

**SIXTH GRADE NEWS #5**  
**November 11, 2005**  
**DATES TO REMEMBER**

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

Dear Parents,

It is nice to be back to a full week of school. This week our newsletter is focusing on the Character Quality of Appreciation of Individual Strengths and Cultural Backgrounds.

We Americans come from a variety of ethnic, racial, and religious backgrounds, yet we are bound by the values and responsibilities of our democratic system. We are a nation of immigrants and, as we all know, achieving this balance between diversity and unity is not easily accomplished. It is truly amazing we've not only survived, but have thrived for over two centuries. We at TCKS believe that a solid, shared, sequenced, body of common background knowledge is the most effective method of preserving the *unum* in our *pluribus*.

Our sixth graders are studying U.S. immigration from Independence to World War I. As a culminating activity they'll be creating and performing a 5-7 minute small-group skit representing a certain immigrant family's leaving their homeland, entering America through a port or border, then settling into an area and occupation within the U.S. These skits will include a little of the native language, a hint of the traditional dress, and will follow authentic migration routes, destinations, and occupations in the U.S.

As the students are busy studying and learning about immigration, it may be nice to share some of your own family stories regarding immigration and ancestors.

Have a wonderful weekend,

The Sixth Grade Staff