

Greetings, Room 13 Families!

Happy February! I hope this email finds you well. Here's a quick update for the week of 2/3-2/7.

Valentine's Day: It is less than a week away! Because of the school holiday on the 14th, we will celebrate on Thursday, February 13th. We will exchange valentines (homemade or store-bought), play games, and make crafts. Our 19 students are Ainsley, Amanda, Benny, Danica, Eli, Haven, Isaac, Isabel, Jack, Katherine, Kelsey, Maeve, Marcelo, Max, Mia, Nathan, Sophia Barton, Sophia Sandman, and Tait. Please remember that district policy limits food parties to twice a year (I'm counting the Thanksgiving Feast and the End of Year party). If you wish to send anything in addition to valentine cards, please look for alternatives to food. <3

Collaboration Day: During the 1st grade team meeting, we reflected over the weather rap and the weather unit. We discussed plans for upcoming events and reviewed the agenda for the Feb. 18th Buyback Day. At the Primary Team Meeting, we heard suggestions and strategies for integrating academic language into math and language arts to target Common Core State Standards.

Monthly Oral Presentations: Great job, Ainsley, Amanda, Benny, Danica, and Eli! We learned all about bears, rabbits, cars, rainbow looms, and floating eggs. Haven, Isaac, Isabel, and Jack are scheduled for tomorrow, followed by Katherine, Kelsey, and Maeve next week. See the class website <http://firstgradewithmrsbeyer.weebly.com/> for the schedule and details.

Homework: We accidentally scanned a homework page that your child has already completed. Don't worry about redoing Sammy Snowman's Message in this week's homework.

Volunteer Opportunities: Check out the volunteer sign-ups at <https://mrsbeyersfirstgrade201314.shutterfly.com/>. It's always nice to have a spare set of hands!

Language arts: This week, we learned that in most words, g followed by e or i usually makes the soft g /j/ sound, as in **g**erm and **g**iraffe. We also looked at words with the long /ē/ sound, as in **Pete** and **me**. We reviewed adjectives, which can help us describe size, shape, color, number, weight, texture, smell, and taste. We wrote a reflection piece about what we learned during the month of January.

Math: We reviewed strategies for adding numbers up to 20. We opened up the subtraction chapter by using a number line to subtract numbers less than 20.

Science/Social Studies: We were quite busy during Science Week. We heard a presentation about the All-Terrain Hex-Limbed Extra-Terrestrial Explorer (ATHLETE) from a JPL roboticist. Volunteers from the Wildlife Way Station brought in a skunk, opossum, and hedgehog. Back in the classroom, we continued our study of weather words.

Specials: This week, Mrs. Pahk read The Ten Tall Soldiers, a book about shadows. Mrs. Bentz helped us make our own weather books. Mr. Wulff helped us practice our most recently-learned songs.

Important dates:

-Saturday, Feb. 8: Burgers & Bubbly Parent Teacher Party; 6:30 – 10:30 pm (Thursday Club)

-Wednesday, Feb. 12: PTA Meeting; 7:15 pm (MPR)

-Friday, Feb. 14 – Monday, Feb. 17: PRESIDENTS' DAY WEEKEND; NO SCHOOL

-Tuesday, Feb. 18: TEACHER BUY-BACK DAY; NO SCHOOL

As always, contact me with any questions.

-Meredith Beyer

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