

December 2, 2022

Highlights:

Holiday Boutique- December 8th at 12:30pm

Conferences Dates- December 12th to the 19th (half-days on 12/12 and 12/13)

Progress Reports Available- December 14th at 1:00pm

School Store- December 16th at 12:40pm

Dear Parents,

Happy December! I hope this note finds you and your family, happy and enjoying the approach winter.

❖ **What We Have Been Working On**

- For **morning work**, over the past several weeks, the class worked with “logic problems.” Recently, we have transitioned to “cryptograms.”
- In **science**, the class has learned about eight types of energy, all of which fall into one of two categories: potential or kinetic. Next week, students will be building and analyzing “Rube Goldberg machines,” in order to apply what they have learned.
- In **reading**, we have been working in the new, myView reading program. The text that we have been working with is about frogs and the ways they have been effective by environmental changes. Next, the class will be reading the book, *Hatchet*.
- In **language arts**, the class has been working with parts of speech (specifically, nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, and articles), as well as alliteration. Students are just finishing up a writing activity that combines both topics.
- In **math**, my math class is working on Chapter 3, which deals with multiplying fractions.

❖ Conferences

First trimester conferences will begin soon. During the conference we will discuss your child's progress for the year, to date, as well as some future goals. It is my hope that your child will attend, but their presence at the conference is entirely up to you. If you have not signed up for a conference, you can do so at the following link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b054caca72aa75-trimester1>

I look forward to meeting with you soon!

❖ Holiday Gifts

Just in case that you forgot my "Back to School Night" request, please DO NOT get me any holiday gifts. More than anything else, I like when the students make me a card, or something else (a picture, cookies, etc.) that they enjoy creating with their hands. If you feel compelled to do more than that, a donation to a non-profit organization, meaningful to your family, in my name, would certainly be welcome. That being said, the gift that I appreciate most, is the trust that you put in me, every day, to guide your child to becoming stronger and more capable. It is a valued gift, not taken for granted.

Wishing you joy,
Mr. VanZant