

# DECEMBER

## "NEWS YOU CAN USE"

### SAVE THE DATE!

Save the Date for "An Everyday Math Life" event for your student during the week of January 16-19. Each grade level invites parents to visit the classroom on designated dates/times to learn more about and get to experience our Everyday Math Curriculum. See the "Coming Soon..." section of this newsletter for a reminder of the dates/times.

### Celebrating Holiday Stories

As we continue to prepare for the final week of school before winter break starts, we wanted to share some of our students' favorite holiday read-alouds from our school library. We invite everyone to dress in theme on the following days.

Wednesday-How the Grinch Stole Christmas: Wear green or your "Grinchiest" outfit from Whoville

Thursday-How Santa Got His Job: Dress like Santa or other jobs he may have tried first

Friday-How to Catch an Elf or The Littlest Elf: Dress like an Elf



## Sharpening Your Senses: Mindful Movement

During the month of December, students are learning and practicing mindful movements in character education. To move mindfully is to pay close attention to the sensations of our body when it is at rest and when it is active—the body gives us signals we can easily recognize to help us monitor physical and mental states such as exertion and stress. Students are comparing the signals their body sends after physical exertion and relaxation. They are beginning to learn simple self-regulation skills by controlling their breathing and heart-rate. Developing an understanding of the brain-body relationships helps students become better able to identify the signals their body is sending and to manage their emotions and behaviors in response.



Have a great winter break!

## Coming Soon...

December 15: End of Second Grading Period/First Semester

December 18-January 1: Winter Break

January 2: School Resumes

January 5: Report Cards

January 15: NO SCHOOL-  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 16: 1st Grade Everyday Math Life @ 10:30am

January 17: 4th Grade Everyday Math Life @ 8:30am

January 17: 3rd Grade Everyday Math Life @ 10am

January 18: 2nd Grade Everyday Math Life @ 12:30pm

January 19: 5th Grade Everyday Math Life @ 10am

January 19: Kindergarten Everyday Math Life @ 1:30pm

January 25: PTO Winterfest 5-6:30pm

## OUR STUDENTS ARE CHANGING THE FUTURE WITH AN HOUR OF CODE

We live in a world surrounded by technology. We know that whatever field our students choose to go into as adults, their ability to succeed will increasingly depend on understanding how technology works.

Only a tiny fraction of us are learning how technology works. Fewer than half of all schools teach computer science. That's why classrooms within our school joined in on the largest learning event in history: The Hour of Code, during Computer Science Education Week (December 4-10). More than 100 million students worldwide have already tried an Hour of Code.

Our Hour of Code is making a statement that THREE CREEKS ELEMENTARY is ready to teach these foundational 21st-century skills. See <http://hourofcode.com/us> for details and encourage your student to further their education in the field of computer science.

**The largest learning event in history**  
During Computer Science Education Week  
December 4-10, 2017

**HOUR OF CODE**

The Hour of Code is a global movement introducing tens of millions of students worldwide to computer science, inspiring kids to learn more, breaking stereotypes, and leaving them feeling empowered.

ANYONE, ANYWHERE CAN HOST AN HOUR OF CODE. JOIN US!  
HourOfCode.com

**What is the Hour of Code?**  
A one-hour introduction to computer science. The Hour of Code began as a one-hour coding challenge for girls, but it quickly spread to schools for boys and girls. It has become a global learning event, celebration, and awareness event. HourOfCode.com offers hundreds of one-hour activities in over 40 languages for learning to code. Activities require no experience and are accessible on browsers, tablets, smart phones - some don't require any computer at all.

**Why computer science?**  
Computer science is foundational. Our world is changing every industry on the planet. Every 20th-century student should have the opportunity to learn how to create technology. Computer science concepts also help nurture creativity and problem-solving skills to prepare students for any future career.

**Economic opportunity for all.** Computer occupations are the fastest-growing, best-paying, and most in-demand sector of all new jobs in the U.S. They provide a pathway for opportunity to succeed.

Students also love it! They're always amazed that among classes students like a lot, computer science is the most interesting. It's not just about performing arts, art, and design anymore.

**Beyond the Hour of Code**  
Don't stop at an hour. Add high-quality computer science to your curriculum or create an elective program and use our award-winning materials and design as your model. Learn more about our open source code.

**Doing more activities features:**  
Minecraft, Star Wars, Disney Pixar, Super Dads and Parents vs. Zombies

**DO IT**

**AN ANNUAL GLOBAL EVENT.** The Hour of Code is now part of many year-long Computer Science Education Week, the first week in December. With a huge grassroots support and attention, it's a great time for schools and districts to put the spotlight on computer science programs and expand opportunities.