

# December 2016

## Greetings from Mrs. Curvey:

**Attendance:** It is very important for your child to be at school every day. There is so much learning that goes on at this level that students cannot afford to be absent. Research indicates a direct relationship between a child's reading ability and his kindergarten and first grade attendance. There is so much done in the classroom in the teaching of reading that cannot be duplicated at home. Please, send your child to school unless he/she is ill.

**Cold Weather:** I will be sending the students out to recess as often as possible even during these cold months so please send your child(ren) to school dressed appropriately. Remember hats, gloves, scarves, and coats. I will follow the district's

weather guidelines provided to us by the National Weather Service to make decisions about windchill and outside recess. We typically send the students outside up to 25 degrees Fahrenheit. Once the windchill dips below that, we call for inside recess.

**Christmas Gift Ideas:** While making your Christmas lists, remember, books make great gifts for kids! There is nothing better than to give the gift of literacy to someone. Someone once said that the most comfortable place for a child is in the lap of someone reading to them.

## Greetings from Mrs. Sharpe:

This year's Kindergarten Christmas Concert will be held on December 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. located at the Alton Middle School auditorium. Please come join us as we celebrate the season and the hard work your child has put in the last few months.



**Have a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!**

## Greetings from Kindergarten:

It's a Wonderful Time of the Year in Kindergarten!

As our first semester comes to an end, and we prepare for a new year, the kindergarten students will be working hard reading, writing, and practicing popcorn words, numbers and shapes. We will be keeping up with the holiday spirit by making gingerbread houses, learning about winter animals, and participating in other festive activities.

And remember, as the colder weather is upon us be sure to dress your child appropriately for school. Students will be going outside for recess whenever possible. Now is a great time to continue to practice buttoning and zipping coats, not to mention tying shoes. As always thank you for your support.

## Greetings from 1<sup>st</sup> Grade:

It's an exciting time of year for first graders! 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter comes to a close this month. Our students have been growing and sharing their knowledge through a variety of ways.

By December, first graders are reading more independently and for longer periods of time. Encourage your child to read at home. As an extra incentive, first grade students will be taking part in a Winter Break Reading Challenge. It will be a fun way to encourage reading. Not only will your child get to create a snowman each time he/she reads, but we will also give a reward when the Reading Challenge sheet is completed and returned on January 3.

The month of December brings colder weather and growing excitement. We will be learning about signs of winter and holiday traditions in countries around the world as we get ready to celebrate the season with our families.

## December Dates

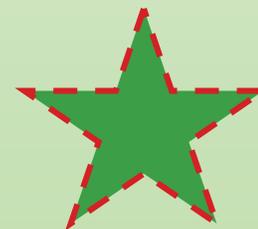
12/14 – Kindergarten Christmas Program  
AMA Auditorium 6:30 p.m.

12/20 – End of 1<sup>st</sup> Semester

12/20 – Holiday Classroom Parties 1:30 p.m.

12/21-1/2 – Christmas Break

1/3/2017 – School Resumes



**Gilson Brown's Faculty & Staff Wish You & Your Family HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**