

4<sup>th</sup> Grade News  
February 16, 2017

I for one am glad break is upon us. It has not been the healthiest of weeks in 4<sup>th</sup> grade. We've had cases of colds, viruses, and even strep affected a couple of students. For once it doesn't involve me. It's truly remarkable, I know. However, Mr. G. ,who is never ever sick, has the flu so the rest of the family is on preventative meds. Disease seems to be everywhere these days. I've been telling parents watch for a fever, even those low-grade ones, and sore throats. I hope everyone recovers nicely and enjoys their winter break. I hear the weather is going to be in the 40's which seems like a heat wave.

After break, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be doing a community service project. Some of our reading groups were reading about food insecurity and local child hunger. We read how many people have jobs, but sometimes the amount made isn't enough to sufficiently supply a household with food. It's not just the homeless that go hungry. The students expressed a desire to help and I spoke to our food pantry about this. As a result of my meeting with them, I would like to do a food drive for the month of March. Mrs. McGraw was inspired by our idea and would like to do a school wide food drive called "St. Patrick's Day Wear Green to Fight Hunger". I will be collecting starting March 1<sup>st</sup> so if they bring in something beforehand, they can still dress down for St. Patrick's Day. The Food Pantry is asking for can goods. They mentioned soups, soup broth, Spagettios, canned fruit, etc. They do not need pasta. I saw that they have plenty. I will warn the kids not to raid your cupboards. That has happened to me. We appreciate anything you can spare to send in.

This week was a busy one and here is a glimpse of our subjects:

ELA: This week we were finishing up work on our novel *Terabithia*. Looking ahead to when we come back, they will start their essay on Monday describing their *Terabithia*. That's due 3/3. Starting on 3/3 they will start building their *Terabithia* or whatever they name their magic kingdom. This project will be due 3/13. I usually give 2 weekends to do it. It is supposed to be fun and creative. Parents, you can help but remember it is their magic kingdom. I will send information home on the essay and the project Monday the 27th.

SS: We have almost finished reading Chapter 5. This week we learned about banks and how the economy grew. More so, how the population of NY grew and that we had to move west. We spoke about the Iroquois Seneca leader Red Jacket and how he sold us central NY for 100,000. We talked about the *Genesee Road* and how it starts in Utica and ends in Buffalo. We read about how all these cities like Rochester, Buffalo, Syracuse (known for its salt mines) and Utica became settled. Tomorrow, we will cover the War of 1812 and finish the readings. When we come back, plenty of review and refreshing. No test until the week of the 6<sup>th</sup>.

Religion: We finished up the Beatitudes introduction and the test went really well. The next chapter we will start the week we come back and it adds to this by discussing justice and fairness.

Math and Science: Check Mrs. Spera's and Mr. Barkamian's Websites.

Tests/ Items due:

Rough Draft of Essay due Tuesday 2/28 and Final due Friday 3/3. Information about what the essay needs will come home the Monday we get back. I want them to enjoy their break.

Events

2/20-2/24 Winter Break- No School

3/1 Ash Wednesday Mass at 9am- All are welcome

3/1 Dance Party with Mrs. G. and Miss K. begins

3/1-3/31 March Madness Raffle Drawings

3/17 Dress Down Day- Wear Green for Hunger

3/20 Professional Development Day- No School

3/31 Box Top Dress Down Day

I hope everyone has a great winter break! Thanks for your ongoing support at home.

Mrs. G.