



5th Grade Unit Newsletter December 2018

Calendar Dates

- December 3- Heather to Hazelwood Museum
- December 4- Karen to Hazelwood Museum
- December 5- Hilarie to Hazelwood Museum
- December 6- Western Racquet Tennis Trip (12:15-2:45)
- December 14- 1:00 early release
- December 20- Howe Head Start trip (Heather & Hilarie)
- December 24-January 2- **WINTER BREAK**

Hazelwood Museum

Each 5th grade class will be walking across the street to the Hazelwood Historic House for their Ethnic Christmas at Hazelwood event on either December 3, 4, or 5 from 1:00-1:45pm.. Did you know Czech families place fish scales under their plates at Christmas dinner to bring luck? Are you familiar with the Norwegian Julenisse? On Christmas Eve, Norwegians traditionally placed a bowl of porridge outside for the Julenisse. If he does not get porridge, he can use his magical powers to cause mishaps.

Six local ethnic groups have partnered with Hazelwood to decorate their main floor in the style of their own ethnic Holiday customs. Students will be able to compare and contrast different ethnic traditions and a share some of their own. A scavenger hunt through the house will provide an in depth look at different foods, decorations, and celebrations around the world.

Howe Gifts

By Jeo Jimenez

On December 20th, students in fifth grade will be bringing books to Howe Head Start. We are collecting new books or books that are in like new condition for

three, four and five year old children. We are bringing books to read to them. The children will be able to keep these books and bring them home. Hilarie's class will go in the morning and Heather's class will go in the afternoon. Karen's class will be making a homemade present for the children. We will also appreciate parent chaperones on this walking field trip.

Students in our classroom shared ideas for books to give the children. Jaivenn thinks *Thomas the Train* books are good. Jonah thinks *Llama, Llama Holiday Drama* would work. I think *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish Blue Fish* is a good choice. I have a little brother who is three years old and I think he would like it. I hope you find a book or two that these children would enjoy. Please bring these books to school by Wednesday, December 12th.

Haiti Gifts

Helping Haiti

By Zoe Disalvo

Our fifth grade teacher, Hilarie, will soon be going to Haiti. Students in our fifth grade unit at Aldo Leopold will be making bracelets for the children there. All 5th grade classes will be a part of this. Hilarie's homeroom will also be making a video. We will be performing a poem by Baptiste Paul. Baptiste is from San Lucia. Creole is his native language. He has taken time to teach us a poem in Creole, called "Friends." It is a poem written in both Creole and English. The students are learning Creole in order to perform for the children in Haiti in a way they will understand. Hilarie has gone to Haiti before, so she has met the children there.

I asked Hilarie, "What is it like in Haiti?"

She responded, "I wish I could take you there so you could see for yourself. The children are very excited because people here have helped them to build a school which they didn't have before. They now even have a computer lab. The people treasure it so much that someone sleeps in the lab to protect it."

It is fun to share our friendship with students from another nation.

Geography

In Social Studies, fifth grade students are using map skills to explore physical features and populations throughout the United States. We will also learn about the different regions in the United States and identify where the 50 states are located on a map.

Winter Gear Reminder

Winter is here whether we like it or not! Please remind your child to bring a winter coat, hat, gloves, boots, and change of shoes (to wear in the classroom). Recess will take place daily. It will only be held indoors if the temperature, with the wind chill, is below 0 degrees.

Teacher Wishes

If you have not yet visited the blue hallway next to the main office, please do so to view our staff wishing tree. It is full of leaves that have teacher wish list items. You can also view teacher wish lists on Amazon using the link below. Don't forget your child's specialist teachers as well as they are also always in need of donations. :) Thank you!

1. Log into [Amazon Smile](#)
2. Click on "Your Lists"
3. Click on "Your Friends"
4. "Find a List or Registry"- type in Aldo Leopold Teacher.
5. Click on the Aldo Staff name to see their wishlist.