

Greetings, Room 13 Families!

I hope you are all doing well. Here's a quick update for the week of 9/30-10/4.

Nice work, iReaders! Amanda, Katherine, Isaac, Max, and Maeve received certificates for their hard work participating in the iRead program this summer. Way to go!

New Website—It's ready to go! Visit <http://firstgradewithmrsbeyer.weebly.com/> to find homework, oral presentation schedules, important documents, and great links all in one place. We will still use <https://mrsbeyersfirstgrade201314.shutterfly.com/> to share photos and special events sign-ups. The Shutterfly site is password-protected, so I feel more comfortable putting your child's photos here.

Collaboration Day—At last week's collaboration day, the first grade team attended a training on using the Depth and Complexity Icons to help differentiate instruction. We received several useful tips and ideas and are implementing them into instruction.

New Homework—Week 2 of digital homework is attached. Remember to print it out, complete it, and return it Friday (a week and a day).

Lunch on the Lawn—Join us for lunch on the lawn at 11:30 tomorrow. The kids are looking forward to it!

"Doozer Test" is TOMORROW! I've been pretty stingy with the penmanship points, so remind your child to use appropriately sized letters with appropriate spacing in order to receive a check for "neat."

Decodable books—More books came home today. Add them to your collection.

Volunteers—We have a need for volunteers to lead a math center from 10:30-11:30 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and non-collaboration Fridays. Early birds could use volunteers from 8:10-9:10 on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and non-collaboration Fridays. Late birds could use volunteers from 1:50-2:50 on Mondays, every other Tuesday (coordinate schedule with another parent), every other Wednesday (coordinate schedule with another parent), and non-collaboration Fridays. Email me if you're interested.

Language arts: Students completed their unit 1 assessment, and then we started our unit on animals. We read several non-fiction stories, which authors write using true facts. We continued our usual routine of rhyming, blending, segmenting, and phonics. We gave extra attention to words with short i, p, and n.

Math: This week we worked on fact families. These addition and subtraction sentences are related because they use the same numbers. For the two addition sentences, the sum will be the greatest number. For the two subtraction sentences, the first number will be the greatest number (we steer clear of negatives at this point). Ask your student to write the fact families for 4, 3, and 7. They should tell you $4+3=7$, $3+4=7$, $7-4=3$, and $7-3=4$.

Science/Social Studies: Tying in with animals, we learned about different types of animals. We discussed mammals, birds, reptiles, and insects, and we sorted picture cards into groups.

Specials: The students continued their library rhythm. In art, we did step one of a two-step project. Students painted a background and a bear on separate papers. Next week, they will explore layering while combining the two. In computer lab, we used KidPix to create an apple number sentence. In music, we perfected our repertoire of songs. The Spanish group worked on color words.

Important dates:

- Oct. 11: Collaboration Day (school day 8:10-12:45 for everyone)
- Oct. 21-24: Parent Conferences (school day 8:10-11:35 for everyone)
- Oct. 25: Collaboration Day, Spirit Rally, Teddy Bear Picnic

As always, contact me with any questions. Enjoy your Friday and weekend!

-Meredith Beyer

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