

Mrs. J's Fourth Grade
Maxwell AFB Elementary School
Montgomery, Alabama 36112

NEWS: Update for Week of 12/15-- 12/19/08 CHRISTMAS WEEK

First, I would like to say thank you to each of you who kept my daughter and her new family in your thoughts and prayers. They are both doing so well. Thanks for your patience also!!

*It is hard to believe that Christmas is almost upon us!!! I am happy to announce that yesterday we made the quota of volunteers necessary to make our gingerbread houses next week. Your child is bringing home a sheet with the item/s that he/she has been asked to bring. Please do not substitute anything for the item assigned. We need each item – especially the graham crackers, powder (confectioner's) sugar, and meringue powder for the construction. Plain grahams are the best as they come in squares and do not seem to break up as easily. Please have those items here **NO LATER THAN TUESDAY** as we will set up in the math lab Tuesday after school. I will send home a note to each of you who have volunteered to help as to some kitchen tools we will need to use on Wednesday morning.*

Holiday Meal is on Wednesday, and we hope to see many of you there. We have all sorts of seasonal learning activities planned for next week, and our party/auction will be from 1:15 to 2:30 on Friday the 19th. Mrs. D. is organizing that. We are in need of an auctioneer if there are any volunteers that would enjoy helping out in that activity. We also could use any items that you would like to donate for the auction. I shall go this weekend to stock up on some items.

Thanks again to the parents that came and helped with the owl pellet project last Monday. I think the children learned a lot and enjoyed themselves. The Food Webs are due on Monday – many have already completed them. Any Thanksgiving stories or Informational stories (Hamster) that are not complete will only be accepted no later than Monday as the Thanksgiving story was already reported to you, and we have worked on and off on the Hamster story for 2 weeks.

Due to the holiday and the quarter ending, I have chosen to have the Analogies 11-15 Test on Tuesday instead of Wednesday, and Geography 11-15 on Wednesday instead of Thursday. It should have been on your child's assignment sheet today.

Please remember to continue encouraging your child to read – 12 books should be read by December 19(which is the end of the 2nd quarter) to meet standard of 25 books for 4th grade.

Please remember that Wednesday folders should be signed and returned no later than the end of the week – Friday.

Websites to enjoy at home: If you have some fun websites your child enjoys, send them to me!!!

<http://www.Innovationslearning.co.uk>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/numbers/wholenumbers/multiplication/problemsolving>
www.bgfl.org Explore this site. It works for division also by changing multiplication to division.

Google math magician – I was told it was great for learning math facts!

Another site we found is www.bbc.co.uk/schools/scienceclips

DATES TO REMEMBER:

December 16 – Choir Concert 5:30 p.m. – School Auditorium

December 17 – Making of Gingerbread Houses meet at 8:15 Math Lab

December 17 – Holiday Meal - our time is 11:05-11:35

December 19 – 9:45 Christmas Assembly – auditorium

Party/auction 1:15-2:30; Last day of classes 2008

ACADEMIC UPDATE 12/15—12/19/08

READING: UNIT V: Story: A PARAKEET NAMED DREIDEL. Key Strategy: Cause and Effect Construct thought Circles and Christmas Thought Circles, and oral skill work. Play dreidel, understand the custom of Hanukkah – audio visuals to enhance. Analogies 11-15 Test on Tuesday.

ENGLISH: Skills: Begin Personal Journals. Please have hardback composition book in class on Monday. DOL Test 15 Wednesday .

WRITING: Seasonal writings - Rewrite famous Christmas Carols into Math Carols. And write New Year's Resolutions. Prompt on Reindeer Glyphs.

SPELLING: Learn to spell Contractions. We will work to understand how to spell these, but there will be no test.

MATH: Finish graphing The Twelve Days of Christmas, Math Carols, Wednesday an assessment on Patterns after modeling. Make Reindeer Glyphs to represent and analyze mathematical situations.

SOCIAL STUDIES: Daily Geography 11-15 Test on Wednesday.

SCIENCE: Use time to finish National Parks Presentations and make our gingerbread houses. We will also attend the 6th grade Business Expo on Tuesday at our Science time.

Thanks for your support, for helping us complete Maxwell's mission, and for aid in reaching our vision!!! J.J.

Maxwell Vision: Whatever It Takes!

Maxwell Mission: A community partnership enabling students to fulfill dreams and reach their highest potential.