



Mrs. Wilson

December

Here we are in December already Fa la la la la!!! We have another busy month ahead of us with a lot of classroom activities, including all the practicing that needs to get done for our Christmas concert performance. Before we know it, the New Year will be upon us. December is a busy month, not only at home but at school too!

Curriculum

In reading and oral communications, we have been working on listening to our Inner Conversation. That means, we are learning to think about the text in terms of our questions, comments and connections. We have read a variety of nonfiction pieces discussing not only the reading but also discussing the features of nonfiction and how they help us to understand what we are reading. Following our inner conversation helps us deepen our understanding of the text. The students have done a wonderful job during this unit asking insightful questions and making very relevant comments and connections. The students have commented on how their reading has changed now that they are thinking, reading, reacting and writing.

In writing, we have finished our research reports. The students have chosen topics related to their science units: Grade 4 - Animals and Habitats and Grade 5 The Human Body.

In math, we have started a unit on graphing. We are learning about collecting data and graphing it using bar, line and pictographs.

In science we have started our Animals and Habitats unit for grade 4 and The Human Body unit for grade 5. The grade 4 students are currently busy learning about the 6 different habitats (oceans, deserts, forests, rainforests, grasslands and the Arctic) that animals live in. We are completing a mini research paper about one habitat that includes information about plant life, animal life, weather and includes a picture of their chosen habitat. The grade 5 students have learned about the digestive system and the respiratory system along with the other grade 5 students in Mrs. Gerakopulos' class.

Christmas Season

Hat and Mitten Drive - The hat and mitten drive runs from December 1 to December 15. Please send in hats and mittens to put on our mitten tree in the front hall.

Toy and Food Drive - We are collecting toys and cereal for those less fortunate. Items will be picked up after our school's visit with Santa on December 7.

Christmas Concert - Once again the students at James Hillier will be presenting the best Christmas concert in town. The concert will be held on December 20, show times 9am (dress rehearsal, families are welcome), 2pm and 630pm.

Cookies with Santa

In celebration of our students participation in helping those in need, School Council has invited Santa to James Hillier on Thursday, December 7th. Cookies will be served to all students and on the 7th, children may give their donations directly to Santa's helpers in the gym.

12 Days of Christmas

Let's have some fun counting down the days until the holidays! James Hillier presents The 12 Days of Christmas. Attached is the 12 Days calendar, each day we will be celebrating all this holiday season has to offer. Follow along and have some Christmas fun!!

Dates to Remember -

Dec. 7 - Milk and Cookies with Santa (bring a toy or food item)

Dec. 7 - 22 - Twelve Days of Christmas

Dec. 20 - Christmas Concert

Dec. 25 - Jan. 7 - Christmas Break



