

Greetings, Room 13 Families!

Happy New Year! I hope you are all doing well. Here's a quick update for the week of 1/6-1/10.

Collaboration Day—We have a Collaboration Day tomorrow. Students will all attend school from 8:10-12:45.

Volunteer Opportunities—Check out the volunteer sign-ups at <https://mrsbeyersfirstgrade201314.shutterfly.com/>. I finally updated them for the month of January. If you're already volunteering regularly, make sure I got your dates correct. If you'd like to join in, pick an open date. I very much appreciate any help, and the students love working with our fantastic parents!

RAZ-KIDS—The glitch that happened over Winter Break is fixed! Your child's log-in info is Teacher UserName: mbeyer1, Password: student ID number at www.raz-kids.com.

Monthly Oral Presentations: Isaac and Isabel are scheduled to present tomorrow while Katherine, Kelsey, and Maeve are scheduled for Wednesday. Great job Ainsley (How to Fly a Kite), Benny (History on a Tree), and Haven (Pasadena Rose Parade). I always look forward to presentation days! See the class website <http://firstgradewithmrsbeyer.weebly.com/> for more information.

Language arts: We practiced /qu/, /y/, and ending sounds /-ng/ and /-nk/. We also discussed how sentences give information by answering who, what, when, and where. A large part of early/late bird time was spent assessing for current reading levels. I'm not quite done with every student yet, but I'm noticing some great progress! For writing, we are taking one topic (Winter Vacation) through the writing process. Students have brainstormed, drafted, and edited. They are now writing their final drafts.

Math: We got to do a test run with the new iPads! Mrs. Blaney led a math center on Tuesday at which students played an app called "MathBugs." They built a bug according to a number's place value. We wrapped up Chapter 10 by making reasonable estimates. In Chapter 11, we are comparing numbers. Students found which of two numbers was greater by comparing the digits in the tens places of each number. They looked on to the digits in the ones places if the digits in the tens places were equal. We also used the "greater than" and "less than symbols" (<, >).

Science/Social Studies: We opened our study of weather. We defined weather, temperature, and wind. To activate prior knowledge, we made a list of everything students knew already about weather. I also got some interesting questions when I asked them what they would like to learn.

Specials: This week, we visited the library, computer lab, and music room. Mrs. Pakh shared her read-aloud talents, Mrs. Bentz showed us weather videos on BrainPopJr., and Mr. Wulff had us practice rhythm on huge drums.

Important dates:

-Friday, Jan. 10: Collaboration Day (8:10-12:45)

-Friday, Jan. 17: Teacher Work Day; no school

-Monday, Jan. 20: Martin Luther King Jr. holiday; no school

-Friday, Jan. 31: Weather Rap (1st Grade Musical), 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

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