

**March 5, 2010**

Dear 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents,

Since we have not written Friday letters in two weeks, I wanted to recap some of hi-lights from the previous weeks. After training with the Telluride Adaptive Ski Program (TASP), the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders had a fantastic time skiing with students from the St. Michael's School. As Rex and I skied around taking pictures, we were so proud to see all the magical smiles from both our kids as well from the St. Michael's students. It was such a success! Furthermore, the TASP instructors consistently kept telling me how polite and respectful the Mountain School kids were; consequently, I think everybody deserves a huge pat on the back. All in all, I cannot express how proud I am of everybody. Academically, students had a very successful exam week. Students were focused and on task. With regards to the World History exam, students did very well and should feel great about all the hard work they put in while preparing for the exam, for it definitely paid off. Congratulations!

Sincerely,  
Tommy Thacher

**Upcoming Events:**

**Immersion Trip Meeting to discuss the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade trip to Seattle on Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup> in Tommy's Room at 3:15.**

**Telluride Adaptive Ski Program and St. Michael's POL on Friday, March 12<sup>th</sup> during Morning Meeting.**

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Hi 5th and 6th Grade Parents!

It has been a busy and rewarding few weeks here at TMS. After training with the Telluride Adaptive Ski Program (TASP), the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders spent the day with students from the St. Michael's School. It was obvious from all perspectives that good will and great times were had by all! Students also demonstrated a focused attention this week, we are proud of their stamina and positive attitude while taking final exams. Friday afternoon, students were given a unique opportunity to create an art project in preparation for Earth Day. Instructors were very impressed with their effort and enthusiasm on the combined poetry and visual art project regarding an endangered animal. Good stuff for the tag end of final exam week. Great job!

Cheers,

Rex Lybrand

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Feel free to contact me anytime if you have questions about academics, or any concerns at rlybrand@telluridemtnschool.org or phone (970) 728-1969 ext. 33.

## **History**

This week in World History, students:

- Finished their essays on their assigned world religions by answering the following questions:
  - What is the background and founding of this religion?
    - When and where is this religion set in history
    - How did it come to be?
  - What are the fundamental beliefs and practices of this religion?
    - Major tenets (beliefs) of religion
    - Major god(s)
    - Ceremonies
    - Process and place of worship
    - Prayers/holy book
  - Who are the important people in this religion?
    - Founder
    - Major spiritual leaders
  - How has this religion evolved over time?
    - Ancient geographic distribution
    - Modern geographic distribution
    - Changes that have occurred over time in the religion
- After finishing their research, students wrote rough drafts and peer edited each others' work
- Reviewed for the Final Exam by answering their study review packet
- Took their Final Exam

## **English**

Since we have not sent out Friday letters in a while. Here is an update of what we have been doing the last couple of weeks in English:

- Students have been working on their personal essay drafts. We have discussed boxes and bullets and students have set up their thesis and supports so it is clear and easy to read in that format. They have also created an organizer for their drafts and mini-stories to go along with their "supports."
- Students have been frequently meeting in book clubs and discussing their current "Indian" themed texts.

- The class has been taking part in independent reading time reading their independent reading books. During this time, students have take part in reading conferences with teachers or have been taking part in reading assessments.
- The class worked hard to review for their exam. Students spent two class periods meeting with partners to discuss and study the review guide.

Have a wonderful weekend! Please feel free to email me with any questions or comments at [wcalcutt@telluridemtnschool.org](mailto:wcalcutt@telluridemtnschool.org). Thanks!

Wynne Calcutt

### **Math**

- Students worked on PLAY projects - mind-blowing math problems that reveal patterns in nature.
- Students reviewed in preparation for final exams
- Completed final exam

### **Pre-Algebra**

- Reviewed in preparation for final exam
- Learned to write equations in slope-intercept and point-slope forms
- Practiced writing equations for lines given two points, intercepts, or a slope and a point
- Completed final exam

### **Science**

- Students reviewed heart rate data, old quizzes, challenge of the day questions, and labs.
- Competed final exam

### **Spanish**

5th grade

- \* Final exam study guides were handed out
- \* Students reviewed, asked questions and prepared for final
- \* Students played "pasa el cerdo" number review game

6th grade

- \* Final exam study guides were handed out
- \* Students reviewed, asked questions and prepared for final
- \* Students played "pasa el cerdo" number review game

### **Visual Art**

- Viewed and discussed final sketchbook homework assignment
- Viewed and discussed ceramic fish examples, focusing on composition, pattern and texture
- Began construction of tropical fish based final ceramic sculpture

