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## Classroom Needs

- Old tennis balls
- Healthy snacks
- Old stationary or cards
- Playing cards
- Items for our class store
**If you are cleaning out over the holidays and have any ageappropriate books (fiction or non-fiction) that you would like to donate to our classroom library, we would appreciate it!



## This week in 4th grade:

## Scholastic Book Order: QQMGN (our class code)

If you would like to purchase books as gifts, I will place an order by December I2. This will guarantee that I will receive the books by Dec. I9. I am also happy to work out a way for you to get the books from school without your child knowing. Just let me know! :-) Every purchase through Scholastic provides "points" for our classroom, which I can use to buy books and other materials!

## Classroom Economy Update:

Each student received their job which they will have for the next $6-8$ weeks. We will begin earning money and losing money this week. Students will be able to use their money to purchase items for our class "store." If you would be willing to send in items for our store that would be wonderful! Some ideas are: "fun" school supplies (colored pens, markers, etc), games, puzzles, cards, stationary, sports items, hats.... I plan on purchasing items from the Dollar Store and the Dollar Spot at Target. :-) Nothing fancy or expensive!! They will also be able to buy certificates: homework pass, lunch in the classroom, week of no recess laps, etc.

## Filling Buckets:

Mrs. Smith placed a big emphasis on "filling each others' buckets," meaning finding ways to be kind to others and ways to put others first. In an effort to support what they have already been working on, we will set aside one morning each week to write thank you notes, thinking of you notes, apology notes, etc. to people in their lives. If you have any old stationary or cards that they can use, it would be greatly appreciated. If you know of someone or a group of people during this holiday season who could use a kind note, let me know (ex: nursing home, veteran's group). We will write them during class and then I can deliver them or send them home with your child to be delivered. I think it's important that we teach how to love our neighbors!

## Important Dates

Dec. 7—Class Pictures @ 10:25 am
Dec. 2I—Winter Party (I:45-2:45)
Dec. 22—Jan. 3—Winter Break (NO SCHOOL) Jan.-MAPS testing (date to be determined)

## Tests

## Thursday,

Dec. 8-
Math Module 3 Lessons 22-
32 Assessment

Friday, Dec. 9—
DLI Week 9 Assessment


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## Literacy Workshop-Social Studies Focus (Tues-Thurs)

We will be learning about how interdependence in colonial America was essential to survival and how the different roles that people had during this time helped with their survival. We will recognize that inferences help us better understand what an author is trying to tell us and we will make inferences based on primary sources. We will then begin a research project of colonial trades.

Conferences:In the survey, there was the question of whether I would offer midyear conferences. I always offer conferences after report cards go out, but if you would like to schedule one before then, just let me know. Thank you!


## Science: Monday, Friday

We are wrapping up our unit on static electricity and lightning and beginning to work on current electricity and circuits.

## Literacy-

We will be reading the junior novel and completing a character study of Ebenezer Scrooge. Students will be introduced to the setting of Victorian England; a society not unlike our own and will meet the spirit characters who will unravel the "whys" of Scrooge's character and bear witness to his transformation. Students will delve into the mind of Scrooge and use text evidence and their knowledge of story elements to map his changes through the book. Students will create Spirit Trading cards for each of Scrooge's visitors; describe these characters, what lessons they teach and the symbolism of each spirit. In addition, students will use text evidence to identify the different types of literary conflict in the story, infer the theme and describe how the different settings in the story advance the plot, as well as support characterization, mood, and theme. Finally, students will watch a movie version and compare it to the book. This classic story reminds us of charity, generosity, and that it is never too late to change for the good. The novel is set at Christmastime but it is not a Christmas story. It does however, make references to the Christmas holiday. If you have any issues with the character and novel study due to religious reasons, please let me know and an alternative study will be provided for your student.

## Writing-

We will have our Week 9 DLI test on Friday. We will be completing the writing assignment about Black Sunday and using this time to write responses about the literary elements we find in Scrooge.

## Math-

This week we will continue to practice dividing. We will work on division word problems using the RRSP strategy. That stands for Read the problem, Restate the question, Solve the problem, Plug the answer into the statement. We will have our final division quiz on Thursday. On Friday we will learn double digit by double digit multiplication.

