

Principal's Update

December 22, 2010

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Dear Clifton Families,

It's hard to believe that 2010 is almost over and that we have nearly completed one-half of the 2010-2011 school year! For many of us, the Winter Break is a wonderful opportunity to spend quality time with family and friends. Families celebrate this season in different ways, and whether you celebrate Christmas, Eid, Hanukah, or Kwanza or express season's greetings with the words Merry Christmas (English), Joyeux Noël (French), Froehliche Weihnachten (German), Hannukah Sameach (Hebrew), Bada Din Mubarak Ho (Hindi), Buon Natale (Italian), Kurisumasu Omedeto (Japanese), Sung Tan Chuk Ha (Korean), Feliz Navidad (Spanish), Noeliniz Ve Yeni Yiliniz Kutlu Olsun (Turkish), Chuc Mung Giang Sinh (Vietnamese), or some other way, I wish you all the very best this holiday season!

IMPORTANT REMINDER: 2-HOUR EARLY DISMISSAL TOMORROW, 12/22!

Kindergarten students will follow a Monday schedule on Wednesday, 12/22. All a.m. kindergarten students will be dismissed at the regular Monday time. All p.m. kindergarten students and students in grades 1 through 6 will be dismissed at 1:45 p.m. Please ensure there is appropriate supervision for your child. There will be no school from Thursday, 12/23, through Friday, 12/31. The school office will be closed during the Winter Break. School will resume on Monday, 1/3.

Innovation and Invention (I&I) Fair

The I&I Fair Kick-Off Workshop and additional workshops are scheduled for the following dates: Thursday, 1/6; Thursday, 1/20, and Thursday, 2/3. Look for the bus note form in the 1/4 Tuesday folder.

Workshops are not required. They are scheduled to provide assistance, but all students are welcome to participate in the Innovation and Invention Fair, regardless of whether they attend the workshops. Volunteers at the workshops can help facilitate a group with the creative problem-solving process, summarize information or help them move on to the next step. Research, interviews, and creating the model need to be done at home. The workbook is a great tool to lead them through the process. Remember to check out other resources posted on the PTA website.

If anyone would like to get started over the winter break, the workbook may be printed from the PTA Website. Please note that there are 2 workbooks, one for grades K-3 and another for grades 4-6. Traveling is a great time for brainstorming! Certainly "problems" can be found that can lead to an innovation.....Take advantage of family get-togethers to share creative ideas!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- 12/23 through 1/2–Winter Vacation/School Office Closed
- 1/3–School Resumes
- 1/5–Geography Bee, Gym, 1:30 p.m.
- 1/6–Innovation/invention Fair Workshop Kick-Off in the Cafe, Library, Pods, Rm. 141
- 1/7–PTA Coffee/ Silent Auction & Fun Fair Meeting, Café, 9:00 a.m.
- 1/7–Grade Art Museum 6 Field Trip, 9:30 a.m.

- 1/13–Winter Concert
- 1/17–Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
- 2/15–Innovation and Invention Fair Judging
- 2/16–Innovation and Invention Fair Open House, 7 p.m.
- 2/22–23–Snow Dates for Innovation and Invention Fair
- 5/13–PTA Basketball Game vs. Oakview PTA @ Robinson

Best wishes for a wonderful Winter Break and a Happy New Year!

Renee C. Miller
Principal