

Good afternoon!

We only have one more full week left before winter break! We will be finishing up *A Christmas Carol*, so we will be ready to start *James and the Giant Peach* and *The Outsiders* when we return in January. We will have one more test in Science, over Chapter 8, and likely one more test in Social Studies, since we will have enough time to get through one more chapter in the book. We had our final guest for the year on Friday- Anita Brown from IDNR. Anita visited and talked to the class about minerals and rocks as well as her experiences inspecting oil drilling equipment around southern Illinois.

Students each randomly chose a classmate for their "Secret Santa." Each card had several options and gift ideas. If you have any questions, please let me know and I will attempt to clarify! We will be exchanging gifts on Wednesday, December 18, at our class party. Next week, I will send around a sheet asking if anyone would like to send snacks for the party. Students made cards for the Kindergarten/Pre-K class this week. We will be planning an event/project to share with them on December 17.

We have quite a few upcoming events:

Wednesday, December 11- Hiking trip

Friday, December 13- Book swap

Saturday, December 14- Barnes and Noble Book Fair (I am reading at 10:30)

Wednesday, December 18- Locker clean out, class party, Winter Program

Thursday, December 19- Student-led conferences (I have 8:00-9:00 available, then 11:00 am until 2:00)

Friday, December 20- Student-led conferences (I have 8:00 am until 12:00 available)

If those times don't work, please let me know and we can work something out.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me-

Heather