

Dear Room 13 Families,

Here's a quick update for the week of 9/9-9/13.

First of all, how do you like my brand new, shiny email address? I will be using mbeyer@lcsd.net for the rest of the year. I will only check mrsbeyer_pcr13@yahoo.com for a few more weeks as we transition, so please update your contact list. Also, all of the mothers are represented in my contact list. A few fathers receive the emails as well. If you know someone who would like to be added to the list, just send me their email address.

Secondly, a huge thank you for your attendance at Back to School Night. Here are a few responses to questions raised that night...

Accelerated Reader—Students can only access Accelerated Reader to check their progress. They cannot take quizzes at home. There are no school wide goals for the primary grades. I will try to establish some monthly reading goals to help give students a target. I'll get back to you on that one.

Doozer Words—Interesting story. Several years ago, the first grade team was looking for a less threatening name for spelling words or spelling tests. "Doozer" was the result. On Fridays, we will do a quick...Doozer test...that includes the Doozer words and challenge words. At the bottom of the test, they will write the sentence of the week. I will be checking specifically for the correct use of capitals, spacing, and punctuation. The

Dolch words are sight words. I will not test these, but students need to be able to read these words automatically.

Homework due date—I told you wrong on this one, but if you had a kindergartner at PCR, it will be the same as last year. I will send out new homework in the golden folders every Thursday, along with any classwork or fliers from the week. On Friday, return the golden folder to me filled with any completed fliers AND the previous week's completed homework. The new homework will be due the following Friday.

Reminder—On collaboration days, all late birds transform into early birds. All students will attend school from 8:10-2:45. My apologies for forgetting to send a reminder.

Language arts: We practiced identifying initial and final phonemes, and we substituted phonemes to make silly words. We sang silly songs like "Down By the Sea" and "Apples and Bananas" to help us play with sounds. We read five new poems and focused on visualization, repetition, rhyming, and rhythm. As we read, we noted capitals, punctuation, spacing, and directionality. Next week, we will read nursery rhymes and look for these features again. I will continue assessing students to find their target reading level.

Math: We started Chapter 2, which was all about adding. We discussed the following vocabulary: adding, joining, addend, sum, order, plus, equal, and zero. We learned that the order of the addends doesn't matter...you can switch their order and still get

the same sum. We found all the ways to make 7 (ie. $0+7$, $7+0$, $1+6$, $6+1$, $5+2$, $2+5$, $3+4$, $4+3$) and 8.

Science: We learned that plants need four things to grow: air, water, sunlight, and soil. We are observing an ongoing experiment. We have two plants. One is watered daily and the other gets no water. We recorded predictions in our science journal. As of Friday, there were no noticeable results yet. We also got a chance to observe, compare, and describe all of the leaves that the students brought in. Next week, we will do leaf rubbings and a leaf collage. If your student finds more cool leaves, they may bring them in to add to the collection.

Specials: The students are doing a great job at remembering the library rules and routines. In music, Mr. Wulff taught students the name song, among other things. In the computer lab, Mrs. Bentz showed us the new math games available on Starfall.com.

Important dates:

Tuesday, Sept. 17: Dine-Out; The Habit: 3:00 – 10:00 pm

Friday, Sept. 20: Blue PTA Directory Confirmation Forms Due

Tuesday, Sept. 24: PCR Robotics Club Meeting (3:00 – 4:00 pm; MPR), Site Council Meeting (3:15 pm, Library)

Thursday, Sept. 26: Dads Committee Meeting (7:00 pm, MPR)

Friday, Sept. 27: ***COLLABORATION DAY (8:10 AM ARRIVAL, 12:45 PM DISMISSAL)***, Spirit Rally (9:35 am; Lower Playground), Flu Shot Clinic (3:00 pm – 5:00 pm, Library), Gift Wrap Sales End

As always, contact me with any questions. Enjoy the rest of your weekend!

-Meredith Beyer
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