

# News from Mrs. P's class

## November 30, 2012

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- ❖ I can't believe it's almost December! This week, both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders did a special activity in their homerooms. Our BLAST student leaders lead an activity where students created "cakes" out of various supplies which celebrated kindness. These cakes will be judged by celebrity judges next week with the winning homeroom receiving a special surprise. Homerooms are also collecting supplies for Joe's Pantry to create "Birthday Bags" for patrons to use to celebrate family members' birthdays.

What we've been up to . . .

- ❖ **In 7<sup>th</sup> grade**—This week, we began a unit on persuasive writing. We've been discussing facts and opinions, and how to avoid generalizations in persuasive writing. We looked more closely at an article entitled "Summer Vacation Makes no Sense". Needless to say, the students were not overly convinced to scrap their time off in the summer, but the arguments were compelling. Next week, they'll continue to work on persuasive writing and will read other articles including one entitled "Is Facebook Making you Mean?"
- ❖ **In 8<sup>th</sup> grade**—Students finished their personal narratives last week before the long weekend. I am hoping to have them graded and entered into Infinite Campus in the next few days. \*\*I am still missing essays from a few students in each class. These have been denoted w/a zero in the online gradebook and will be until I receive their essays. This week, we started a grammar unit (insert collective groan here), but students are being troopers and have been working hard. The final test on this unit will be on **Monday, December 10.**

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Enjoy your weekend! I'm realizing that one of my favorite things about this time of year is not necessarily all the holiday preparations, but the fact that I can use the "Honey, Santa is watching. Be good!" line on my daughter. If only I could use that on my 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders ☺

Have a wonderful weekend and thanks for all you do!  
Jen Peterson