

1J News

December 12, 2008

Today is the 67th day of first grade.

All are welcome to join us on Friday, December 19, at 10:30 in the music room for 1J's performance of The Singing Drum. Remember your cameras (and batteries!).

Yes, the holiday season has arrived and you can feel the anticipation in the air! The children are very excited, but with frequent breaks and times to be silly and let out some of the excitement (we all need that!), they are able to focus on their school work. This truly is a magical time of year and I hope you are able to sit back, treasure both the special and ordinary moments, and create family memories.

Our study of Ghana has begun. The children are now able to locate Ghana on the map and have learned about the different regions of Ghana. This week we were so fortunate to have Joe and Vida Galeota visit our classroom. Vida grew up in Ghana and she and Joe make frequent visits to her beautiful homeland. In fact, they are building a home there. During their visit they shared some traditions, language, and music. They showed the children how babies are carried, how people are served food and drink, and how kings and queens are dressed. Thank you so much to the Creative Arts committee and the PTO for bringing both the Galeotas and Nan Rumpf to Hunnewell School. These programs enrich the children's learning of, and appreciation for, Ghana.

Kente cloth should be arriving home soon. Thank you to the volunteers who came in to help with weaving this week.

We began writing letters this week. The letters include the date, a proper greeting, the body, a proper closing, and a signature. The first letter was to our 5H reading buddies.

Last week some 7th graders from Wellesley Middle School walked to Hunnewell School and read their original fairy tales to the children in 1J. It was an enriching activity for all involved.

Just a reminder that the children need to be at school when the bell rings at 8:30am. Arriving even a few minutes late may make it more difficult for your child to transition into the school day.

Looking Ahead

Monday, December 15 - Construction workshop for Ghanaian play

Friday, December 19 - Ghanaian performance "The Singing Drum"

10:30-11:00 in the music room - families invited

Tuesday, December 23 - School dismissed at 3:05 for December vacation

Monday, January 5, 2009 - Happy New Year! Back to school!!

Monday, January 19 - No School - Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Wednesday, February 11 - Family Open School Night

Lori

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