

Greetings, Room 13 Families!

I hope you are all keeping cool and refreshed on this hot day! Only 14 days left in first grade! Here is a quick update for the week of 5/12-5/16.

Homework: Did you notice the lack of homework attachments? Congratulations! Your child is done with 1<sup>st</sup> grade homework! We did not complete the math problem solving book, so I suggest that you help them pace themselves through the rest of the book. Have them read 15-20 minutes each night. Buy them an inexpensive notebook so that they can continue journal writing. Also, look to Raz Kids, Starfall, MobyMax, and IXL for reading and math activities. These websites should be available over the summer break, too, so encourage your child to keep practicing!

New website: It is quite late in the year, but I just heard about a great website called MobyMax. It is at <http://www.mobymax.com/>. Students must search for their school (Palm Crest) and then enter their username and password (for most students, both entries will be their first name. For my Mias, Sophias, and Jack, you need your last initial, too.). We have played with it in class. What I like most about it is that it follows your child's progress and advances them or supplements content as needed. It has activities for math, reading, grammar, writing, and more. Check it out!

Animal/Habitat Report and Project: I am reattaching the habitat project just in case you need it again. Remember that it is due on Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. We have received one excellent desert habitat already, and I am looking forward to seeing what other ideas come in.

Zoo Field Trip: The field trip is next Wednesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>! Students will be All Day Birds that day (8:10-2:50). Please send them sack lunches with disposable packaging so that chaperones will not have to lug around Tupperware all day. Also make sure to send a water bottle and hat. Please apply a layer of sunscreen before dropping your child off. You may send sunscreen labeled with their name so that we can reapply as needed. Please do not send any money. We will not be visiting the gift shop.

Monthly Oral Presentations: This past week, Marcelo, Mia S, Kelsey, Maeve, Katherine, Isaac, Isabel, and Jack taught us about the LA Zoo, tulips, sea monsters, softball, cellos, South Korea, how to care for a dog, and rabbits. Here is the schedule for the rest of May's presentations:  
5/16: Nathan, Sophia B, Sophia S, Tait  
5/20: Ainsley, Benny, Mia B, Max  
See <http://firstgradewithmrsbeyer.weebly.com/> for additional information.

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

Language arts: This week was heavy on the assessment side. We took reading inventories and wrote our spring writing samples. We also reviewed comparative adjectives (smaller, smallest), stretched simple sentences with how/where/when details (adverbs), and sequenced events.

Math: We used lots and lots of rice to measure and compare the capacity of containers. We used nonstandard items like spoons and mugs to measure (no quarts or gallons yet). We also wrapped up the measurement unit, and we look ahead to double digit addition.

Science/Social Studies: We read all about the plants, animals, and weather in the desert. Students showed their knowledge by creating a desert booklet and several desert-themed activities.

Specials: Mrs. Pahk read The Bicycle Man and helped us check out books for the last time as first graders. All library books will be due this Monday, May, 19. Mrs. Pahk will still read us a story on Monday, but we may not check out new books until 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. Mrs. Choi helped us use symmetry to create a beetle with water colors. Mrs. Bentz helped us explore Clifford games at the Scholastic website. Mr. Wulff encouraged us to use our bodies to explore space as we danced to different styles of music.

Important dates:

- Tuesday, May 20: Habitat Project/Animal Reports due
- Wednesday, May 21: Zoo Field Trip, All Day Birds (8:10-2:50)
- 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: Volunteer Luncheon (11:30am, MPR), 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!!! (11:35am dismissal)

As always, contact me with any questions.

-Meredith Beyer

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