

Greetings, Room 13 Families!

I hope you are all doing well. Here's a quick update for the week of 12/2-12/6.

Polar Express Day—It's tomorrow! Send your kiddo in pajamas, but make sure they have access to any clothing they will need to participate in recess and PE. They will be treated to hot chocolate and cookies in the classroom, hear the awesome story, and complete some train-themed activities.

Homework—Most students have been doing a wonderful job of completing and returning their homework on time. Our goal with the homework is to practice skills outside the classroom and to establish a routine for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and beyond. 1<sup>st</sup> grade homework should not be stressful or overly time-consuming for students. If they are having trouble reading, read along with them. If a task is too overwhelming for them, cross it out and skip it. If they finish quickly, supplement with other activities. If a certain task confuses you, send me a quick email to ask a question. I want homework to work for your child and for your family.

RAZ-KIDS—Visit [www.raz-kids.com](http://www.raz-kids.com) to access hundreds of eBooks. Students can read and listen to books and even record themselves reading. Afterwards, they can take a quiz to check for comprehension. See which books your student has been reading, send them encouraging messages, and review all of their activity in the Parent Access area. While logged in as your student, click the "Parents" link in the top right to register. Your child's log-in info is Teacher Username: mbeyer1, Password: student ID number.

Winter Program—We've been practicing some new songs and poems, along with some old favorites, to perform for you at the Winter Program on Wednesday, December 18th. I've included some of the lyrics/words to the end of this email. If you have a spare minute, have your child practice. A hard copy went home in the golden folders today.

Jog-A-Thon—Team PCR is still just shy of their goal. Visit <http://pledge.lcfef.org/faf/search/searchTeamPart.asp?ievent=1082860&lis=1&team=5711887> by December 13<sup>th</sup> ...one more week!

Monthly Oral Presentations: Way to go, Ainsley, Benny, Amanda, Danica, Eli, and Haven! Isaac, Isabel, Jack, Katherine, Kelsey, Maeve, Max, Marcelo, and Mia are scheduled for next week. See the class website <http://firstgradewithmrsbeyer.weebly.com/> for more information.

Language arts: This week, we practiced r-controlled vowels (ar, or, and er/ir/ur). We also looked at words that end with silent b (limb, thumb, etc.). We worked on adding 's to make possessive nouns, and we added an s to nouns to make them plural nouns. We'll wrap up Unit 3 with our Unit Test tomorrow.

Math: Our vocabulary this week included sorting, data, survey, picture graph, and tally chart. We sorted objects by different attributes. We read picture graphs and tally charts to find information, and we created our own. Next week, we'll look at bar graphs.

Science/Social Studies: We have our passports ready to explore holidays around the world. This week, we stopped in Israel to explore Hanukkah. Up next on the itinerary: America, Mexico, Sweden, and Africa.

Specials: Mrs. Pakh read a few Hanukkah books to us. Mrs. Choi led us in using pastels and water colors to represent the sun...the other character from the tale of The Sun and The Wind. Mrs. Bentz helped us explore Microsoft Word as we changed the text size, font, and color of our holiday wishes. Mr. Wulff taught us a new song about wrapping ourselves up and mailing ourselves (I forgot the title).

Important dates:

- Friday, Dec. 6: Polar Express Day (10:45-11:30)
- Tuesday, Dec. 10: Dine Out, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. (Blaze Pizza)
- 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 \*\*Note Date Change)
- Thursday, Dec. 19: Dads' Committee Meeting, 7:00 p.m. (Casa Cordoba, see below)
- 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@lcsd.net](mailto:mbeyer@lcsd.net)

<https://mrsbeyersfirstgradeclass201314.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. Harambel!

Trying to make things better. Harambel!

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.