

**SIXTH GRADE NEWS**  
**December 9, 2005**  
**DATES TO REMEMBER**

End of Second Quarter    December 21  
Christmas Break            December 22 – January 3, 2006

A Season for Respect, Appreciation, and Kindness

The holidays present many opportunities for our children to put aside their own immediate needs, and to do things solely for the comfort of others. Looking out for their fellow human beings who may need help, or just a smile, allows our students to put their own challenges into perspective, and reminds them that they do have an impact on their world. On any given day, we teachers witness these sixth graders engaging in many simple acts of respect, appreciation, and kindness.

Holding the door for another person with a smile.  
Stopping the line to allow the kindergarten line to proceed.  
Sharing a snack with a neighbor.  
Calling to a lone child to join the game.  
Looking an elder in the eye and saying, "Good Morning!"  
Helping an absent buddy catch up on what happened in yesterday's lesson.  
Noticing a skill possessed by another.

We would like to emphasize to our students how much these simple behaviors mean to younger children, their peers, and to their elders. These simple habits are gifts of hope for all who send, observe, or receive them. We can all, quite easily, make this a happier, friendlier world.

Speaking of kindness, our 2005-2006 Holiday project is in full swing, with donation collection boxes in each homeroom. The students will be filling tote bags with items for the infirm children at the *Salud Northside Medical Center*. Betsy Ortega and our outstanding parent volunteers are making these bags.

We will not send out a newsletter next week, so please have a joyous holiday season!

Sincerely,

The 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Team