

News from Mrs. P's class

December 9, 2012

- ❖ Well, it looks like Winter is finally here! I'm watching the Packer game as I type this, and I think I'm happy that I'm inside and warm and not at Lambeau Field. ☺

What we've been up to . . .

- ❖ **In 7th grade**—This week, we continued our unit on persuasive writing. We've worked on creating strong thesis statements and on supporting opinions with compelling evidence. Students responded to an article entitled "Is Facebook Making you Mean?" Additionally, students discussed how persuasion is used in the media as we discussed bias and advertising techniques. Students had to "sell" their favorite book or movie using these techniques. Next week, students will take a short reading assessment and we will spend the rest of the week and the following week reading the classic story of "Rip Van Winkle".
- ❖ **In 8th grade**—Students wrapped up a grammar unit on sentences and will take the final test on Tuesday, December 11 (note change in date). Students who earn a D or an F on this assessment will take a retest on Friday (10/14) with the opportunity to raise their grade to a 70%. We'll then spend the next two weeks reading the classic novella Flowers for Algernon. Do any of you recall reading this story about Charlie, the cognitively disabled man who becomes a genius?

Hope your weekend was enjoyable! This week Friday (12/14), Shattuck will participate in the school year's first dodgeball tournament. All money raised and food that is collected all week in homerooms will be donated to local food pantries. Join us Friday afternoon to watch the tournament--it's certainly going to be entertaining and raises money for a wonderful cause!

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