

Greetings, Room 13 Families!

Welcome to May! Only five weeks left in first grade! Here is a quick update for the week of 4/28-5/2.

Thank you! A big thanks to all of the first graders and their kind birthday wishes. They made me feel very special all week long! I am lucky to have such a caring group of kids. :)

Springamajig: My family and I had a blast at our first Springamajig! Owen loved seeing the first graders. Many let him spray them with silly string, and a few brave students even sprayed him back. Caroline spent her time on the playground. I loved observing a few of our students showing her how to kick a ball and climb the ladder. What a great way to spend time with the community!

Animal/Habitat Report and Project: Attached is the last home project for the year. In your golden folders, you received a packet showing which habitat your child selected yesterday. As you read through it, you will see suggestions for creating a diorama and a guide for writing an animal report. Students may select any animal that lives in their given habitat for the report. Have fun! Encourage creativity!

Homework: Attached is the second-to-last homework assignment for the year. You're almost there! We will fill the remaining weeks of school with reading activities.

Zoo Field Trip: The last field trip of the year will be on Wednesday, May 21st. If you signed up to be a chaperone and have not yet turned in your TB test paperwork, please do so as soon as possible! Permission slips will be coming soon.

Monthly Oral Presentations: This past week, Tait, Sophia B, and Sophia S wrapped up April's presentations with information about chickens, Eric Carle, and dolphins. Nice work! Our last month of presentations is here. Students may choose to present on their selected habitat, if they wish. They are welcome, as always, to select any topic that is meaningful to them.

Here is the schedule for May's presentations:

5/2: Ainsley, Amanda, Benny

5/7: Danica, Eli, Haven

5/9: Isaac, Isabel, Jack

5/13: Katherine, Kelsey, Maeve

5/14: Marcelo, Max, Mia B, Mia S

5/16; 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/>.

Language arts: Our stories focused on the topic "Keep Trying." Comprehension skills included summarizing, cause/effect, drawing conclusions, and main idea/details. We also targeted pronouns, possessive pronouns, naming/action words, and long/short vowels. We read several Eric Carle books and even created our own version of The Very Hungry Caterpillar.

Math: We wrapped up our chapter on position words and started our measurement unit. We ordered objects by length from shortest to longest and longest to shortest. We used nonstandard units to measure the length of objects in the classroom.

Science/Social Studies: We carried Earth Day topics over into this week. We also read about frogs and toads and their life cycles.

Specials: Mrs. Pakh read two books to us this week: Nightsong and Two Little Birds. Mrs. Choi helped us finish up our butterflies by showing us how to add watercolor. Mr. Wulff was at 2nd grade rehearsals this week, so we went to the iPad lab instead. Mrs. Blaney showed us how to scan QR codes to visit a website and video about composting with earthworms. Afterwards, students shot a video sharing what they learned in front of a green screen. When it is available, I will share it with you.

Important dates:

- Wednesday, May 7: PTA Meeting (9:15am, MPR)
- Wednesday, May 21: Zoo Field Trip
- Monday, May 26: No School—Memorial Day
- Tuesday, May 27: Site Council Meeting (3:15pm, Library)
- Wednesday, May 28: PTA Meeting (9:15am, MPR)
- Thursday, May 29: Dad's Committee Meeting (7:00pm, MPR)
- Friday, May 30: Collaboration Day (8:10am-12:45pm), Spirit Rally (9:35am, Lower Playground)
- Thursday, June 5: Last Day of School!!!

As always, contact me with any questions.

-Meredith Beyer

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