

# 4D News

December 20, 2013

## Thank You!

Wow! I can't believe it's almost Winter Break! These first couple of months have been phenomenal! I can't thank you enough for your support in your child's education. If you ever have a question or concern, please feel free to contact me at:

[jdepierro@fairfieldschools.org](mailto:jdepierro@fairfieldschools.org).

## Winter Celebration

Our Winter Celebration will take place on Thursday, December 19 at 12:30 in 4D. Parents are welcome to come. Please note: the celebration will promptly end at 1:30 due to our specials in the afternoon.



## Holiday Sing-A-Long

The Holland Hill tradition of the Holiday Sing-A-Long continues this year with a slight change; there will be two sing-a-longs instead of one. You are welcome to come on Friday, December 20 at 10:00 to sing our favorite holiday songs. Please note there are two sing-a-longs; grades 3-5 at 10:00 and K-2 at 2:00 in the Gym.

## Scholastic Books

[www.scholastic.com/bookclubs](http://www.scholastic.com/bookclubs)

Code: LDXR9



Read Every Day. Lead a Better Life.

## Xtra Math

All students have been set up on [xtramath.org](http://xtramath.org). Please encourage your child to go on the website 3-5 times a week in order to help build their fluency in addition, subtraction, division, and multiplication. Plus, it only takes 10 minutes! If you lost your pin number, please let me know.



## Multiplication

In the Fairfield Balanced Math program, we teach many ways for children to solve multi-digit multiplication problems. So far your child has learned Partial Products, the distributive property, and the regular algorithm. We have also been working diligently on multi-step word problems; underlining the important information, determining the steps necessary to get the answer, and what computation(s) is needed in order to solve the problem.

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## Reading

We currently wrapped up our unit on inference. Students have been working hard on determining the theme/author's message, character(s) feelings, and the important part of the story using information from the text to support their thinking. We just started our unit on Summarizing. By the end of the unit, students should be able to summarize fiction and nonfiction texts using various strategies and organizers.



## Winter Break Reading

Over winter break, students will be given a log to record their reading. Students will be rewarded with tickets upon their return to school. It is not required; however, this will help maintain their reading fluency.



## Writing

Our wonderful Personal Narrative unit was just completed. Students took personal small moments and grew them into beautiful stories using many different crafts such as metaphors and similes. Currently, we are studying the author, Ralph Fletcher. Ralph Fletcher

is an amazing author who is dedicated to inspiring people of all ages to write. We will be using his pieces to help motivate us to becoming even better writers! In January, we will begin our Fiction/Opinion writing unit.



## Science and Social Studies

In the next coming weeks, we will be starting two very exciting units in Science and Social Studies. In science, we will begin studying Forces and Motion and in Social Studies, Colonial America. If you would like to get your child interest boosted in these topics, please check out some really cool quick videos on Brainpop! (Username: Hollandhill Password: brainpop).



I hope you enjoy the nice, long well deserved break and holidays with your family and loved ones! ☺  
See you in the new year!

Sincerely,

A decorative border of small yellow stars surrounds the entire page.

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Ms. DePierro