

6th Grade Communications

Miss Blanshine's Homeroom

February 2014



Dear Parents / Guardians,

We have a very busy winter planned with book club, PSSAs, studying Latin America, and so much more!

Just a reminder...please look at your student's assignment book each night. Checking on this chart will tell you what assignments are missing or if there are any behavior issues. We ask that you sign this chart by Thursday evening.

It is cold outside, so it is a perfect time to settle in with a good book! Daily reading is an essential part of learning. In order to help establish this habit for success, every student should read a minimum of 20 minutes Monday through Thursday and once over the weekend (don't forget to record the pages read on the orange TEAM sheet). Thanks for your help!



The children have been learning to properly greet and shake hands with one another as well as visitors who come to our school. Students have learned to grip firmly and make eye contact with the person whom they are greeting. Ask your child to show you what they've learned.

In Reading...

We will be entering unit 3 of reading by continuing to focus on generalizing and mapping events by reading the folk tale "Juan Verdades". This is a wonderful story that gives the students a taste of Latin American culture. The timing couldn't be more perfect as we get ready to start studying Latin America in social studies. We'll also continue talking about prejudice and human rights when we read about the life of Elizabeth Blackwell, one of the first women surgeons and Marian Anderson, a famous African American opera singer.

Spelling Bee

On January 23, we held the Leola Spelling Bee. Our three winners were MaKayla Harting (3rd), Owen Rappa (2nd), and Kellen Kneisley (1st). We had one student from each class win! Congratulations!



Please return this portion of the newsletter to Miss Blanshine

Student Name _____

I have received this information newsletter.

Parent Signature _____

Contacting Teachers

All teachers can be contacted here at school between 8:00 a.m. and 3:45 p.m. Dial the school number, 656-2068 and then the teacher's extension. Or dial 0 to leave a message with Mrs. Parker or see if we are available.

The best method for contacting teachers is e-mail. While we may not be able to answer the phone, many times we can get back to you much more quickly with an e-mail.

Miss Blanshine: Communication Arts, Science/Social Studies
ext. 4107
alison_blanshine@cvsd.k12.pa.us

Mrs. Shetter: Writing
ext. 4109
dori_shetter@cvsd.k12.pa.us

Mrs. Schnader: Math
ext. 4111
jill_schnader@cvsd.k12.pa.us

Mrs. Leaman: Learning Support
doris_leaman@cvsd.k12.pa.us

Come join us for....

Winter Olympic Game Night

Tuesday, February 4th
6:30-8:00pm

Families are invited to participate and play several Olympic themed stations with prizes. Share in a wintry snack of hot cocoa and cookies to follow the activities!

Curriculum Corner

Math: This week we started our unit of study on Geometry. This chapter includes a lot of key vocabulary words. The students have note cards so that they can study these words each night. This is a very hands-on chapter. We will be using a variety of manipulatives as well as other activities to gain a better understanding of the material. The students will also create a project (either a book or a power point) to demonstrate their understanding of the key vocabulary words. After we finish this chapter, we will begin preparing for PSSA's.

Social Studies: We will soon begin our study of Latin America. The students are anxious to learn more about the amazing land areas, history, and cultures of our neighbors to the south! This month, we'll begin to study the physical features of Latin American and then will move on to the history of Latin America including the ancient peoples, the explorers and conquistadors, the fight for independence, and finally a look at recent history of the region. Be sure your student looks over notes from the day each evening... and continue to look for study guides to help your child prepare for unit tests.

Writing: As we move into February, we will look closely at the elements of an informative essay and prepare for the district informative writing assessment sometime later in the month. From there, we will begin research on the countries of Latin America, which ties to the social studies curriculum.

Important Dates for Your Calendar

Please make note of the following dates:

Tuesday, February 4 Winter Olympic Game Night!

Monday, February 11 PTO Meeting

Friday, February 14 No School

Monday, February 17 Snow Make-up Day!

Wednesday, February 19 Early Dismissal @1:15

Character Trait of the Month – Tolerance

Being patient and fair
towards those whose opinions and practices are different from yours