**Earth Science Newsletter (11/28/16)**

**(Mr. Williams - Rm. C-423)**

**Volume I, Issue No. 10**

**Happy Thanksgiving to all of my students and their families. And it was a white Thanksgiving at that! The polar vortex near the arctic circle weakened this month, resulting in an undulating jet stream path that allows for cold air parcels to break loose and move south. As this cold air moved across the relatively warm Lake Ontario it picked up large amounts of evaporating water vapor. When this water vapor condenses (and freezes) in the cold air we get lake effect snow dropped in the region southeast of Lake Ontario. Thus the school cancellation last Monday!**

**This week, students will explore erosion and deposition by water. We will visit the sand table in the lab to simulate stream movement and delta formation. Students will also investigate how sediment size, shape, and density influence settling (sinking) rates.**

**Shout-out to Bella Brancato for an excellent season with the cross country team! Luckily, the running season ended just before the snow began to fall!**

**Honors Only: On Thursday, December 1st, students need to bring to class printed copies of four peer-reviewed scientific research articles about their symposium topic. There must be evidence that the students have read these articles and put substantial effort into understanding the content (there should be underlined/highlighted text, and notations in the margins).**

**Sincerely,**

**Jason Williams**

**Earth Science Teacher**