***5th Grade News***

December 4th, 2015

***Alsalamu Alaiykom Parents!***

* InshaAllah this reaches you in the best of health and iman.

**Language Arts**

* During language arts, the students continued to work on building stamina in reading while practicing their comprehension, application, fluency, and vocabulary strategies. As we move into learning about intellectual literacy, the fifth graders have continued to practice ‘read to someone’, which they seem to very much enjoy. The fifth graders will begin their new writing unit next week, which focuses on informational/expository writing. We will be introducing the format of 5-paragraph essays.



**Math**

* This week in math the boys and girls of 5th grade worked on LCM (Least Common Multiple) adding and subtracting fractions and mixed numbers, and simplifying. We are ‘wrapping up’ our unit on fractions; fractions can be a tough and abstract concept for students to grasp, but the 5th graders have demonstrated a strong knowledge on fractional problems. Even though we will be moving into a new concept next week, we will never really be done with fractions, as having a strong foundational knowledge of fractions will be helpful and crucial to be successful throughout the rest of the year, and ultimately the rest of schooling. Additionally, the 5th graders will be introduced to prime and composite numbers, and will work on understanding the difference between the two.

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**Health Sciences**

* This week of science found students discussing energy, its various forms, and the transfer of energy. As difficult and abstract of a concept as it is, students came to the knowledge that energy is never created or lost, it is only transformed. Students tracked the energy transfer between the sun, a kernel of corn, a stalk of corn which was eaten by a cow, and the cow that was consequently eaten by the farmer. After following this example, students realized that the energy from the sun and food was really never lost once consumed, instead it was only transferred from one consumer to another. The fifth graders also continue to make observations and predictions on their 4 week long Decomposition experiment.

**Social/Religious Studies**

* In social studies, the 5th graders are continuing to work on their culminating Native American project! This week the boys and girls began to work on and finalize their poster, which gives a brief explanation along with pictures of each aspect of their tribe (clothing, currency, transportation, food, tools, and shelter). The 5th graders are extremely excited to showcase their work to their peers, teachers, and parents on Monday December 14th, insha’Allah! Invitations will go home sometime this week insha’Allah.
* During Islamic Studies, the 5th graders moved onto learning about the different duas they can use during prayers. Concurrently, they ask questions and inquire about concerns they have about performing wudu and prayer properly.

**Don’t Forget…**

* 12/8-12/11: Scholastic Book Fair
* 12/9: Skatin Station PTO Event: 4:30-6:30 pm
* 12/18: Jummah Treat from the PTO
* 12/19-1/3: No School. Winter Break. School resumes1/4

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**Sweet Success!**

* Each 1-2 weeks, we will be honoring a few of our students for a positive contribution they made to their community. This week we are proud to honor:
  + **Muhammad Qasim-5B:** for exhibiting self-control and reflection.
  + **Navid Heydari-5A**: for making an effort to put his best foot forward in class!

*We hope you have a great weekend after another valuable and productive week!*