**January News** Rm 116

**Welcome Back**

I hope your Christmas vacation was relaxing and enjoyable. It is always nice to have a fresh start in January. There are lots of exciting lessons, projects and assignments planned for the coming month.

**Math**

We are continuing to learn about graphing and will finish up this first week learning how to make double bar graphs. Next we will be doing a Geometry unit on 2 and 3 D shapes and their properties. Multiplication and division are coming up soon, so I would recommend practicing with your child.

**Literacy**

We are starting a unit on Media Literacy. It is important for students to understand the purpose of media and the obvious and subtle messages different types of media send. Students are also selecting a new book to read during silent reading time. Your child is expected to complete at least one book each month from now until the end of the year. As the end of the month approaches they will have a series of writing and thinking activities to complete to show they understand what they have read. Some of this ‘Novel Study’ will be expected to be done at home. We will continue of course keep practicing all the comprehension skills used to be a great reader.

**Writing**

Because we are following many instructions in Science and Health, we are learning how to write excellent instructions.

**Report Cards Coming Soon**

This coming PD day (Jan 22) teachers will be organizing marks and beginning to make comments for the February report cards. Over the last 4 months I have send many assessments home with your child and I hope you have a good idea of how your child is doing in most subject areas. Your child has several weeks to make improvements if they wish even greater success. Please discuss the fact that the more effort someone puts into a task, the greater the reward. Marks in school are no different.

Parents, remember to call, write or email if you have any questions or concerns!

**Science**

We are doing a very hands on unit on Light and Sound.Many experiments will have students exploring the properties of light and how light reflects, refracts and is absorbed. Students will have an opportunity to write their own science experiment.

**Music**

We will be incorporating our science unit on sound into music. We will be learning how sound is made of vibrations that travel through air. We will use a variety of percussion instruments to create beats and rhythms.

**In the Gym**

We are starting a new unit on basketball. Although I am not a great player myself, I hope to teach your child the basics of the sport and we will even have a few games to learn the rules too.

**Health**

Learning to identify the four food groups, what foods belong in each and what a proper serving size would be, is our goal for health. We will be experimenting with preparing a variety of foods and learning to enjoy the tastes and textures of non processed foods.