



# Sixth Grade News

## January 2009



**Reading:** We have begun a unit entitled *Challenges and Obstacles*. The comprehension skills we will be focusing on during this unit include: sequence, making generalizations, and drawing conclusions. Each lesson includes 7-9 new vocabulary words. Students will complete reading test each Friday that assesses their knowledge of these new words as well as their comprehension of the week's story. Ask your child about what they have been reading in class!

**Writing Workshop:** Our poetry unit has been a lot of fun! Students first studied poetic devices such as simile, metaphor, alliteration and onomatopoeia, and have now begun a web quest which they are using to study a variety of poetry forms. For their final project, students will create a poetry portfolio that includes many of these forms of their own writing. Look for poems on our February bulletin board!

**Math:** We are tirelessly working to prepare for the upcoming NYS Mathematics test the students will be taking the week of March 9th. The sixth graders have completed our study of fractions and are moving quickly through a study of ratios and proportions. In addition to these new skills, we are continuously reviewing previous material to prepare for the test.

**Science:** The sixth grade has started studying the Solar System. We will learn about the main components of the solar system as well as how each part affects life here on Earth. We will be visiting the planetarium in February to enhance this

**Social Studies:** We had a lot of fun completing our study of Ancient Egypt. The sixth graders saw many genuine artifacts and relics, including mummies, during their trip to the Albany Institute. We have now begun learning about Ancient China. The focus of these studies is the contributions of Ancient Societies to our world today.

### Dates to Remember:

January

◆ 21st- 23rd  
**NYS ELA  
Exam**

February

◆ 10th Field Trip  
to Planetarium

◆ 11th Half Day  
Parent Confer-  
ences

◆ 16th-20th Win-  
ter Break No  
School

March

◆ 9th-13th  
**NYS Math  
Exam**

◆ 25th Spring  
Performance  
6pm

### How To Contact Me

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