

Greetings, Room 13 Families!

Happy long weekend! May you find time during this mini-break to make a change for the better in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Here's a quick update for the week of 1/13-1/17.

100th Day Activity: We will celebrate the 100th day of First Grade on January 31st. In addition to the usual homework, students will complete a project at home by collecting 100 items. I have attached a handout that tells you everything you need to know. The project will not be due until January 30th, but I thought some families might like to get started early. Have fun with it!

Arrival Time: Just a friendly reminder for Early Birds every day and for EVERYBODY on Collaboration Days that school *begins* at 8:10am. I open the doors around 8:05. If students arrive after the 8:10 bell, they are tardy and must stop by the office to obtain a tardy slip. On non-Collaboration Days, Late Birds should arrive at 9:10. Having your child in class and ready to learn on time helps us maximize our learning time together. Thank you!

Monthly Oral Presentations: This week, we heard great presentations about Martin Luther King, Jr., tornadoes, bulldogs, and birthdays. Great job, Isaac, Jack, Kelsey, Maeve, and Isabel! Next week, Marcelo, Max, Mia, and Katherine are scheduled for Tuesday; Nathan, Sophia Barton, Sophia Sandman, and Tait are scheduled for Wednesday; and Eli, Danica, and Amanda are wrapping up the month's presentations on Friday. See the class website <http://firstgradewithmrsbeyer.weebly.com/> for more information.

Volunteer Opportunities: Check out the volunteer sign-ups at <https://mrsbeyersfirstgrade201314.shutterfly.com/>. We'd love to have you join us!

Language arts: This week, we practiced reading and writing words that have the long /ā/ sound, as in ape (bossy e), table, play, and wait. We also learned that if c is followed by e or i, it makes the /s/ sound, as in pencil and cent. This is called "soft c." We reviewed punctuation by reading a sentence and deciding if it was telling us something (.), asking us something (?), or showing strong emotion (!). In connection with Martin Luther King, Jr., we brainstormed and wrote about our dreams for our community, country, and the world.

Math: We continued comparing numbers using $>$, $<$, and $=$. We found numbers missing on a number line. We ordered groups of two-digit numbers from least to greatest and greatest to least. We also looked at a given number and found what number was 1 more/1 less/10 more/10 less.

Science/Social Studies: We read all about Martin Luther King, Jr. and compared the past to the present. What was life like during his lifetime compared to our lives today?

Specials: This week, we read The Cabbage Soup Solution with Mrs. Pakh. Mrs. Choi helped us create our own abstract painting using water colors. We read eBooks online in the computer lab with Mrs. Bentz. Mr. Wulff taught us an African welcoming song.

Important dates:

- Monday, Jan. 20: Martin Luther King Jr. holiday; no school
- Tuesday, Jan. 28: Site Council; 3:15 – 4:15 (Room 30)
- Thursday, Jan. 30: Report cards go home, Dads Committee Meeting (7:00, MPR)
- Friday, Jan. 31: Weather Rap (1st Grade Musical, 8:30, MPR), 100th Day of School, Collaboration Day (8:10-12:45), Spirit Rally (9:35, Lower Playground)

As always, contact me with any questions.

-Meredith Beyer

mbeyer@lcsd.net

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