



N.A. Walbran Elementary

December 2021



From the Principal...

Dear Families, Guardians, and Students,

Our Walbran Elementary faculty and staff wish all of our students and families the very best health and happiness for this holiday season. The success of our students and school are a direct result of the partnership between all parties in this school community.

While this is the last newsletter of the 2021 calendar year it is by far our largest, which is a testimony to the many programs and activities we offer in our building.

We have almost 50 students participating in the Academic Enrichment Program every Tuesday and Thursday night. In addition, Mrs. Brown and Mr. Enos are conducting an intramural program which involves another 50 students. The above programs combined with the Eastern Star after school programs provides over 120 students additional opportunities to learn and play in our building.

At this time COVID numbers have stabilized and we have pictures of our recent vaccination POD for students aged 5 to 11 in our building which was held on December 15th. Students who were vaccinated are reminded the second dose is scheduled for Wednesday, January 5th from 4:00 to 7:00 at N. A. Walbran elementary school. It is our hope that we will be able to continue to open the building and programs in the coming months. We truly appreciate all the support from parents during this trying time. Your help and modeling have made a **DIFFERENCE!!!**

Looking forward, the District has hired Mrs. Catherine Mucurio as the new principal at N. A. Walbran elementary. Mrs. Mucurio comes to Oriskany from her most recent job with the Rome City School District. She will be reaching out to students and our school community as she begins her duties after the Christmas break.

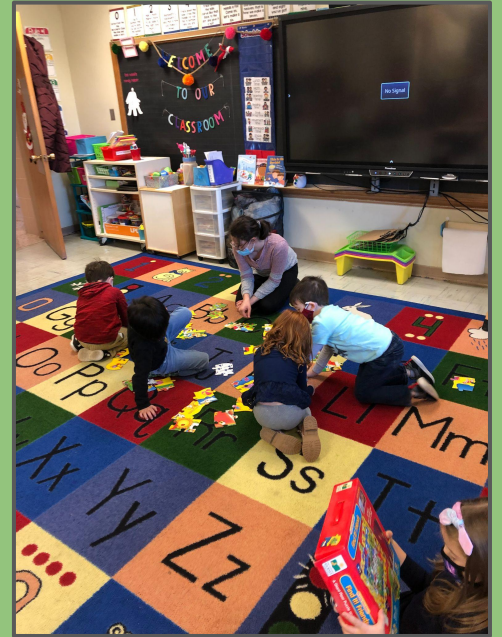
Our staff is starting to design the upcoming Pick A Reading Partner (PARP) program. We are very excited to work with the PTA in designing our literacy activities that will focus on our students and parents/guardians continuing to increase their reading skills and access to books and materials.

As I finish my Interim Principal assignment at N. A. Walbran elementary school, please accept my sincere appreciation and thanks to this Oriskany school community for your help and support of your children and our programs. Being able to work with the Walbran teachers, staff, and most importantly your children, has been one of the most enjoyable educational journeys I have had the privilege and honor to experience.

Sincerely,

Mr. James VanWormer

Preschool..Mrs. Myers's class



6th graders, Salvatore Eichhorn and Isabella Smith, have been volunteering during their recess time. They have been playing games such as Memory, and helping the students with puzzles and coloring! They are SO great with the little ones!

Kindergarten

Kindergarteners have the spirit of giving!

The Kindergarten students made Christmas cards for the residents of the FASNY Firemen's Home.



1st Grade...Mrs. Gray and Ms. Hall's classes



On December 10th, Stuff the Bus came to N.A. Walbran to collect toys. The students were able to put the toy that they donated on the bus.



1st grade students participated in Stuff the Bus as their service project. Students had to do chores at home in order to earn money to purchase unwrapped toys to donate for the project.



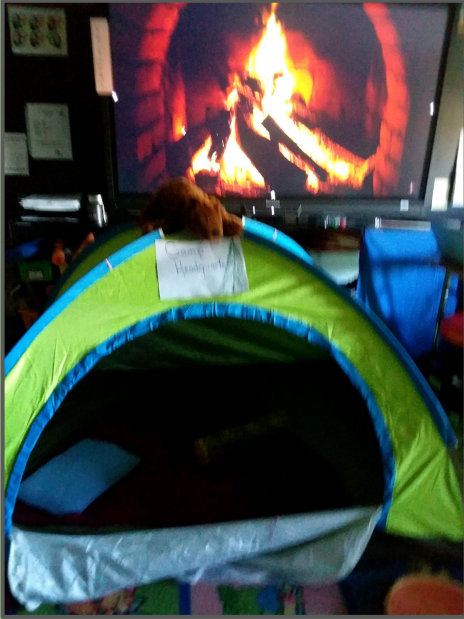
On December 9th, the entire first grade class went on a field trip to the Stanley Theatre to see the Nutcracker.



Once they purchased their toy, they were able to bring the toy in and put it under the Christmas tree.

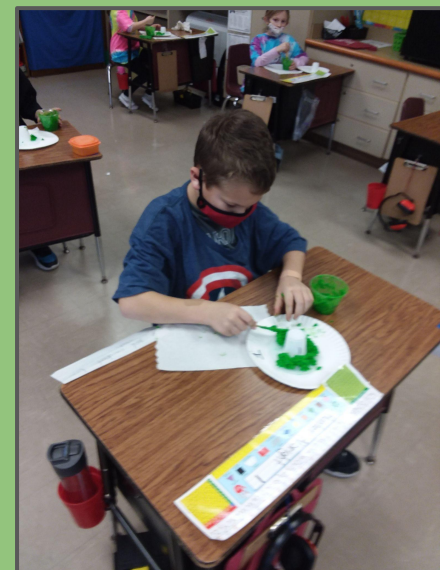
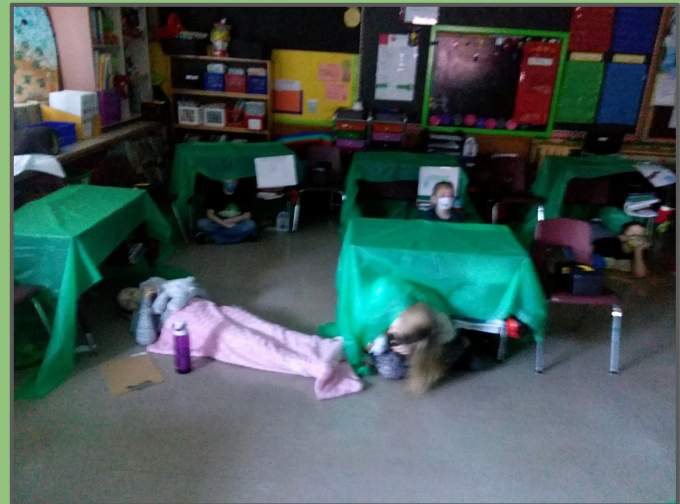


2nd Grade...Mrs. Waskiewicz's Class

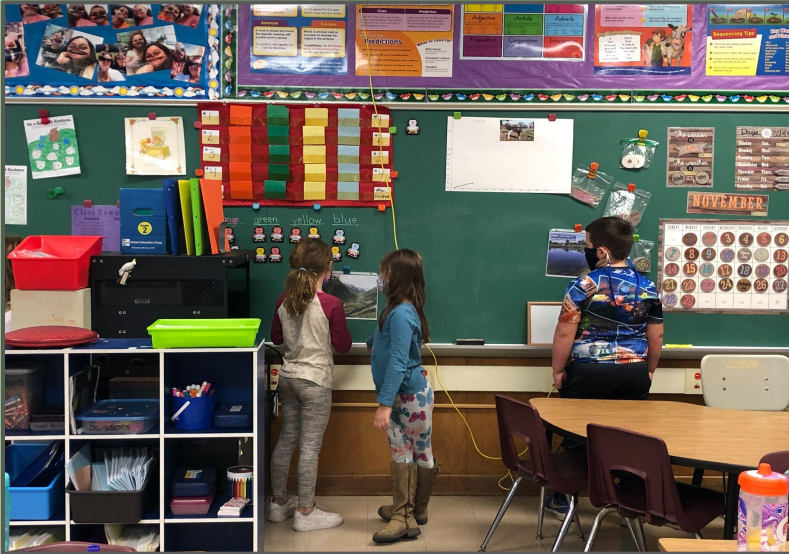


Students worked hard filling their honey jar with good behavior so they could have a camp day! Students brought in blankets and pillows and items to make their campsite cozy. They also enjoyed their flashlight reading!

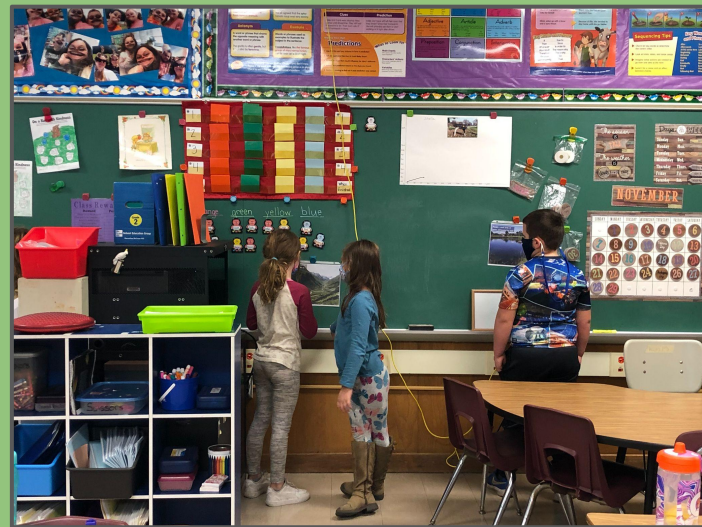
Christmas wreaths were made by following a step by step activity.



2nd Grade... Mrs. Zarnoch-Riley's Class



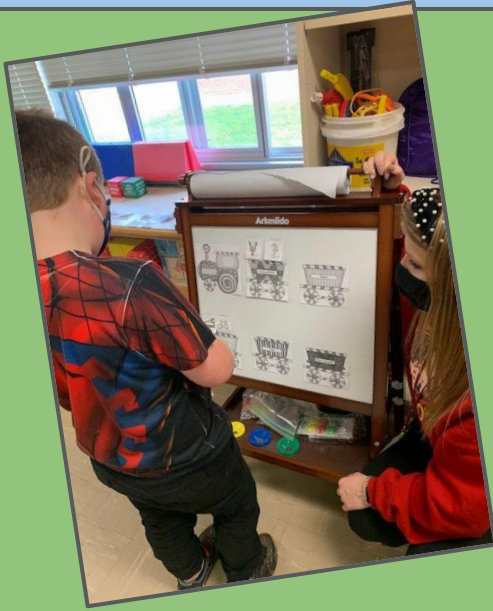
Students in 2nd grade learned new landform vocabulary terms with a gallery walk around the classroom.



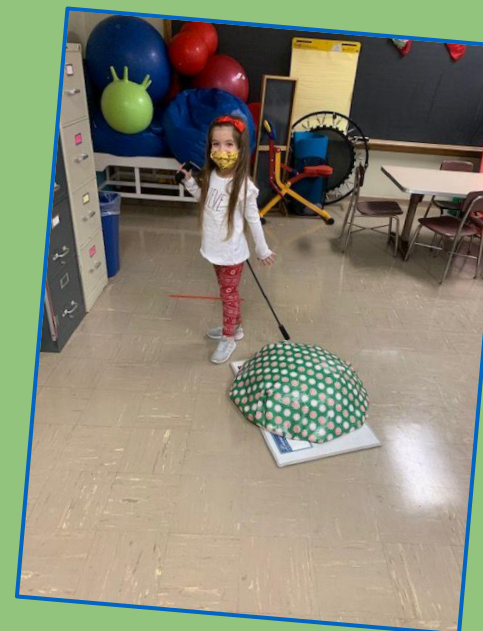
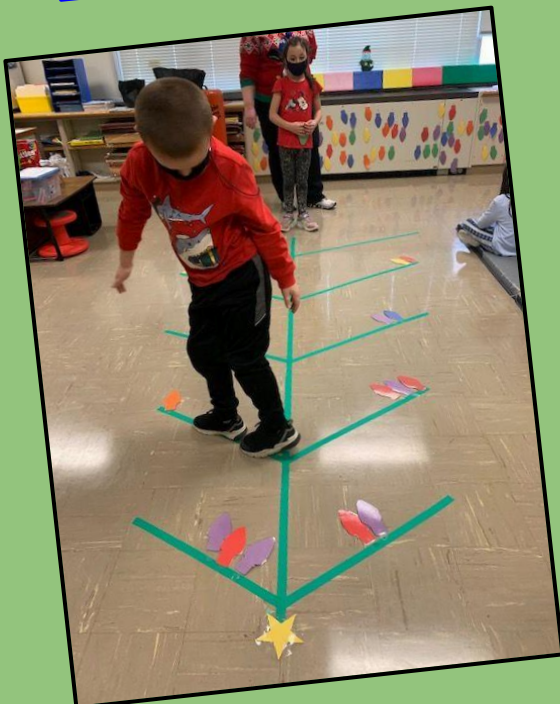
It's always fun to practice math facts in front of a warm, cozy fire!



2nd Grade Obstacle Course



All students in grades Pre-K to 2nd were able to participate in the Christmas motor obstacle course. This fun course was created by Ms. Cotrupe, Ms. Schuster, and Ms. Gower.



3rd Grade: Ms. Seamon's Class...

Students in Ms. Seamon's class are learning about animal adaptations in science. The students learned about different types of fossils. They made their own cast and mold fossils with clay and plaster of paris. Mr. VanWormer joined in the fun and made his own fossil too!



Holiday Class Donations

PreK:	Rome Rescue Mission
Kindergarten:	Spring Care Farms
1st Grade	Stuff the Bus
2nd Grade	Utica Zoo
3rd/4th Grade	Rome Humane Society
5th/6th Grade:	Thea Bowman



Art Special with Mrs. Kane

6th graders used model magic to make 3D sculptures from 2D drawings of original creatures. They also used it to make sculptures to put inside dry snowglobes.



Technology Special with Mrs. Daskiewich

During Technology special this month, students have enjoyed spending time building with Legos and programming their creations. Many classes also had the opportunity to transform their iPad into a hands-on coding adventure using the OSMOS coding kit.



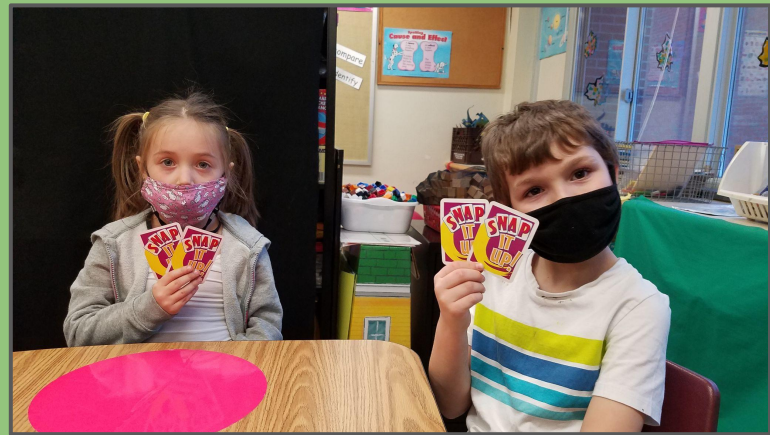
After School Program



The After School Enrichment Program is off to a great start. There are about 40 1st - 4th grade students enrolled. The program focuses on ELA and Math skills, and students have many opportunities to practice in a small group setting.

Our team:

Alyssa Fazio, Stacy DeFabio, Hallie Myers, Erica Island, Becky Hughes, Katie Reiben, Marissa Brown, and Becky Reiben

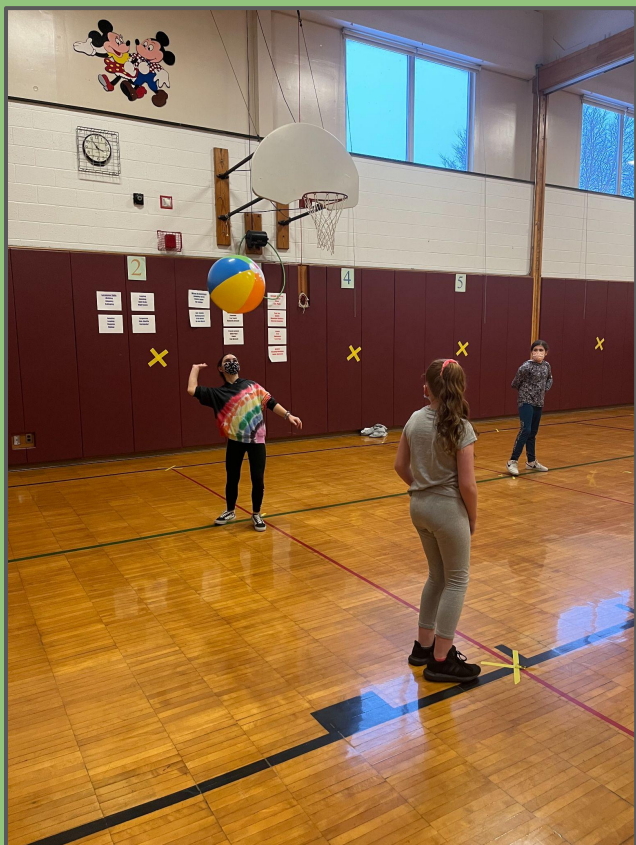


5th and 6th Grade

Intercommercials

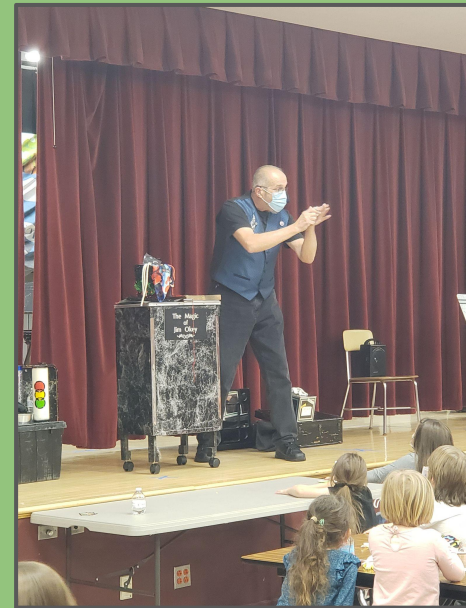


The 5th and 6th Grade Girls and Boys have been participating in various activities after school with Mr. Enos and Mrs. Brown. For the month of December, they have been concentrating on volleyball and badminton.



PTA Drop Off Event, December 8

Parents dropped their children off for two hours of fun, crafts, snacks, and magical entertainment at N A Walbran allowing parents/guardians to prepare for the holidays.



Jim Okey volunteered his time to put on an amazing Magic Show full of dinosaurs, magical ropes, rabbits and much more!



A special reading of the Night Before Christmas was read by Therese Hanna.



Santa stopped by to pass out candy canes to the 85 children in attendance.

Special thanks to high school volunteers: Robert Richie, Peyton Hemming, Katelyn Shamis, Paige Mazur, Anthony Kernan, Noah Noralis



This Happened....

POD Vaccination Event for Oriskany children ages 5-11 was held on Wednesday, December 14.



Zero the Hero visited classes to celebrate the 60th day of school.



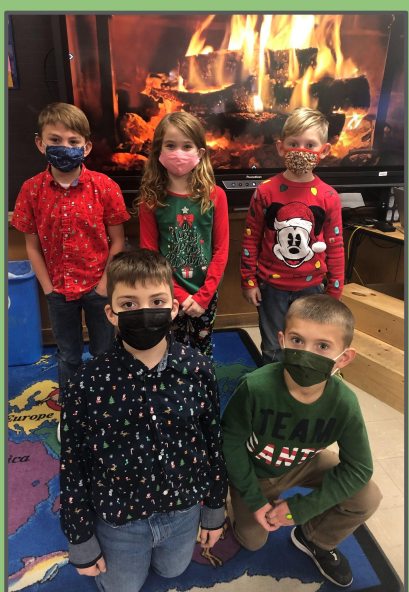
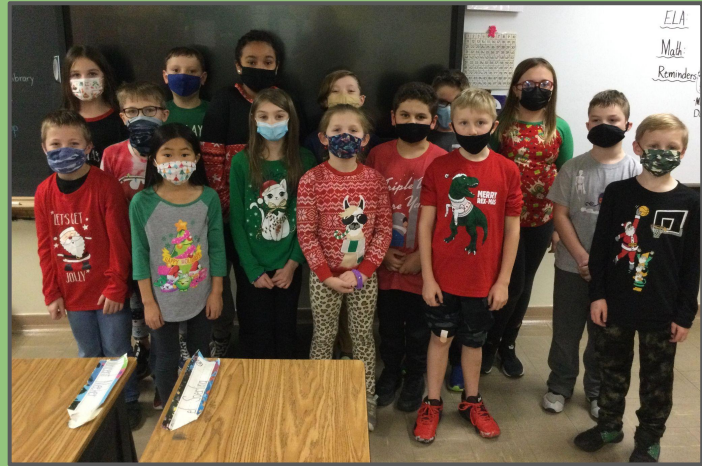
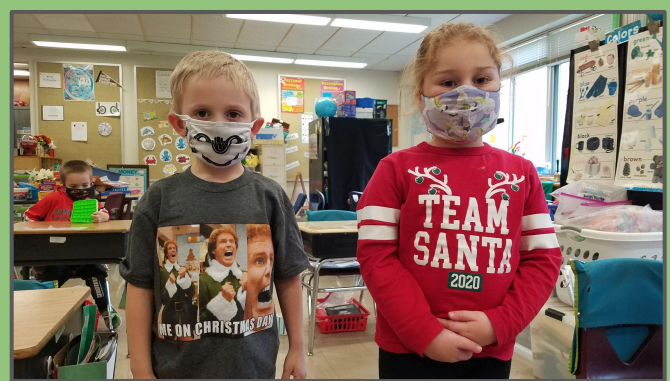
Dec. 9, the N.A. Walbran Elementary School band and chorus members performed a winter concert, live and in-person, for their families to enjoy.



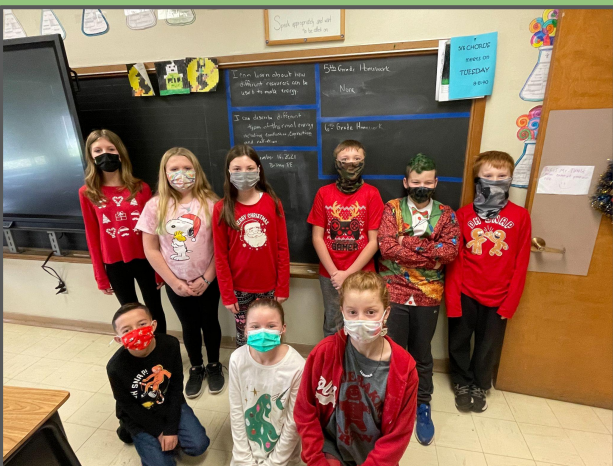
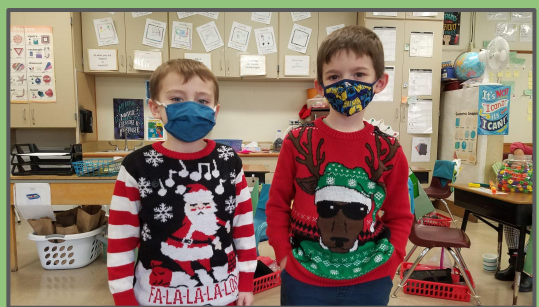
Students were able to shop for others at the Penguin Patch the week of December 13th. The PTA organized this wonderful event for students.



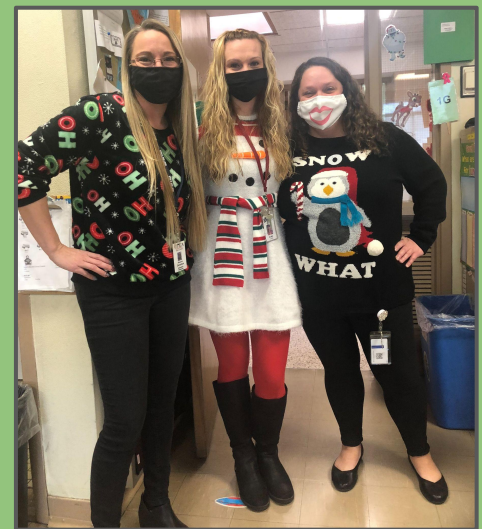
Student Council Holiday Spirit Week: December 16-20



Spirit Week began with holiday cheer.



Students, faculty/staff all wore their favorite holiday shirts and sweaters!



Flannel Day and Christmas Best



Thank you, PTA!



The PTA recently purchased many games and activities for students to use during inside recess. Students love building with the various Lego kits and playing the traditional board games like Sorry, Clue, Guess Who?, Chinese Checkers and many more!! A HUGE thank you from all the students!



Upcoming Events and Reminders



Mark Your Calendars!

Winter Recess:	December 23-December 31
School Resumes:	Monday, January 3
January 5:	Vaccination Clinic, 4:00-7:00
January 6:	6th grade students begin selling the World's Finest Chocolate bars for \$1/candy bar
January 17:	No school: Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!