

FOURTH GRADE  
**DECEMBER**



Dear 4th Grade Parents,

Here we are—the Christmas season is upon us. I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving with friends and family. We can now start getting into the Christmas spirit and I'll have my Christmas music playing in the classroom. As "Sam the Snowman" says, "I love this Christmassy time of year."

thank  
YOU



Just about an hour ago we returned from our trip to see "The Grinch" at the Old Globe in Balboa Park. I think the children really enjoyed it, I know I did. Thank you for allowing your children to experience this and thank you for those that chaperoned.

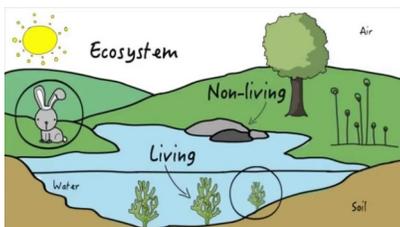
I want to thank each and every one of you for being on time for your conferences. This made everything go smoothly for us. If you ever want to talk with me please feel free to schedule a time to meet with me. We do not have to wait until our next conference if you feel the necessity to talk with me.



In language arts, we continue our reading of our "American Stories" section. The children do a short writing assignment after each story that is a part of their grade. I continue to stress to them the importance of rephrasing the question in their answer and to give a complete answer. Some have struggled with this so we continue working on it. We will also continue writing stories in class with the focus being on speeding up our time between rough and final copy.

In math, we are into the multiplication phase right now. They are learning to multiply with several digits and to mentally multiply numbers ending with 0. Soon we will begin division so the better they are at their multiplication the easier the division will be for them. Flash cards at this juncture of the year would be great for them to practice with. I've also been giving some of the students some advanced math sheets dealing with exponents. I don't expect them to know these and it is not testable but I have exposed the class to some more advanced math concepts. That way when they see it again in a couple years it won't be totally foreign to them.

<b>10 x 10</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>10 x 11</b>	<b>110</b>
<b>10 x 12</b>	<b>120</b>



In science, we finished up our chapter on ecosystems just before Thanksgiving break. We will review the chapter briefly when we return and have our chapter test shortly after that.

In social studies, we have been discussing some of the early inhabitants of California. I hope your child is showing you these Studies Weeklies so you can see what we are learning about. I tell them that when we are through with them they can bring them home. But they should also bring them home and show you which one we are working on. Their current event report on their news article is due to me on Friday, November 30th. This

**Studies**  
 **Weekly**<sup>®</sup>

can be typed or hand written neatly. They will be giving their oral report to the class the week of December 3rd or December 10th. Look for a schedule coming home by November 30th.



In religion, we have been discussing the different parts of the liturgical year. We will focus on Advent upon return from vacation.



**HOMEWORK  
TURNED IN**

One area in which some need to improve is homework completion. I do not believe in assigning a ton of homework so completing all of the week's homework should not be difficult. Homework completion is part of their responsible behavior grade. I'd hate to see a student that behaves perfectly in class drop in behavior because of their inability to turn in homework. Please let's work together to improve on this if your child is struggling here.

Thank you again to Mrs. Garay and Mrs. Tyssee for always assisting me in getting information to you. We will be having a little Christmas party before our Christmas break. Details will be forthcoming on that event.



Everything is going well in fourth grade this year. They are a fabulous group to work with.



Friday, December 7	Noon dismissal and Pearl Harbor Day
Tuesday, December 11	All school Mass 11:00am
Thursday, December 20	Advent program 6pm
Friday, December 21	Sing-along 11:30 Noon dismissal—No daycare
Monday, January 7, <b>2019 (really)</b>	Return to school



Caleb B. December 18

Lydia D. December 27

God bless,  
Mr. Urtz