



Trail Blazer News



January 22-25, 2008

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In the News...

Expeditionary Learning is centered around ten design principles: The first is The Primacy of Self-discovery: Learning happens best with emotion, challenge and the requisite support. People discover their abilities, values, passions, and responsibilities in situations that offer adventure and the unexpected. In Expeditionary Learning schools, students undertake tasks that require perseverance, fitness, craftsmanship, imagination, self-discipline, and significant achievement.

Spelling / Vocabulary

Spelling –Check with your child to see what personal spelling words they are focusing upon.

Vocabulary- We will begin focus our expedition content vocabulary. Remember to complete your vocabulary homework.

Spelling and Vocabulary tests are on Thursday and Friday.

Summit School Annual Auction:

We only have one fund-raiser per year, which provide funds for our fieldwork and over-night events.

Ms. Bos' crew: Date Night, for grownups :)
Mrs. Freeman's crew: Gift Cards Galore
Mrs. Smith's crew: [an ice cream social basket](#)
Mr. Watts' crew: [A large rag rug created by students](#)

Thank you! The auction donation items are due February 1.



Math

6th Grade - The sixth grade students have gained a great understanding of area and perimeter of polygons and recently with circles. Final assessment will be given this Friday. You can be helpful to your child by doing a walk-thru of their math book for review. Be sure to support your child with their *Plan a Park* project that is due Friday, Feb. 1.

5th Grade - Within our geometry unit we are practicing locating points on a grid, as well as how useful coordinate lines are in our world. We will be working our final product for our Shapes and Designs unit.

Mt. Spokane Ski Adventure

We are becoming very excited about testing out what we have learned about forces and motion on the ski hill.

Have you sent in your child's information for our ski trip on Thursday, February 7, 2008? If you have a 5th grade ski passport, you will receive the lift ticket and ski lessons, free. If you need to rent equipment, the passport will give you 50% the regular price of rental (\$25.00), which will be \$12.50.

For more information about cost, necessary clothing, and logistics, please read the packets sent home with your child, or contact your child's base camp teacher.

Please send in your child's form and money AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Please turn this page over . . . and thank you for reading our news!

---Checking your child's planner on a nightly basis will help build strong study skills.



Reading

We will focus on how to determine the important ideas within the texts we are reading, while utilizing fix-up strategies to help us comprehend.

Ask your child to talk with you about connections they make while reading.



YMCA Swimming and Rock Climbing



Beginning the week of January 28, 2008

Each base camp will have a day of the week that they will enjoy this fitness experience:

Monday

Mr. Watts' crew

Tuesday

Mrs. Freeman's crew

Thursday

Mrs. Smith's crew

Friday

Ms. Bos' crew

Please be prepared with a swimsuit (one piece suits for girls), a towel, a brush, and a plastic bag. A brush or comb, shower cap and goggles are optional.



Writing

As we continue to practice using the writing process, we will focus on the trait of Organization. We have been practicing writing good leads to grab our reader's attention, writing a strong body of the piece with smooth transitions, and we will focus on conclusions. Their piece about their three goals or three things they would change is due this week. If you have questions, please ask your child's base camp teacher.



Important Dates

Monday, January 21 - Martin Luther King Holiday-No school

Monday, January 28-YMCA Swimming and Rock Climbing start this week...see your base camp teacher for your class' day of the week. This activity will happen one day per week for each class and continue for seven weeks.

Thursday, February 7, 2008 – Our annual **downhill ski trip** to Mt. Spokane. The information packets are being sent home soon. Please return your permission slip as soon as possible. If you are going to accompany us on this trip, have you completed the district required volunteer application?