

From the Desks of Ms. Powsner and Mrs. DiGrande

December 2008



Dear Parents,

We want to thank everyone who attended a conference. It is always helpful to sit down with each of you to discuss your child's progress and hear your thoughts. Ms. Hinnis has met and updated Ms. Powsner to all the needs and concerns of her students. Please feel free to contact us if any other concerns arise.

WRITING: Currently we are finishing up a Response to Literature writing piece and a poetry unit.

READING: We are thrilled with the motivation and desire to read that we see in our students daily. We continue to emphasize the use of comprehension strategies through guided reading groups, literature circles, read alouds, and independent read books. When we return from the break, we look forward to delving into our Greek Mythology reading unit. We encourage students to continue to read during the holiday break.

MATH: We are currently working in Unit 5, which concentrates on fractions, decimals and percents, and the conversions among these notations. This is the beginning of an ongoing process in our study of fractions. Next, we will spend time interpreting data and constructing a variety of graphs. Students will be introduced to Microsoft Excel, and will be creating their own graphs in the computer lab. If you have Excel at home, ask your child to demonstrate what they have learned. **More so now than ever, it is imperative the students know their multiplication facts.**

SCIENCE: We are fully in the swing of our nutrition unit. Students have been conducting investigations that will help them understand what food is, what it is made of, and how several nutrient groups contribute to healthful nutrition. So far students have conducted experiments involving fat, sugar, and acid.

FOOD SHELF: We want to thank the many families who have so generously contributed to the Colchester Food Shelf charity. We will bring the donated foods to the food shelf this week,

HOLIDAY PARTY: We would like to wish you all a happy holiday season and invite you to join us on Tuesday afternoon for a small end of the year celebration. The festivities will start at 1:30. We will each do a small craft and enjoy some holiday goodies. If you are in Mrs. DiGrande's room, and interested in helping out or contributing goodies, contact Anne Goldman. If you are in Ms. Powsner's room, come one, come all, but please bring (or send) goodies. Both classes are in need of glue guns and extension cords for the Holiday Craft. If you have any that you would like to share, we will promise to return them with your child that afternoon **Please label.**

- **TALE OF DESPEREAUX**
*bus will leave MBS at 8:45
and return in time for lunch.*
- **CHS BAND and CHORUS
PRESENTATION:** *Tues-
day, Dec. 23rd at 10:00am.
Feel free to stop by.*
- **HOLIDAY PARTY:** *Tues-
day, Dec. 23rd at 1:30.
Everyone is welcome.*
- **HOLIDAY BREAK:** *Dec.
24th - Jan. 4th.*

**Wishing everyone
a Happy and
Safe Holiday!**

Please feel free to come by and visit. You are welcome any time. Also, if you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to call us.:

School 264-5900

Trish: Home 864-7940
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Suki: Home 878-9924
digrandes@csdvt.org

We really don't mind getting calls at home.