

# Graham's Good News



December 13, 2011

Graham School's instructional focus: **To Comprehend I must read carefully, listen closely, understand fully, and respond thoughtfully.**

## A Note from the Principal

Dear Graham Families

I wanted to remind you that we will again be issuing a reading challenge for the winter break. Any child that reads for 300 or more minutes will qualify to attend the winter break reading celebration. Students need to complete the reading log, have it signed by you and return it to school by January 10th. We will not accept a written letter stating they have read for 300 or more minutes. It must be a record of the books read and the amount of time spent reading each day.

I also, wanted to take this time to wish you a happy holiday. We have had many opportunities to come together the last several weeks. Family Reading Night, the 3-5 music program, Spotlight breakfasts, Carols/ Cookies/& Cocoa (tonight), and the 4/5 students singing at Henson Robinson Zoo tomorrow night. Through it all you have been wonderfully supportive. Thank you for taking the time to attend the Graham School family events. Research shows that when families attend school events with their children there child does better in school. When school and home are working to build relationships, and support each other the child benefits. They know you value education and keep in contact with the school, so their behavior is better and their grades are better.

I look forward to continuing our journey together for the remainder of the year. If there is anything I can do to help, your child be more successful, please do not hesitate to call.

I hope you all have a wonderful break and are able to spend quality time with family and friends.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Siltman



## Dates to Remember



### December 13

Holiday Sing-Along  
6:00-7:00 pm

### December 16

2:00 Dismissal  
End of 2nd Quarter

### December 17-Jan 9

Winter Break

### January 9

Teacher Institute Day  
NO SCHOOL

### January 16

NO SCHOOL

### February 2

Parent/Teacher  
Conferences  
No School for Students

## Winter Break Dates

The last day of school before winter break this year is December 16th, with students dismissing at 2:00 p.m. Please make arrangements for the early dismissal.



Students will return to Graham on **Tuesday** January 10th, 2012. We hope you have a warm winter break and a happy New Year!

## Carols, Cookies, and Cocoa

December 13 Graham School will be hosting a holiday sing-a-long from 6:00-7:00. We will sing Christmas carols, eat cookies and drink hot cocoa. The songs on the list to sing are:



Holly Jolly Christmas,  
Jingle Bells,  
Here Comes Santa Claus  
The First Noel  
Silver Bells  
Deck the Halls  
Jingle Bell Rock  
Winter Wonderland  
Away in a Manger



I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus  
Rudolph, the Red Nosed Reindeer  
Frosty the Snowman

All I Want For Christmas is my Two Front Teeth  
Joy to the World

The Twelve Days of Christmas  
Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree  
Silent Night

Santa Claus is Coming to Town  
We Wish You a Merry Christmas

**Plan on attending and lend your voice as we sing in the holiday season.**

## Parent Tips for the Week

The holidays are upon us and for some this can be a very stressful time of year. Please remember to slow down and enjoy time with your family. Also this time of year the children are home and will not be eating breakfast and lunch at school. This can put a strain on your pocketbook. Food Pantries will be open. If you are in need of services over the holiday and need a referral please let the Graham Elementary School Parent Educator Kim Senor, know before Friday, December 16th. The office will be closed and she will not return until Monday January 9<sup>th</sup>. There are several food pantries open during the holiday season, which include, Kumler Ministries, Salvation Army, Capitol Township and Catholic Charities.

