



# Peace Terrace Academy

33330 Peace Terrace, Fremont, California, 94555, Phone: (510) 477-9946, Fax: (510) 477-9963

## **8<sup>th</sup> GRADE NEWSLETTER**

**JANUARY 2012**

### **MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Monday, Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup> – School Resumes
- Tuesday Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> – Spellathon
- Monday, Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> – Teachers-in-Service Day, **NO SCHOOL**

**Dear Parents,**

As-salaam Alaikum

I wish you all a very happy and prosperous New Year, Insha Allah. We are back refreshed and ready for the second leg of our school year. Thank you, parents for your contribution towards our bake sale that we had before the winter break. Alhumdulillah, we made \$ 115 which we will spend for our class supplies and field trips. Our student council has taken office and they will be planning some community activities very soon.

### **LANGUAGE ARTS**

This month we will be completing unit 3 and will go on to unit 4. The Big Question of this unit is - What is the secret to reaching someone with words? In this unit we will learn about poetry which can say a lot with only a few words. The readings in this unit will help students think about the different ways that writers reach readers with their words. Each poem will inspire new ways to think about the Big Question. At the end of the unit, students will see how their ideas have changed.

Week 1: Forest Fire

Week 2: The Trouble with Television

Week 3: Science and the Sense of Wonder

Week 4: Emancipation

Word Study: Latin roots, -vad-; -bellum-; -pass-; -tract-

Grammar: comparative and superlative forms of adjectives and adverbs; conjunctions; prepositions.

Writing: reflective essay; evaluation of persuasive argument; How-to-Essay.

Listening/Speaking: Skit; Speech

### **SOCIAL STUDIES**

This month we will be doing chapters 9 – 11. In chapter 9 we will study the presidency of Thomas Jefferson who came with the idea of making far reaching changes in government and expanding its territory. In chapter 10, we will learn about Andrew Jackson's presidency. Following this we will explore the start of the Industrial Revolution in America and the challenges that came with it.

### **MATH**

In the month of January, we will insha'Allah be covering exponents. This includes topics such as zero and negative exponents, scientific notations, multiplication properties of exponents. We will also be discussing more multiplication properties of exponents and division properties of exponents.

### **SCIENCE**

This month students finished Unit 2, Chapter 4; Understanding the atoms. The students made models of an atom. They will start chapter 5; Combining Atoms and Molecules like how atoms form compounds and forming solids. After this we will move on to chapter 6; States of Matter like solids, liquids, and gases and changes in states of matter.. Science Fair is coming up. I want my students to come up with great questions which can be solved by hands-on or active working model.

### **ISLAMIC STUDIES**

This month we are learning Ahkam us Siyaam, the rules of fasting, the Islamic lunar calendar, moon sighting, other types of fasting, nullifiers of fasting, and exemptions from fasting.