

Blue News

- **Time Sensitive!!!** In the Thursday Folder this week there is a **school board survey**. Three issues are being surveyed:
 - Reinstating the fourth grade program at Blue
 - Full day kindergarten
 - Pre-school at Blue School

The survey is **DUE MONDAY, DEC. 19**. It may be returned to school or responded to electronically to gordonpond@wildblue.net. This is a quick turn-around. This survey is necessary to provide the board with direction for planning with an eye to fiscal responsibility and the best education possible.

- This Friday evening, December 16, the Blue School Players will perform **Scrooge**, a musical adaptation of Dickens' classic, *A Christmas Carol at the Town Hall*. This musical adaptation for young children is taken from another musical, *The Stingiest Man in Town*, and will be performed as a mini-opera. Please join us for an uplifting and inspiring evening of music!
- We will be **rehearsing at the Town Hall** on Thursday morning. If you have volunteered to drive, please be sure we have a copy of your license and insurance. If your child needs a **booster seat**, please drop it off (labeled with your child's name) at school before 8 AM.
- A reminder that on Friday evening all of the **children need to report to Town Hall at 5:40** for costuming.
- Please send **Secret Santa presents** into school on Monday. Presents should be homemade, wrapped and clearly labeled with the name of the recipient (please do not indicate who the present is from, we have a great time guessing!)
- **Winter Parking:** Please do not park in the school driveway when dropping off or picking up students. These spaces are needed for staff parking.
- Christmas Break: Dec. 21-Jan. 2. See you on Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2012!

Literacy: Kindergartners have been enjoying holiday stories and poems. Please review letters and numbers over vacation- and be sure to snuggle up by the woodstove and share some good books!

Team 2 is really flying with their reading. Read over vacation!

Team 3 is reading about Penguins. They are starting note-taking skills.

Teams 4 is finishing *The Courage of Sarah Noble*.

Team 5 is finishing *A Lion to Guard Us*. Both groups have been identifying courage and responsibility in readiness for a writing project with Mrs. Leddy.

Math:

The Kindergarten can count to 400 (by tens!). Once they learned to count to 100, there was no stopping them! At the students' requests, we have been adding a hundred each day and hope to get up to 1000. Team 1 has working on number sense, exploring different ways to create numbers and looking for patterns on the number grid. Team 2 has been learning to read thermometers in Celsius and Fahrenheit and calculating temperature change. Team 3 explored the relationship between the diameter and circumference of a circle by measuring the diameter and circumference of many cans and looking for patterns in their data. They found that the circumference of any circle is roughly three times its diameter. Who ever thought third graders could derive Pi?!

Music/Theater: The children are ready to entertain you!

French: Food has been the subject. The children are composing sentences in French to describe their meals.

Library: The children are discussing various genres in reading. They will post which books that they have read in the different genres, e.g., poetry, fiction, nonfiction, etc. The children read *Bonjour Mr. Satie* by Tomie dePaola. It is an historical fiction about a rivalry between Pablo Picasso and Henri Matisse. They explored both artists' work on the Smart Board.

Up-Coming Events:

Rehearsal for our show; Town Hall, December 15; 8:00 am

Christmas Musical Scrooge; December 16; 6:30 PM

Regular School Board Meeting; December 20, 6:00 Budget Meeting; Everyone encouraged to attend

Holiday Break: Dec. 21-Jan 2.

Blue School.....wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe, Happy New Year!