

Greetings, Room 13 Families!

Happy first day of spring! Here's a quick update for the week of 3/17-3/21.

Collaboration Day: The teachers will have a collaboration meeting tomorrow. Please make arrangements to bring them at 8:10am and pick them up at 12:45pm. I'm not sure how I made it this far into the school year thinking that it was a 12:50 dismissal. Sorry!

Spirit Rally: At the Spirit Rally tomorrow, Danica and Isabel will be honored for dedication, the character trait from the month of February. They work hard to improve their personal best, show perseverance and effort toward their own learning, and use goal setting. Nathan, Katherine, and Max will be honored for fairness, the character trait for the month of March. They wait their turn, play by the rules, consider the opinions of others, and don't blame others carelessly. Great job, kiddos!

Field Trip: As you saw in the golden folders, we have another field trip coming up on April 16<sup>th</sup>. We will go to Beckman Auditorium on the Caltech campus to see Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day. Please return your permission slip as soon as you can.

Mr. Zach: If you were able to complete the surveys for Mr. Zach, please place them in the big red box in the office. Your anonymous feedback will greatly help him in his Masters project.

Monthly Oral Presentations: This week, we heard about rainbows, rainbow looms, leprechauns, and families from Jack, Max, Marcelo, Mia B, and Nathan. The speakers practiced looking up and making eye contact, speaking clearly and loudly, and facilitating questions. The audience worked on listening respectfully and asking focused (on-topic) questions. We will wrap up March presentations with Nathan, Sophia B, Sophia S, Tait on Friday, 3/21 and with Benny and Mia S on Tuesday, 3/25. See <http://firstgradewithmrsbeyer.weebly.com/> for the presentation schedule and details.

Volunteer Opportunities: Check out the volunteer sign-ups at <https://mrsbeyersfirstgrade201314.shutterfly.com/>.

Language arts: When we arrived in class on Monday, we saw that a leprechaun had been up to some mischief. We wrote all about it in our journals. We also opened up our 6<sup>th</sup> Unit, Journeys. We read Me on the Map by Joan Sweeney. For phonics, we practiced the /oo/ sound (as in foot) and the /oo/

sound (as in **f**ood, **n**ew, **g**lue, **r**ule, and **t**ruth). We also used commas to list items in a series.

Math: We practiced telling time to the hour and half hour. We spent several days finding elapsed time, but the students really struggled with this. If you have a spare moment, give them a starting time and ending time and ask them to find out how much time passed (example: I started my soccer game at 10:00. It ended at 11:30. How long was the game?).

Science/Social Studies: Mrs. Zooli led is in another Kelso's Choices lesson. We practiced safe alternatives to help us deal with a small problem. Relating to our Journeys theme, we found the special items on maps (title, key, scale, etc), made a map of our classroom, and made a map of their bedroom. We read about all of the changes that come with spring to help ring in the first day of spring.

Specials: Mrs. Pahk read Bits and Pieces, which was written by the same author as the Skippyjon Jones series. Mrs. Bentz helped us explore ABCya. Mr. Wulff led us through an extra-fun version of Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes. We also practiced Ging, Gong, Gooley.

Important dates:

- Friday, Mar. 21: Collaboration Day (8:10-12:45), Spirit Rally (9:35, Lower Playground)
- Tuesday, Mar. 25: Spring Picture Day, Site Council Meeting (3:15)
- Thursday, Mar. 27: Dads' Committee Meeting (7:00pm, MPR)
- Monday-Friday, Mar.31-Apr. 4: Spring Break (No school)
- Wednesday, Apr. 16: Caltech Play field trip, Multicultural Night (6:30pm, MPR)
- Friday, Apr. 18: Collaboration Day (8:10-12:45), Spirit Rally (9:35, Lower Playground)
- Saturday, Apr. 19: Beautification Day
- Friday, Apr. 25: Lunch on the Lawn
- Saturday, Apr. 26: Springamajig (11am-4pm)

As always, contact me with any questions.

-Meredith Beyer

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