**Supplies Needed**

This is a great time of year to ask your child if they need any supplies replenished. In particular, many students will need pencils and dry erase markers.

Happy Holidays!!

We would like to wish all of you a wonderful Winter Break and hope that you enjoy your time with your family. Safe travels and Happy New Year!!!

2019

**Spirit Week–Next Week!!**

**Mon.-** Crazy Hair Day

**Tues.-** Dress like your favorite famous person

**Wed.-** Dress like a Whittier staff member

**Thurs.-** Twin Day

**Fri.-** Wear our new Whittier T-shirts

Upcoming Dates:

** Gift Exchange/Winter Break Party-** Friday, December 21

** Winter Break –** Mon., Dec. 24-Jan. 4. School resumes Jan. 7

** PTO Meeting-** Tues., Jan. 8 – See Digital Backpack for details on this meeting

**Dr. King Holiday –** Mon.,

Jan 21 – No School

**Winter Conferences –** Wed. and Thurs., Jan. 31 and Feb. 1

Recyclable  Materials NEEDED!

Our class will start building communities out of recycled materials next week. The class is in groups of 4 people (or 3) to design and build a suburban, rural, or urban community. It is not too late to send items in! The more the group has to chose from the better ideas they were come up with. Please send in boxes of any shape (but not bigger than a shoe box or cereal box), plastic containers of a reasonable size, toilet and paper towel rolls, etc. Please make sure anything sent in is clean and safe to use—nothing that is made of glass or is sharp.

**Curriculum**

***ELA (Reading / Writing and more)*** –We are continuing our work on non-fiction reading and writing. This week we focused on different strategies for reading biographies compared to informational books even though both are non-fiction and talked again about tackling difficult words instead of skipping over them. We are still working on our non-fiction books. Some students have finished writing their chapters and are deciding where to put in illustrations and fast facts. We also spent time working on leads since the beginning is so important in getting a reading interested. It will be a process that will undergo revision/s and additions of maps, pictures with captions, factoids, tables, and anecdotes from their own experiences. Final drafts will either be handwritten or on their ipads in Book Creator.

***Math*** – We continue to work on our unit with harder multiplication and division facts. This week we worked on the 6 and 7 facts and have done a lot of skip counting to help practice them. Skip counting would be a great thing to practice at home or in the car. We will do more problems in context and work to explain how we solved them. Please make sure that your student answers the question in the problem with a complete sentence as a routine part of their work. The students are working towards applying the distributive and communicative properties of multiplication to help them solve problems. For some it makes sense, for others it can be confusing. We will continue to work on it. Prodigy Math is a very motivating math website that students can routinely use at home on their ipads. I will try to get them logged in this week.

***Social Studies*** – We are starting to build our communities next week. This project not only develops the concept of community, but it’s a very significant opportunity to work collaboratively with peers. We’ve had discussions about what it means to cooperate and to compromise. Ask your child who is in their group and which type of community he/she is building! *More details below.*

Mrs. Hoehne's Newsletter nhoehne@op97.org December 14, 2018

T.E.A.M. Report

