

Dear 6th Grade Parents,

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and are enjoying your time off with family.

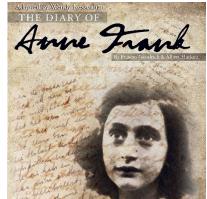


The week ahead is

packed with activities so it should fly by. By the time you read this though these events will be past. On Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup> we will be having our class Christmas party. Thank you in advance to all that donated items for this and thank you to Mrs. Vickery for help in coordinating this event. I hope the children enjoyed watching a couple of my favorite Christmas movies, "One Magic Christmas" and "It's a Wonderful Life". I know the kids see a black and white movie and immediately think it's probably old and boring, right? I hope they will like this one and I'm confident they will. Thanks Mrs. Shull for lending it to us.

Also, next week is the Advent program on the 13th and I'm sure they will do an awesome job singing. I'm sure you were proud of them.

In language arts, after the break, we will be reading a couple of plays in class. One of those is "Anne Frank". We will do a role play in class with that play. The children love to do this. I'll make sure anyone that wants a part gets a chance to show off their acting skills. I also intend on ramping up the writing. I'll be definitely giving them some writing prompts so they will be doing several writing assignments in class now. In Math, we will be starting Chapter 5 learning about positive and negative integers. In social studies, we will begin learning about ancient Egypt and in our studies weekly we will discuss some early communities throughout the world. In science, we will be starting the section on erosion in our books and in our science weeklies we will be learning more about gravity, forces and magnetism. They learned about these at Astrocamp so they should be very familiar with some of the concepts we will discuss. In religion, we will be discussing the wanderings of the Israelites and the conquest of Canaan.



This past week we have had several tests and your children have done well handling the load. It's been pretty front loaded because I didn't want a lot of testing the week before Christmas break. Some of the social studies and science testing can be difficult. For this reason, I issued a study sheet so they knew what to focus on. I hope this helped. I also let them use their books to get used to finding material in the books and the studies weeklies. Beginning in January, I no longer will allow open book for tests. They are really going to have to step it up in their studying prior to any test. I will continue to let them use the studies weekly though when quizzed on that material.

Thank you for bearing with me in December when things get a little hectic at school and in the classroom. There are many events going on and it can be a chore keeping up with everything. Thank you for understanding.

As always, please let me know if you have any questions or concerns of any type.

Again, I hope you all had a joyous Christmas and I wish you all the best in the year 2018.

Happy Birthday!!! Althea R·, January 21

God Bless, Mr. Urtz

Matthew 5., January 28



