



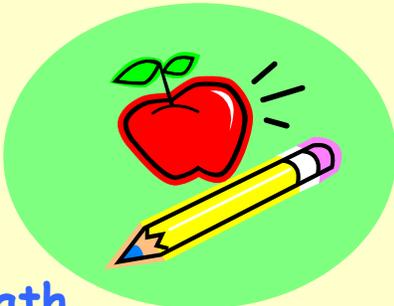
Notre Dame Catholic
Elementary School

Mrs. McPherson's January Newsletter

Welcome Back!

I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday season. This year will bring exciting and new opportunities for our classroom community! I look forward to helping students work towards achieving their personal and academic resolutions for the year.

As always, if there is anything I can do additionally to help, do not hesitate to let me know.



Math

Grade sevens and eights are beginning their math units which both focus on Measurement in respect to the outlined curriculum for each grade. We are currently learning/reviewing how to convert metric units of measurement (kilograms/grams, kiloliters/liters, kilometers/meters) and will ultimately move towards measuring area, surface area and volume. I ask parents to encourage students' learning by providing opportunities to connect measurement to the world around them (ex. building/constructing, measuring for cooking, etc.). This aides in teaching children that what they are learning is practical and valuable to everyday life, while increasing student engagement and understanding.

Language

To mark the new year the class has been introduced to a short story called *New Years Stockings*. This short story pairs well with our previous literature study of *A Christmas Carol*, as many text-to-text connections can be made. I chose this short story because it encourages students to analyze how traditions are inherently connected to our own culture and history which provides many opportunities for text-to-self and text-to-world connections. Parents can help apply what students are learning by talking and exploring how your culture influences what you celebrate and how you ultimately celebrate it.

Geography

Grade 8 students are learning how spatial significance in geography determines the importance of a place or region. They explore the connections that exist between the geographical location and physical characteristics of a site and analyze the unique relationships that exist in and between the natural and human environments in a particular place.

Geography Continued...

Grade 7 students are analyzing aspects of the extraction/harvesting and use of natural resources in different regions of the world and assessing ways of preserving these resources. Students will then use the geographic inquiry process to investigate issues related to the impact of the extraction/harvesting and/or use of natural resources around the world from a geographic perspective. Students will ultimately demonstrate an understanding of the sources and use of different types of natural resources and of some of the effects of the extraction/harvesting and use of these resources.

Reminders to Students

- Bring gym clothes and proper shoes for gym
- Grade 8's: return completed community service sheets



Reminders to Parents

1. Friday February 7 - Course Registrations due to Mrs. Poirier for Assumption
2. Friday February 21 - Camp Muskoka Second installment of \$154.15 due

Upcoming Events

- Jan 9th: ACS Course selection and workshop at Notre Dame (Gr.8)
- Jan 13th: Financial Literacy with Junior Achievement (all day) (Gr. 8)
- Jan 15th: School Mass (11:30)
- Jan 20th: PA DAY
- Jan 24th and 25th Tech Xploration at ACS (Gr. 8)

Thank You Students!

Special thanks to the Gr. 7 and 8 students for being so great! I look forward to the month ahead!

Also keep in mind... what would be a fun classroom pet???

Mrs. M