

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade Newsletter**  
**For the week of Monday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>- December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012**



Happy December!



|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>In Reading...</b><br/>         This week we will begin to explore Author's Message. The students will start critically thinking about why an author wrote the story and what you as the reader are supposed to learn or take away from reading it. This is a new skill and we will work on this through discussion and different writing strategies.<br/> <b>**Please ask your child questions when you read with them. This helps students with comprehension and gives them a self-check to ensure that they are thinking about what they are reading. **</b><br/>         Students will continue to use the Daily 5 framework when they are not meeting in a guided reading group. The Daily 5 framework consists of 5 different activities: Read to Self, Read to Someone, Listen to Reading (on the laptops), Working on Writing (describe an important event, summary, letter to a character, make a connection) and Word Work (Words their Way &amp; Nessy *new computer program*).</p> | <p><b>In Math...</b><br/>         We have moved on from division in Everyday Mathematics to exponential notation, order of operations, and comparing positive and negative numbers. We will be continuing with these topics until Winter Break.<br/><br/>         Students should be actively engaging in thinking about these math topics. Asking them about what they learned and how it makes sense to them should help them better make sense of the concepts we are discussing in class.</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Important Dates &amp; Events</u></b></p> <p><b>No School</b> - December 22nd through January 6th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Winter Break</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Early Release</b> - Thursday and Friday, December 20th and 21st</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>School Ends at 1:30pm</b></li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>PBIS Announcement</i><br/> <i>Students are participating in a "giving tree" at Stratton. We will be looking for the kids to donate any items they feel a kid who is not as fortunate as they are would like to receive during this month of Holiday celebrations. These items can be, gloves, scarves, hats, books, coloring books, toys, etc. Whatever their heart desires! We appreciate your donation and support with this worthy cause. The donations will be made to Salt and Light!</i></p>                                                                                    | <p><b>In Science...</b><br/>         We have finished our Geology unit and will be moving on to a Social Studies unit.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <p><b>In Social Studies...</b><br/>         We are analyzing pictures from the Great Depression and discussing how our analysis informs us about the different experiences during the Great Depression.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p><b>In Writing...</b><br/>         Students will begin a Persuasive essay this week. We will focus on choosing a topic and creating a thesis statement that includes our opinion or stance on the issue. Students will also learn how to come up with 3 points to argue their stance on their topic. As always, we are looking for correct grammar, spelling, punctuation and paragraph format.</p>                                                                                             |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Contact Information</b><br/>         Stratton: 217-373-7330<br/>         Anne Crossetti: <a href="mailto:crossean@champaignschools.org">crossean@champaignschools.org</a><br/> <a href="http://crossetti.yolasite.com">crossetti.yolasite.com</a> (class website)<br/>         Amos Lee: <a href="mailto:leeam@champaignschools.org">leeam@champaignschools.org</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Other Announcements</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>**MicroSociety Info**</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We have been in production all week along, and will return to market days next week.</li> <li>• Ask your children about how much money they are earning and how they are choosing to spend the money during market day?</li> <li>• How do we determine how much money to set aside for expenses and how much money to use on recreation?</li> </ul>                                      |