

Greetings, Room 13 Families!

One more day until Spring Break! Here's a quick update for the week of 3/24-3/28. I am attaching a simple homework assignment for the week of vacation. I am also attaching the homework for the week we return (due April 11).

Collaboration Day: At our Collaboration Meeting last week, the 1st grade team followed up on the 3rd and 4th quarter benchmark assessments that we created at the February Buyback Day. We also discussed formal and informal assessments used in each class, the benefits of each assessment, and the impact that they have on instruction.

Field Trip: The Caltech field trip is coming up on April 16th. We will go to Beckman Auditorium to see Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day. A handful of permission slips are still out. Please return it as soon as you can!

Monthly Oral Presentations: This week, Sophia B, Sophia S, Tait, Benny, Mia S, and Haven taught us about the solar system, exoplanets, spring, horses, and Switzerland. We even heard a recitation of Hug-o-War by Shel Silverstein. I think that both the speaker and the audience are benefiting from these speaking/listening activities.

The April presentation schedule is as follows:

4/9 Ainsley, Amanda, Benny

4/11 Eli, Danica, Haven

4/15 Isaac, Isabel, Jack

4/18 Katherine, Kelsey, Maeve

4/23 Marcelo, Max, Mia B, Mia S

4/25 Nathan, Sophia B, Sophia S, Tait

See <http://firstgradewithmrsbeyer.weebly.com/> for additional information.

Volunteer Opportunities: Check out the volunteer sign-ups at <https://mrsbeyersfirstgrade201314.shutterfly.com/>. I'll work on the April volunteer calendar in the near future.

PCR Weblinks: Did you know that you can easily access the learning games that your child uses in school? On our computers, they click the panther logo. On your computer, visit the PCR homepage (<http://www.lcusd.net/Page/634>), and look for the "weblinks" link along the left menu.

These will make an excellent practice opportunity should you have some spare time during your spring break.

Language arts: We practiced the /ow/ sound (as in **cow** and **ouch**) and the /aw/ sound (as in **hawk** and **pause**). We also practiced classifying words and capitalizing proper nouns like cities and states. When writing a paragraph that

explains, we worked on starting with a topic sentence and then using order words to organize the details that follow.

Math: We started the week with plane shapes (2-D flat shapes like circles, triangles, squares, rectangles, hexagons, octagons, and trapezoids). We counted their vertices (corners) and sides. We then moved into solid figures (3-D fat shapes like spheres, cylinders, cones, cubes, rectangular prisms, triangular prisms, and pyramids). We noted their curved and/or flat surfaces. We explored how they rolled or stacked. Tomorrow we will look at their edges and vertices.

Science/Social Studies: We put ourselves on the map with a project that zooms in on us and expands to our street, town, state, country, continent, and planet. We discussed the 7 continents (North America, South America, Africa, Europe, Asia, Australia, and Antarctica) and the 5 oceans (Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Arctic, and Southern).

Specials: Mrs. Pahk read Flora and the Flamingo and The Watermelon Seed. Mrs. Choi led us through the creative process to make a habitat for our camouflaged frogs. Mrs. Bentz helped us explore ThatQuiz. Mr. Wulff taught us "I'll Race You Down the Mountain."

Important dates:

- Monday-Friday, Mar.31-Apr. 4: Spring Break (No school)
- Wednesday, Apr. 16: Caltech Play field trip, Multicultural Night (6:30pm, MPR)
- Thursday, Apr. 17: Report Cards go home
- Friday, Apr. 18: Collaboration Day (8:10-12:45), Spirit Rally (9:35, Lower Playground)
- Saturday, Apr. 19: Campus Beautification Day
- Friday, Apr. 25: Lunch on the Lawn
- Saturday, Apr. 26: Springamajig (11am-4pm)

As always, contact me with any questions.

-Meredith Beyer

mbeyer@lcusd.net

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