

DECEMBER

2016

St. Francis Xavier School

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It is hard to believe, but December is already here! We have successfully completed the first term and report cards will be sent home shortly. We are proud of the effort that both Grade Seven classes have put forward and we are looking ahead to a successful and exciting second term.

Language Arts

We are currently studying literature that includes unforeseen endings and unusual story themes. Students are using SightLines to enhance their skills in understanding. We are discussing the use of foreshadowing, flashback, and various narrative perspectives.

In December, we will begin our novel study unit. Students will work with their literature circles groups to complete a selected novel. Throughout the unit, the class will apply the Reading Power strategies. The students will predict, question, and make connections.

December Birthdays!

Kiera Cheung—4th

Samantha Ng—14th

Isabel Wong—28th

Sonya Leung—31st



December at a Glance:

Monday, Dec. 5th:

-Holy Rosary & Fly Over Canada Field Trip

Wednesday, Dec. 7th:

-Museum of Vancouver Field Trip

Thursday, Dec. 8th:

-Term One Report Cards sent home

Friday, Dec. 9th:

-Parent/Teacher Interviews

Friday, Dec. 16th:

-Last day of school before Christmas Break

-SFX Christmas Concert, 11am

-Noon (12pm) dismissal

January at a Glance:

Wednesday, Jan. 4th:

-School Re-opens

Thursday, Jan. 12th & 19th

-Whistler Ski Trip

Social Studies

In December, we will prepare for our second class debate. The students will also work in groups to study an ancient civilization. Each group will research, take notes, and prepare a written assignment that describes the history, traditions, and customs of their chosen civilization.

On December 5th, we will be visiting the Museum of Vancouver to participate in a simulated excavation. We will see a real mummy from Egypt and practice our archaeological skills.

Science

As November came to an end, the Grade Sevens finished studying chapter three, the last Chapter in their first Unit on Ecosystems. Chapter three covered the role of humans in Ecosystems, pollution in Ecosystems, land use and habitat loss, the introduction of non-native species, preserving, conserving, and restoring Ecosystems. This month, students will continue studying their Chemistry Unit which will focus on properties of matter, measuring mass and volume, and calculating density.

Math

As the month of December starts, so will the Grade Sevens' exploration of Integers. Before beginning this chapter, both classes will be completing math work in preparation for any upcoming placement tests. Once we have completed the preparation work, students will begin learning how to add and subtract integers. This chapter will cover how to add and subtract integers in a variety of ways, integer operations, how to apply integer operations and integer problem solving. As always, students are encouraged to complete as many chapter questions as possible in addition to their assigned homework questions. Exposure to a variety of questions and styles as well as practice will help ensure students reach their potential.

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