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FROM MRS. HEBERT

Character

Challenges make you discover things about yourself that you never really knew. – Cicely Tyson

I hope each of our Berkley families had a peaceful and joyous Holiday Season and a Happy, Healthy New Year. We are so excited to be back at school to begin, what I am sure will be a successful and productive 2012 for our students and their educational journeys! MCAS remediation letters went home on before the holiday break for all students who scored a Warning or Low Needs Improvement in the areas of English Language Arts. Signed permission slips are due back in the office ASAP so we can have our groups ready to go for the week of January 9, 2012. If your child falls in one of the above categories; either Warning or Needs Improvement between 220 - 230, please make sure you have seen their invitation to participate in the MCAS program and return the signed portion to us or call the office. We hope that together, with the rigorous and relevant education all students are receiving each and every day through their regular classroom instruction, that they will be more than adequately prepared to be successful on the MCAS tests in March and May as well as with their day to day studies. We are pleased and proud of our students as they continue to move forward on their middle school journey; working together, becoming independent learners, challenging themselves, overcoming obstacles, asking for help and developing strategies that will assist them throughout their lives. Here's to a successful 2012!

BMS IMPORTANT DATES

Jan. 3	School Reopens	
Jan. 4	Basketball Game v Norton-Gym	3:00 PM
Jan. 5	PTO Mtg.-Admin. Conf. Rm.	6:30 PM
Jan. 9	School Comm. Mtg.-Library	6:30 PM
Jan. 11	Basketball Game v Middleboro-Gym	3:00 PM
Jan. 12	5 & 6 Grade Social	2:30-4:00 PM
	Basketball Game v Westport-Gym	3:00 PM
Jan. 16	No School-Martin Luther King Jr. Day	
Jan. 18	Basketball Game v Freetown/Lakeville-Gym	3:00 PM
Jan. 19	Basketball Game v TCMS-Gym	3:00 PM
Jan. 20	7 & 8 Grade Dance	6:30-8:30 PM
Jan. 30	Basketball Game v Somerset-Gym	3:00 PM



CAMP BOURNE DALE

Our students in Grades 6 & 7 are gearing up for an exciting outdoor, educational experience at Camp Bournedale the week of April 9-13. If there are any individuals/businesses able to make a donation for student scholarships we would greatly appreciate the gesture. Grade 6 student tuitions are \$325 and grade 7 tuitions are \$350. Any donation is welcome and appreciated. For more information on how you can make a donation, please contact the Superintendent's office at 508-822-5220. Health Forms will be sent home soon and are due to Mrs. Bernard by Friday, March 9, 2012. If you have elected to pay in multiple payments, the second payment for Camp Bournedale is due by January 20. All payments must be paid in full by March 2. If you have any questions about Camp Bournedale, please call the school at 508-884-9434



SURROUND CARE NEWS

All of you had a wonderful vacation break! Surround Care will be closed on January 16th due to the holiday. Please note that payments are due at your contracted amount regardless of the alternate day for the holiday during that week, a one week notice



should be given. Your request will be accepted if space is available. Payment statements will be sent out the beginning of the month to all families currently enrolled in Surround Care so be sure to check your family mailbox. These statements will show how much you paid for Surround Care services in 2011. If your child attended Surround Care in 2011 but they are NOT CURRENTLY ENROLLED in the program, you will need to contact Michelle Fiola at 508-822-8567 to request a payment statement. We would like to send out a special thank you to all the generous families and staff members who participated in our Clothe-a-Child Assistance. Your support and kindness will help keep many children warm this holiday season. If you need any information regarding Surround Care, please contact Michelle Fiola at 508-822-8567.



GRADE 5 NEWS

Mrs. Graca Social Studies: Formation of the 13 original colonies, and using nonfiction reading strategies to study colonial life. **ELA:** Parts of speech, prefixes, root words, and suffixes. Check out our monsters in the Monster Gallery at: <http://www.monsterexchange.org/gallery/gallery.html> **Reading:** Unit 3 ðGo With the Flow stories with a water theme, and reviewing test taking strategies. Mystery book reports due February 2, 2012. **Ms. Urbanek** Happy New Year! **Science:** Students will use the 5-steps of the engineering design process to create a lighting system to increase the intensity of light of 6 hieroglyphics in a model Egyptian tomb. Students will need to work with a team to complete this project in class. **Math:** Students will have multiple opportunities to complete, peer-edit, fix, and publish open-response questions. Students are encouraged to use a checklist to guide them as they answer each one. Responses scoring a 3 or 4 will be inducted into The Hall of Fame for Shining Stars and displayed in our classroom. It's their time to shine!

LIBRARY NEWS

Just a reminder to bring back overdue books and movies. If you have any overdue materials, you will not be able to take any others out from the library until they are returned.



IMPORTANT BUS INFORMATION

Please note that our buses are running at full capacity. It is **not** possible to honor requests for students to ride home on **any bus other than their own.**

GUIDANCE NEWS

ALL high school applications should have been passed in by now, including the BP applications. Any private high school applicant that missed the Placement Test, their parent needs to call the high school's Guidance Dept and reschedule.

THANK YOU FOR THE DONATIONS

Thank you to everyone who donated to our Toys for Tots and Teens Drive. We were able to donate toys to 15 Berkley families. Our Coat Drive was also a huge success. We collected over 150 coats. They will keep many children and adults warm this winter.

