

# FOURTH GRADE January

Dear 4th Grade Parents,



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

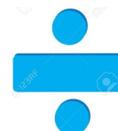
As usual at this time of year the week ahead is packed with activities so it should fly by. On Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> we will be having our class Christmas party. Thank you in advance for your help with the events going on this week. I hope the children enjoyed watching a couple of my favorite Christmas movies, "Christmas Shoes" 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.

Also, next week is the Advent program on the 20th 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 starting our "That's amazing" story theme. Included in this is a Caribbean Cinderella story. We will continue our response to literature writings after each story. Also, they will be working on a new writing prompt. I hope you enjoyed their "Christmas Wish" writing.

In Math, we began division before Christmas break and will continue working on more complex division problems. I have stressed how multiplication and division go hand in hand and the need for them to keep working on mastering their multiplication skills. The better they are at this the easier concepts will be for the next few years.



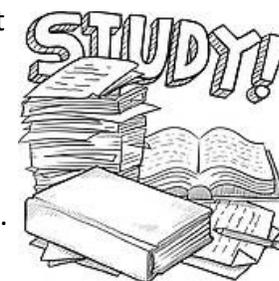
In social studies, we continue to learn about the early settlers of California. Soon they will be assigned their project on building a mission. I'm also trying to set up a field trip to a mission soon. I'll pass along more details as I firm this up.

In science, we have just begun learning about the different types of ecosystems like rainforests, deserts, coral reefs etc. We will be finishing this up around mid-January.



In religion, we will be discussing the Ten Commandments when we return from break.

As you know, for social studies and science they have been allowed to use their pamphlets, books and notes for the tests thus far. After break, they will still use their studies weeklies for social studies tests but for science they will not be able to use their books. I will start with letting them use notes but no text. From there we will progress to where they will not be allowed notes of textbooks. This means their studying for science tests will have to be more intense. Please keep this in mind when you see that they have science tests scheduled. On that note, please remember that I check homework each week. This is part of their grade in Math, Language Arts and responsible behavior. If they



# Homework

are not having their homework completed their grade will go down. This also includes the reading log check every other Friday. In the past I have said homework is

due Friday but if not finished they can have the weekend to finish and turn in Monday. Starting in January the homework will be due on Friday and anything after that will be counted as late. I'm changing this because I'm seeing too many students waiting until Monday then not turning it in.



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 2019.

Reminder— 4th grade school Mass is Tuesday, January 15th.

God Bless,

Mr. Urtz



**Danial Y. January 27**