



Our

Class

News

*Tiss the season to be jolly!!!*



# Set your calendar

Wow! Hasn't 2008 flown by fast! Mark your calendar for these important dates.



- 5th-19th – Christmas around the world unit – ending with our “Cultural Feast” on the 19th at 12:45.
- 5th –Awards assembly 8:45
- 14th -This is the start of Christmas break. Remember we get 3 weeks off. Enjoy the break and hope to see all of you back after the New Year!! .....the year **2009 (Jan. 12th)**

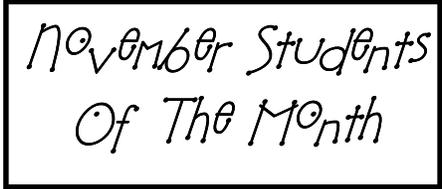
Starting next week we are going to study how Christmas is celebrated around the world. If you, as a parent, have a special tradition (a special art, dance, story, or food) you would like to share with the class, that has a cultural background I would love to have you come in and share it with the class. It would be a great experience for everyone. Just let me know what day you can come in and I'll fit you into the day's lessons.



## FUN INFORMATION FOR ALL (humor for the holidays)

HEADLINE: Polish Air Disaster

API (Poland): A small two-seater Cessna 152 plane crashed into a cemetery early this afternoon in central Poland. Polish search and rescue workers have recovered 300 bodies so far and expect that number to climb as digging continues into the evening.



Congratulations to Noah, Jennifer, and Michael. They were November and December's Award winners. Also, congratulations to those who had perfect attendance for the month. They received homework passes.

**Reminder:** If your child is absent please **call** the school or **send a note** to let us know why they were absent - -Thanks !

## Helping your child read

**A rule of thumb for choosing a book:** —To help you child select a book that is just right for them, try this “rule of thumb”. Have your child read one page of the book, holding up one finger for each unknown word. If your child holds up four fingers and a thumb before finishing the page the book is probably too difficult for them to read alone. It may be a book for you and your child to read together.

## Good reader strategies



1. Stretch out words
2. Go back and read again
3. Look at the pictures
4. Stop reading if it doesn't make sense
5. Look for the little parts of words you know.
6. Use words in the sentence to help you figure out the meaning.
7. Make pictures in your mind.
8. Ask questions in your mind and make notes.
9. Think as you read.
10. Find a quiet place to read.
11. Use what you know to figure out a new word.
12. Sound out the words.

The students have been working real hard at writing stories. This last month they even recorded themselves reading one of their stories so you can listen to it online. Check it out at our classroom web page (address below). You can also e-mail Santa and track his Christmas journey on that special night (check out the link's page).