

# News from Third Grade

December 2011



## News from Your ILA Teacher

Reading- Students have begun identifying text features. Classes will be looking at identifying the main idea and supporting details of a text. Students will then be examining how to identify the theme of a story.

Writing- Students have written many personal narrative stories of their choice. We are continuing to add strategies to their list of ways to generate great small moments during their day. Students are now focused editing their writing pieces.

Word Study- Students are still working on a two week cycle of words and will be reassessed soon to determine growth in the word study program.

## A Math Update

- Classes have finished the third cluster in graphing.
- Students are now participating in the fourth cluster, Multiplication. Here students are learning concepts to solve multiplication facts by drawing pictures, arrays, and using repeated addition. Students will also learn strategies to memorize the facts 0 - 5.
- Fast fact cards for the 0 - 5 facts will be sent home once your child has mastered the strategies needed to learn the facts. Please continue to practice addition, subtraction, and multiplication over the holidays.

## Social Studies or Science?

☺ Cage's homeroom will be exploring with chemistry! They will be creating new substances using different materials.

☺ All the other classes will begin our social studies unit in U.S. Regions. Students will learn map skills and the differences between landforms and water forms. We will then begin looking at the coastal, mountain, and interior regions of the United States.

## Just A Reminder...

- December 9<sup>th</sup> is an early dismissal day and students will be dismissed at 1:00.
- The PTA holiday shop is open Friday and Saturday December 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> for students to shop on their own for small gifts for the holidays.
- December 23<sup>rd</sup> is an early dismissal day and students will be dismissed at 1:00.
- Winter break is December 24<sup>th</sup> - January 2<sup>nd</sup>. We hope you have a wonderful holiday with friends and family and enjoy the break!



