



February 2012

Dear 5/6 Parents,

Happy February!

We have been very busy in 5/6. It is unbelievable how quickly time is going by! It was great to see so many of you at The Southbrook Read-a-Thon. It was a lot of fun! The library was very thankful for your generosity and was thrilled to have so much business! The box for our soldier is overflowing! The students will be writing letters to the unit thanking them all for serving our country. Thank you for your support for both of these causes.

The entire school will be traveling to Boston to watch "Nate the Great" on stage. The all-school theme for January focused on mysteries. This show will tie in nicely! Nate is a young detective from the popular children's book series. The show is scheduled for February 17th at 10. Permission slips will be sent home shortly.

To celebrate Valentine's Day in 5/6, we are asking each student to create a "Party in a Box" to share with a classmate. Students may also give cards to their classmates. If your child chooses to give cards, please be sure they have a card for everyone. Details for a "Party in a Box" are attached! Thanks!

In Reading the novel Counting on Grace has captured the class's interest! We discussed the importance of child labor laws and reasons for immigration. We have also discussed the difficulties of starting life in a new country. Grace is a strong character that the students will respect!

The Unit 4 Math test was this past Friday. The 5th graders showed a strong understanding of division. They will move on to Chapter 5 which focuses on fractions, decimals, and percents. It will be emphasized that embedded in every fraction is a division problem. Being able to convert among these notations is an important skill that is often needed in everyday life! The 6th graders are ready to move on from fractions to a unit on geometry. It builds

on the basic knowledge that they acquired last year. Students will classify and draw angles. They will also find angle measure of triangles and quadrangles both with and without a protractor. This will help them to see the connection between geometry and algebra. Both grades will continue to review the skills we have learned so far this year!

In Social Studies, we will continue to focus on the 5 themes of geography. Students will be researching a country. Some of their technology classes will be used to complete this assignment. Final reports will be shared with our class.

Poetry continues to be an enjoyable block of time each week. It is great to see such creativity in their writing! We are excited to see the progress in their books!

Science Fair Project ideas have been submitted! Some are experiments and some are research topics, which is fine! Please help your child stay on track with the weekly assignments that are due. Staying organized will help the students to be successful.

Thank you for your continued support! As always, please feel free to email or call with any questions or concerns!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Carla Harris and Mrs. Kristin Morris

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P.S. 'Tis the season for colds! We have run out of tissues in our classroom! If you have an extra box, please send it to school with your child! Thank you!

Important dates:

2/6- 100th Day

2/14- Party in a Box

2/17-Field Trip to Nate the Great in Boston

2/20-2/24 February Break