

Greetings, Room 13 Families!

I hope you are all doing well. Here's a quick update for the week of 12/9-12/13.

Collaboration Day—The First Grade Team will be meeting at the District Office to discuss teaching the Common Core State Standards. All students will attend school from 8:10-12:45.

Winter Program—We would love to perform for you Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 8:20 in the MPR. Afterwards, meet us in the classroom for cookies and juice. Because of the early performance time, all students will be All Day Birds. They will attend school from 8:10-2:50. I apologize for the late notice and hope that you are able to accommodate the schedule change. I don't know how I didn't make that connection sooner. At the end of this email, I've included some of the lyrics/words to the trickier songs and poems. If you have a spare minute, have your child practice for you.

Polar Express Day—The kids and I thoroughly enjoyed this activity. Thank you to all of the parents that brought in materials, set up, and served the treats. What a fun day!

RAZ-KIDS—All of the students have received an overview for [www.raz-kids.com](http://www.raz-kids.com) now. Many have already jumped onboard, and as of today, we have logged 889 minutes of reading as a class. I told students that they must read a book at least two times before taking the quiz to work on fluency. Before long, I will start sending assessment assignments—students must record themselves reading, retell the story, and answer comprehension questions. The recording and results are sent to me. The only catch is that you must have a working microphone...ours in the classroom are not cooperating. For RAZ-KIDS on the go, you can download the app. The only downside is that not all features appear. Your child's log-in info is Teacher UserName: mbeyer1, Password: student ID number.

Jog-A-Thon—Team PCR is shy just one member of their recruitment goal (just 1!) and about \$13,000 short of their donation goal. Tomorrow is the last day of the drive. Visit <http://pledge.lcfef.org/faf/search/searchTeamPart.asp?ievent=1082860&lis=1&team=5711887> .

Monthly Oral Presentations: Way to go, Isaac, Isabel, Jack, Katherine, Kelsey, and Maeve. Tomorrow, Max, Marcelo, and Mia are scheduled to present, while Nathan, Sophia Barton, Sophia Sandman, and Tait are scheduled for next week. See the class website <http://firstgradewithmrsbeyer.weebly.com/> for more information.

Language arts: This week, we practiced capitalizing proper nouns (special names of people, places, things, days, holidays, and months), identifying verbs (action words), and classifying similar objects. We reviewed r-controlled vowels (-ar, -or, -er/-ir/-ur) and digraphs (sh, ch, th, wh).

Math: We read data from bar graphs and created our own bar graphs. We used different types of graphs to help us solve problems. We will wrap up Chapter 9 tomorrow. Next week, we'll explore place value.

Science/Social Studies: This week we read about Christmas traditions in America. We sang songs celebrating holidays all around the world. Coming soon: Kwanzaa, Las Posadas, and Saint Lucia Day.

Specials: We kept up with the usual library routine. During computer time, we completed our "hour of coding" by playing Kodable on the iPads (<http://www.surfscore.com/>). The students really enjoyed it! We also enjoyed a performance by the PCR Orchestra and Concert Band. Well done, big kids!

Important dates:

-Friday, Dec. 13: Collaboration Day (8:10-12:45), Spirit Rally (9:35, Lower Playground)

-Tuesday, Dec. 17: Robotics Club Meeting, 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. (MPR)

-Wednesday, Dec. 18: Winter Program (MPR, 8:20; ALL DAY BIRDS: 8:10-2:50)

-Thursday, Dec. 19: Dads' Committee Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

-Friday, Dec. 20: Last day of school before Winter Break

-Monday, Jan. 7: School Resumes

As always, contact me with any questions. Take care!

-Meredith Beyer

[mbeyer@lcusd.net](mailto:mbeyer@lcusd.net)

<https://mrsbeyersfirstgrade201314.shutterfly.com/>

<http://firstgradewithmrsbeyer.weebly.com/>

1<sup>st</sup> Grade Winter Program Songs:

It's Kwanzaa Time

Call your father!

Call your mother!

Call your sister!

Call your brother!

It's Kwanzaa time, family time!

It's Kwanzaa time, family time!

People pulling together. Harambe!

Trying to make things better. Harambe!

Seven days and seven nights

Seven candles we will light

Seven candles we will light

Green is for the land.

Red is for the blood.

Black is for the people whom we love.

It's Kwanzaa time, family time!

It's Kwanzaa time, family time!

Habari gani to all of you

Habari gani to all of you

It's Kwanzaa time, family time!

It's Kwanzaa time!

Note: Harambe means "pulling together." Habari gani means "what's the news?"

### Silver Star

High upon each Christmas tree  
There so everyone can see  
A silver star for you and me  
Will shine on Christmas Day,  
Shine on Christmas Day!

Now the story goes, "From way afar  
Born beneath a silver star  
A child came down to where we are  
To shine on Christmas Day,  
Shine on Christmas Day!"

And all around the world that night  
The silver star kept burning bright  
Shepherds wondering at the sight  
Were filled with hope and heaven's light."

And now it's past two thousand years  
Since that silver star appeared,  
But I believe the light's still here  
To shine on Christmas Day,  
Shine on Christmas Day!

All around the world tonight  
The silver stars are burning bright.  
Joy and peace are in our sight  
And filling us with heaven's light.  
Oh, it doesn't matter who you are,  
Your love is like a silver star.  
So let the light that's in your heart  
To shine on Christmas Day,  
Shine on Christmas Day! (repeat)

### The Months of the Year

January, February, March and April,  
May and June and July,  
August, September, October, November,  
December.

These are the months of the year,  
Oh, fill them with joy and good cheer.  
These are the months of the year,  
The months of the year.

Room 13 Poems:

### Summer

The earth is warm, the sun's ablaze,  
It is a time of carefree days;

And bees abuzz that chance to pass  
May see me snoozing in the grass.

January

The moon is up, I rise from bed,  
To glide about upon my sled.  
I am a dog who finds delight  
In January snow at night.

May

How sweet to be a dog in May,  
And garden every single day.  
I dig up dirt, I dig up stones,  
And plant a row of lovely bones.

September

September's back, and so is school,  
It's drizzling out, the morning's cool.  
I do believe I'll make a fuss  
When everyone gets on the bus.