Dear Families, November 25, 2013

***SUPPLIES: White Board markers and pencils.***

***TAX CREDIT Donation: This information came home last Thursday. I know we just had our school fundraiser but please consider contributing to the Renaissance Technology fund. It is a dollar for dollar return in your taxes. Even if you don’t owe it will come right back to you in a check. This money goes directly to Renaissance technology, ONLY. If you donate make sure you put for Renaissance Technology.***

**HIGHLAND LAKES SCIENCE FAIR 2013 – Assignments are due December 16th. No late entries will be excepted. Please do not ask for extensions or to turn in on a different day, it will not be granted.**

**Handwriting:** Please have your child complete their homework legibly. Assignments that are not legible will be graded down.

**Wordly Wise and Spelling**….. **NO Wordly Wise or spelling this week.**

**Comprehension passage:** This week we will complete a nonfiction passage for homework, just complete it by   
Wednesday and turn it in on Wednesday. Continue to read for 20/20 but just write it in on the Book-it form for November.

**Math:** We started a measuring tic-tac-toe board to go along with our measurement unit. We will work with money more this quarter, measurement (to the nearest ½ inch and ¼ inch) and making change. We will work with thermometers this week. We are working on telling time to the minute and five minute as well as elapsed time. If you have an analog clock at home make your child tell you the time on that clock not the digital clocks as it supports this standard. Ask questions similar to these….. What time will it be in 20 minutes? What time was it an hour and half ago? What time will it be in 10 minutes? Use words like a quarter of an hour and ten to and five to six and five after 7. Kids struggle with these terms. Just some tips to use at home.

**Ten Marks**…. **NO Ten Marks this week**

**Boosterthon -** Turn in your money ASAP if you have not done so already.

Social Studies: November is constitution and election month. Julian’s family was nice enough to donate books to our class for the students about this topic so last week the kids were divided into groups and are becoming experts on a chapter and they will present to each other about their chapters after creating a literature web and a fact presentation. Pilgrim simulation we have been work with Mrs. Amos’ class since last Tuesday. I am sure many of you have heard as I have had many positive calls and notes about what we are learning and doing. Ask your child about the simulation it is hands lessons and problem solving the way the pilgrims had to as well as lots of writing and group work.

**Holiday performance** – Our Class WILL NOT be participating in the 1st and 2nd grade Holiday performance. This performance is not put on by or hosted by the Renaissance music teacher, not music time is allotted for these songs but solely by the 1st and 2nd grade teachers (whom work so hard and are amazing). After much thought and discussion it is not in the best use of our time out of class to practice and in class to sing holiday songs all the time. We are fully immersed in our pilgrim simulation that will be taking place the same time the 1st and 2nd grade teachers were planning to hold rehearsals so we would miss all the rehearsals. I also spoke to Mr. Anderson and we agreed that with 3rd quarter right around the corner where the entire Renaissance program at Highland Lakes participates in the musical that would be a more beneficial use of our time and singing abilities. If it was a chose between the holiday sing along and the musical I think we can all agree the musical is a better use of our classroom time and abilities.

I hope you can respect the decision that has been made it was honestly made in the best interest of the students and what we are currently working on and what we will be doing in the future. Know that it was not an easy decision to make either. Thank you for your continued support.

**Extra Credit…..**

The extra credit assignment is due Next Wednesday. If you need to keep the comprehension packet to complete the extra credit keep it and turn it all in at the same time. I will send it back home today with the students. We will not have Wordly Wise homework or spelling words next week due to the short week. Please turn in all Wordly wise books on Monday if you did not turn them in today.

**Canned Food drive…..**

Student Council is sponsoring our annual food drive to benefit St. Mary's food bank. Once again there is a tremendous need, especially at this time of year. We hope that you will support this effort and encourage your kiddos to bring in a few cans of food. The K-3, 4-6 and 7-8 grade classes that bring in the most food, with at least an average of 5 pounds per student, will be happily given a pizza party. We will be running the food drive from Wed. 11/20-Fri. 12/6. Student council members will be around on 11/25, 12/3 and 12/6 for pick up and weigh in. Please help us with this worthwhile cause and feed as many people as we can this holiday season.

**Turkey Drive…..**

We are also currently holding the turkey drive. Please drop off a turkey in the office by next Wednesday and these also go to families in need. If you are able to donate we greatly appreciate it.

**Career and College Spirit Week next week….**

**Tuesday 11/26** Dress your Best-Be your Best (Wear your best attire) **Wednesday 11/27** College Spirit Day (Wear your favorite college gear)

Upcoming events –

* **Nov. 21 Thanksgiving lunch at school**
* **Nov. 25 Fireman Matt visits our school**
* **Nov. 26 7:00 PM** [**Governing Board Meeting**](http://www.dvusd.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=36&PageType=17&DomainID=21&ModuleInstanceID=21&EventDateID=4964)
* **Nov. 28-29th No school**
* **Dec. 6th Half Day 12:05 dismissal**
* **Dec. 16th Science Fair Projects due.**
* **December 17th at 10:00 Field trip - More information to follow...**

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| **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** |
| 18  Homework  Comprehension  Reading 20/20 | 19  Homework  Comprehension  Reading 20/20 | 20  Homework  Comprehension  Reading 20/20 | 21  Homework  Comprehension  Reading 20/20 | 22  Homework Due  Comprehension  . |

* **Dec. 20th Half Day 12:05 dismissal**

Thank you, Mrs. Hoffman Diaz http://mrshoffmandiaz.weebly.com/