

# Mrs. Therrell's Library December Newsletter

## PreK-2<sup>nd</sup> Grades

To help us get in the Christmas spirit, we'll use the following texts this month: Elf on the Shelf, Memoirs of an Elf, How to Catch an Elf, How Santa Got His Job, How to Catch Santa, Santa Retires, Santa Cat, and Snowmen at Christmas. Engaging literacy centers will review the important themes learned from each text. We are striving to learn what is the true meaning of Christmas and understand the importance of having a giving heart at Christmas.

## 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Grades

We are celebrating our reading of Stone Fox by participating in a Break Out activity in which students must use their comprehension of the texts to solve clues and even break into a number lock before diving into the clues. The numbers will relate to our text, and I just know students can crack this case! Afterwards, we'll enjoy Christmas read alouds to get us in the Christmas spirit, and students will participate in centers that correlate. We are nearing the end of Top Secret in 4<sup>th</sup> grade. The ultimate question is will Allen pull it off? Can he prove to Miss Green and all his other critics that human photosynthesis can truly work?? Students are loving this text. The week before Christmas this group should be ready to try their hands at a Break Out activity centered on this text too. Will they break out? IF they think like scientists like our main character, Allen, then I think they will!

## 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grades

We are continuing with our Dewey Decimal school-wide incentive, *Deweyland*. Students in these grade levels jumped into it already, and I have been so proud. Students' goal is to read at least one text from each Dewey Decimal category in library. After reading, students write a summary, connection, and illustrate their favorite part. I have learned SO much about students through reading these response sheets. I love reading and writing back to our hardworking readers. If they beat the challenge before March 31<sup>st</sup>, they'll be invited to a "candy bar" and ice cream party.

Students in 5<sup>th</sup> grade are creating Dewey Decimal category Google slideshows that we can print to have as an easy reference tool for readers participating in Deweyland. This will help ALL learners at PES get more familiar with how our nonfiction texts are organized.

6<sup>th</sup> graders voted and chose to participate in Christmas Around the World research groups. They are reading, researching, and creating Google Slideshows or Christmas Around the World trifold posters on their chosen country's traditions, decorations, Santa, and food.

## Teachers' Corner

- In addition to light-hearted Christmas read alouds, we also have nonfiction texts on Christmas Around the World. Stop by and see which countries' traditions are still available!
- Planning for January? We have lots of wintry wonderful books for all of our snow-themed plans!

Thank you all for being such supporters of library. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to our fabulous teachers!