carolyn- December 12th

Important Dates to

Remember in December:

- 3rd- Rocks & Minerals Test
- 10th- Proposals due for Science Fair
- 11th- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 16th-Electricity Quiz
- 17th- Unit 5 Math Test
- 18th- **LAST DAY OF CLASSES!**

We have a lot of things that we are working on this month! We will be working hard in school, as well as having fun!



Theme:

We are beginning our next Science theme—Electricity and Magnets. Before we go away for the holidays, we will be studying Energy, alternative sources of energy, simple, parallel and series circuits, and insulators and conductors. Also, students will be choosing their topic and question which they will study for our Science Fair! We will really begin working on the project after Christmas vacation.

Math:

We have begun our first unit on fractions, Unit 5. Students will gain a better understanding of fractions—mixed numbers, improper fractions, equivalent fractions, etc... This unit can be more challenging than the units we have done up until this point. There are many skills that are new or developing. Students will need to work hard!

Reading:

We are reading our third shared reading book, *Walk Two Moons*. One of my personal favorites, this book is well-written, with lots of descriptive and figurative language. It is more challenging than the other books that we have read, which presents even more opportunity for learning! Students have been challenged to read at least 3 independent reading books in this coming trimester.

Writing:

Students finished their first writing piece—a personal narrative, and turned it into a comic strip, learning about how we often need to change the way we write based on our purpose and audience. Students self and peer assessed their writing pieces, using the 6 traits of writing. We are beginning our new writing piece—A descriptive piece about a place or a person!